DANCE

COMPAGNIE KÄFIG

TD Arena at College of Charleston

Artistic Direction
Mourad Merzouki

DANCERS
Diego Alves Dos Santos
Leonardo Alves Moreira
Cleiton Luiz Gaetano De Oliveira
Agualdo De Oliveira Lopes
Cristian Faxola Franco
Geovane Fidelis Da Conceição
Diego Gonçalves Do Nascimento Leitão
Aldair Junior Machado Nogueira
Wanderlino Martins Neves
Jose Amilton Rodrigues Junior
Alexsandro Soares Campanha Da Silva

PROGRAM

CORRERIA (2010)

Choreographer
Mourad Merzouki with the collaboration of the dancers
Assistant to the Choreographer
Laurence Pérez
Musical Arrangements
AS’N
Lighting Design
Yoann Tivoli
Stage Design
Mourad Merzouki, Benjamin Lebreton
Costume Design
Delphine Capossela
Video
Charles Carcopino
Producer
Centre Chorégraphique National de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne/Compagnie Käfig
Co-producer
Espace Albert Camus de Bron

INTERMISSION

AGWA (2008)

Choreographer
Mourad Merzouki
Assistant to the Choreographer
Kader Belmoktar
Musical Director
AS’N
Lighting Design
Yoann Tivoli
Stage Design
Mourad Merzouki, Benjamin Lebreton
Costume Design
Angèle Mignot
Producer
Compagnie Käfig
Co-producers
Biennale de la Danse de Lyon, Espace Albert Camus de Bron
Light Control
Dominique Palabaud
Sound Control and Stage Management
Eric Jury

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COMPAGNIE KÄFIG was created in 1996 by Mourad Merzouki, a major figure on the hip-hop scene since the 1990s. He works at the junction of many different disciplines: to his exploration of all hip-hop styles, he adds circus, martial arts, fine arts, and live music. In 2009, Merzouki was appointed director of the Centre chorégraphique National de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne, where he developed a project called *Dance: A Window on the World*. Since 1996, Compagnie Käfig has performed 21 productions in more than 600 cities. In over 16 years, Compagnie Käfig has given more than 2,200 performances in 61 countries for more than 1 million people. Currently, five shows are on tour.

MOURAD MERZOUKI was born in Lyon in 1973 and began practicing martial arts and circus arts at age seven. At the age of 15, he encountered hip-hop culture for the first time and through it, he discovered dance. Merzouki decided to develop a form of street art while also experimenting with other choreographic styles, particularly with Maryse Delente, Jean-François Duroure, and Josef Nadji. Merzouki’s travels have led him into uncharted territory, where dance can be a powerful means of communication. In order to develop his own artistic style and sensitivity, Merzouki established his own company, Käfig, in 1996. In January 2006, Compagnie Käfig began a period of residence at Espace Albert Camus in Bron, France. The theater became the venue of Festival Karavel, created in 2007 under Merzouki’s leadership. The festival invites 10 different hip-hop companies and other initiatives to the city. In addition, Merzouki spearheaded the inception of a new center for choreographic creation and development in Bron called Pôle Pik, which opened in 2009. In June of the same year, Merzouki was appointed director of the Centre chorégraphique National de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne. In 17 years, his choreographer has created 21 shows, and his company gives approximately 150 performances per year around the world.

THE COMPANY

DIEGO ALVES DOS SANTOS received training in urban dance at the school of Marcia Lacombe and earned a diploma from the Universidade de Rio de Janeiro. In 2003, he studied with Buddha Stretch, Xavier, Nobru de Souza, and Filipi Moura. Since 2000, he has worked with Aline Bittencourt, Fly, Bruno Williams, and Mourad Merzouki. Alves dos Santos has appeared on such television shows as *TV Xuxa* and *Zorra Total* on Rede Globo. He won the *Se vira nos 30* competition on the TV show *Domínio do Faustão* on Rede Globo. He has also worked with prominent artists including Latino, Naldo, Kelly Key, Allan, and Alison. In 2006, he appeared in the feature film *Maré, Nossa História de Amor*. Alves dos Santos teaches Bboy, locking, and hip-hop dance and has participated in the Biennial Festival of Dance, the KAAT Street Dance Festival, the Karavel Festival, and the International Festival of Curitiba. Since 2008, he has been working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of Compagnie Käfig and director of the National Choreographic Center of Créteil and Val-de-Marne, dancing in Asia, Europe, the United States, and Japan. He is part of the new creation *Käfig Brasil*, which was presented in June 2012 at the Montpellier Festival of Dance and will be touring in 2013.

LEONARDO ALVES MOREIRA learned to dance with the Sindicato dos Profissionais da Dança do Estado do Rio de Janeiro. He has been dancing since 2007 and worked with Fly, Dani Boy, Rose, and Daddy Kall, and is currently working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of Compagnie Käfig and director of the National Choreographic Center of Créteil and Val-de-Marne, dancing in Asia, Europe, the United States, and Japan. He is part of the new creation *Käfig Brasil*, which was presented in June 2012 at the Montpellier Festival of Dance and will be touring in 2013. He has danced for Rede Globo’s television show *Zorra Total* and has led workshops in France and Brazil. He is now teaching for the project Mais Amigo in Rio de Janeiro.

CLEITON LUIZ CAETANO DE OLIVEIRA participated in the feature film *Maré, Nossa História de Amor* in 2005 and has specialized in urban dance professionally since 2006. He has choreographed the works of Compagnie Espaço Arte em Movimento and given hip-hop classes at Jardim Araxá, a dance school in Rio de Janeiro. Caetano de Oliveira has also danced with musical groups that include Thiaguinho, O’black, and Dupla Dolls. He also leads hip-hop workshops in Brazil and France. Since 2008, he has been working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of Compagnie Käfig and director of the National Choreographic Center of Créteil and Val-de-Marne, dancing in Asia, Europe, the United States, and Japan. He is part of the new creation *Käfig Brasil*, which was presented in June 2012 at the Montpellier Festival of Dance and will be touring in 2013.

AGUINALDO DE OLIVEIRA LOPES has been dancing since the age of 14. In 2005, he began giving classes and workshops, in particular for the dance studio Lyceu in Rio de Janeiro. He participated in festivals and competitions with Compagnie Arte Urbana and performed in the feature film *Maré, Nossa História de Amor*, as well as in a musical based on *Romeo and Juliet*. He appeared on the television network Rede Globo in a show about hip-hop art and culture in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro. Since 2008, he has been working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of Compagnie Käfig and director of the National Choreographic Center of Créteil and Val-de-Marne, dancing in Asia, Europe, the United States, and Japan. He is part of the new creation *Käfig Brasil*, which was presented in June 2012 at the Montpellier Festival of Dance and will be touring in 2013.

CRISTIAN FAXOLA FRANCO has been dancing and researching urban dance since 2004. In 2007, he joined Companhia Urbana de Dança and presented the creation *Suite Funk* at the Biennial Festival of Dance in Lyon. He has directed the dance collectives Broke Style Danse and Movimento Companhia de Dança in Rio de Janeiro. He is currently directing and managing the collective Império Urbano in Petrópolis. Since 2008, he has been working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of Compagnie Käfig and director of the National Choreographic Center of Créteil and Val-de-Marne, dancing in Asia, Europe, the United States, and Japan. He is part of the new creation *Käfig Brasil*, which was presented in June 2012 at the Montpellier Festival of Dance and will be touring in 2013.
GEOVANE FIDELIS DA CONCEIÇAO began street dancing in 2004. He joined the dance collective Soul Brooklyn Crew in Russia, sponsored by Adidas Original and Vlado Footwear Jerkin. He gives classes in Brazil, France, and Russia. In Prague, he joined Street Dance Kemp 2010. Fidelis da Conceicao has also participated in such events as Urban Groove Steady in Lyon, Cercle Underground 3 2011 in Paris, 3° House 2011 in Russia, Break Out Battle-jury in Russia, the KAAT Street Dance Festival in Japan, and Cercle Underground 4 in Belgium and Russia. Since 2008, he has been working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of Compagnie Käfig and director of the National Choreographic Center of Créteil and Val-de-Marne, dancing in Asia, Europe, the United States, and Japan. He is part of the new creation Käfig Brasil, which was presented in June 2012 at the Montpellier Festival of Dance and will be touring in 2013.

DIEGO GONÇALVES DO NASCIMENTO LEITAO has done research on urban dance since 1995. He worked with Regis Yakagi, Zavier, Akim, Karime, and Mourad Merzouki in France; and Regina Sauer, Caio Nunes, Bernardo Stumpf, and Renato Vieira in Brazil. Since 2003, he has given classes in street dancing at Studio Betina Guellmann and Francine e Filhho. Gonçalves do Nascimento Leitao has led workshops in various French cities, including Toulon, Martigues, Cognac, Lyon, and Paris. Since 2008, he has been working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of Compagnie Käfig and director of the National Choreographic Center of Créteil and Val-de-Marne, dancing in Asia, Europe, the United States, and Japan. He is part of the new creation Käfig Brasil, which was presented in June 2012 at the Montpellier Festival of Dance and will be touring in 2013. He has participated in numerous festivals, such as the Biennial Festival of Dance in Lyon, the Karavel Festival in France, Fall for Dance in New York City, the KAAT Street Dance Festival in Japan, and Le Cinars in Canada. He also participated in the International Festival of hip-hop in Curitiba and the Dance Festival of Joinville, both in Brazil.

ALDAIR JUNIOR MACHADO NOGUEIRA received his dance training from Henry Link, Mr. Wiggles, Buddha Stretch, Archie Burnett, Lando Wilkins, Shaun Evaristo, Laure Courtellemont, Federica Naclerio, Kite, Hiro, Yoshie and Tatsu, Edson Guiu, and Storm. He has participated in dance battles in the United States, Europe, Japan, and Brazil. He has also danced for such television shows as Rede Globo’s TV Xuxa and Se vira nos 30; for commercials by IBI Brazil and Schweppes; and with choreographer Renato Vieira (Brazil). Since 2008, he has been working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of Compagnie Käfig and director of the National Choreographic Center of Créteil and Val-de-Marne, dancing in Asia, Europe, the United States, and Japan. He is part of the new creation Käfig Brasil, which was presented in June 2012 at the Montpellier Festival of Dance and will be touring in 2013.

WANDERLINO MARTINS NEVES began dancing in 2000. He was a member of the group Mabe before founding a break dance group, Elemento Surpresa, and participating in dance battles, concerts, and festivals. Since 2008, he has been working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of Compagnie Käfig and director of the National Choreographic Center of Créteil and Val-de-Marne, dancing in Asia, Europe, the United States, and Japan. He is part of the new creation Käfig Brasil, which was presented in June 2012 at the Montpellier Festival of Dance and will be touring in 2013.

JOSE AMILTON RODRIGUES JUNIOR began studying urban dance in 2003 at Movimento Arte & Cia. Since then, he has developed his technical skills by taking classes in Brazil and around the world. He teaches hip-hop and dances many styles, including house, popping, locking, and break dance in addition to classical and jazz dance. Since 2008, he has been working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of Compagnie Käfig and director of the National Choreographic Center of Créteil and Val-de-Marne, dancing in Asia, Europe, the United States, and Japan. He is part of the new creation Käfig Brasil, which was presented in June 2012 at the Montpellier Festival of Dance and will be touring in 2013. He has also participated in such major dance events as Street Dance Kemp in Prague, Fall for Dance in New York City, the KAAT Street Dance Festival in Japan, the Karavel Festival in France, and the Biennal Festival of Dance in Lyon.

ALEXSANDRO SOARES CAMPANHA DA SILVA has worked in urban dance since 2001. In Brazil, he participated in break dance competitions and several commercials, including one for M&Ms, as well as appearing on the television show Domingão do Faustao. He also performed in the feature film Maré, Nossa História de Amor. Soares Campanha da Silva has given workshops on break dancing in France and recently shared the stage with Roll Ballet (USA). Since 2008, he has been working with Mourad Merzouki, choreographer of Compagnie Käfig and director of the National Choreographic Center of Créteil and Val-de-Marne, dancing in Asia, Europe, the United States, and Japan. He is part of the new creation Käfig Brasil, which was presented in June 2012 at the Montpellier Festival of Dance and will be touring in 2013.