

## **Anonymous**

Choreography: Małgorzata Mielech

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Last Saturday, on November 29, at the Teatro do Bairro in Lisbon during the Inshadow Festival, a double session of two performances took place: *Rins* by Mickaella Dantas, and *Anonymous*, a solo act by Małgorzata Mielech.

Małgorzata Mielech is a young Polish choreographer and one of the co-founders of the *DanceLab* project (2012), to which she contributes as a choreographer and a performer. The *Anonymous* spectacle was created in a collaboration with the visual artist Olga Warabida. Her video projections provided the act with form and color in mutual process of composition.

Urban spaces projected on the screen were underlining the performer's dynamic movements; neon colours and flashing lights were transmitting frenetic, recognizable, yet blurred, images of graffiti. The urban art - often vandalized, yet still bearing a strong message of the freedom of expression is considered important channel of anonymous artistic expression in the urban landscape by both artists. This common point, influenced their joint engagement in the artistic creation.

Małgorzata placed herself in a glass cube of a kind and as such created a space for her pursuit of movement. The work was exposed to the gaze of the countless numbers of passers-by which, consequently, turned the artist into Anonymous - an urban artist of flesh and blood, however with an unmasked face. The result of this pursuit of movement was subsequently transferred to the stage. Małgorzata's stage act, however, allows only to see the final result of this pursuit. Although the show seems to be funny, visually attractive and entertaining, at the same time it leaves a shadow of doubt in regard to its conceptual affiliation.

The anonymous or the unknown, by definition, is someone with no name, no signature, the one whose name is not known and someone who wants to remain unknown. In this solo act, as the artist kept dazzling spectators with her movements performed with truly virtuosic

perfection, the anonymous revealed him/herself through the body of the dancer - a great one, especially from a technical point of view.

Action of *Anonymous* begins in the foreground of the stage. The artist is seen playing, hiding her face and gaze with her hands. We do not know who stands behind her, because we do not have the possibility to see it.

The lighting provides anonymity to a hybrid being, dressed in a leather suit, vigorously moving across the stage. The performer acts her part as she incorporates secretly one of the anonymous artist's identity. She moves like an animal, sketching paths and slowly unfolding the act of creation in the shadow, in this case during the interplay between light and video, among which she moves.

Specific anonymity, still visible till this moment, disappears in a sudden flash of light, so that we can accurately see the face of the artist. The one, who, by this time, has remained anonymous/unknown, now becomes visible and reveals oneself to the spectators. The act of bursting the leather suit into pieces reveals artist's body, the one developed by dance, and that is what makes this solo dance performance, full of movement, images and forms.

From this point on, the search for movement is kept in one and the same, unique, and eye enjoying ductile register; these are the images relating to urban art, but displayed without the engagement in the question of its political or social significance.

The images displayed on the screen and combined with music by Anna Suda, create a specific pop atmosphere, which perfectly reflects the movement of the disco universe of the 80s. Selected method becomes quite redundant with the development of the performance, which can be understood by the fact that what happens from the beginning to the end of the act is quite literal, both in the understanding of the topic (anonymous artist) and the appearance of the images (which persist in preserving the channels of urban art). What remains is the sole technically stunning performance and beauty of the ongoing game between the image and the body / movement.