



Comune
di Bologna



Xing
presents

Saturday 14 June 2025 9.30 pm

Katerina Andreou
BLESS THIS MESS
performance

Hole 44°30'32"N 11°20'25"E
Nuovo Parcheggio Stazione - Roof 5° piano
Via Fioravanti 4 – Bologna

Saturday 14 June 2025 at 9.30 pm **Xing** presents ***Bless This Mess*** a performance by the choreographer of Greek origin **Katerina Andreou**. The event is a new **Hole** located in **Bologna** in the **Nuovo Parcheggio Stazione** in Via Fioravanti 4, on the roof of the parking tower behind the central train station, suspended in the urban city-scape. The project is part of **Bologna Estate 2025**.

Three years after performing her solo *BSTRD*, presented by Xing as a special project for ART CITY Bologna 2023, Katerina Andreou returns to the same place with a new group choreographic and sonic piece.

Bless This Mess is based on what Andreou calls a 'constant noise', an autobiographical condition situated in a society whose points of reference seem to shift to such an extent that instability and doubt are inevitable. In an attempt to recover strength but also to build a space of trust for resistance, the ensemble on stage turns confusion into a creative strategy. *Bless This Mess* was born in a perceptive and social space full of blind spots, creating momentum and an irrepressible desire to act/react, with others. "We attempt to place our dance and sound work on the spot of necessity and leave room for the absurd and some playfulness - the only way to create a genuine space for respite and joy." Subverting the idea of a harmonious body, *Bless This Mess* enhances agility and fury in a syncopated energy sustained by looped harpsichord music abysses. An entropic zone emerges between impatience and play.

"If we can't see what's burning, let's at least listen to the sound of fire."

Katerina Andreou, born in Athens, is based in France and makes dances, music and choreography. She graduated both from the Law School-University of Athens, and the State School of Dance in Athens. As a scholar of the greek foundation K. Pratsika, she attended the program ESSAIS in CNDC d'Angers in 2011, under the direction of Emmanuelle Huyhn, and holds today a master degree of Paris 8 on research and choreography. She had the Danceweb scholarship to attend Impulstanz Festival in Vienna in 2015. She collaborated among others with DD Dorvillier, Lenio Kaklea, Bryan Campbell, Dinis Machado, Emmanuelle Huynh, Ana Rita Teodoro, Anne Lise Le Gac, Jocelyn Cottencin, Iris Karayan. In her own work, she is interested in exploring states of presence sorting out from a constant negotiation between contrasted tasks and universes, often questioning the paradigm authority vs autonomy and seeking an illusion of free will on stage. She often designs the sound of her own performances and considers sound and music as a performative and dramaturgical tool. Following her first dance piece, *A kind of fierce* (2016), which received the choreography price Prix Jardin d'Europe at ImpulsTanz Festival, she conceived and performed the solo *BSTRD* (2018), the duo *Zeppelin Bend* (2021) together with Natali Mandila, the site specific performance *Rave to Lament* (2021) and the solo *Mourn Baby Mourn* (2022). She created the group piece *NEVADA* (2021) for 13 students of the Conservatoire de Danse et Musique de Lyon, the quartet *BLESS THIS MESS* (2024), and *HOW ROMANTIC* (2025), a group choreography for The Norwegian National Company of Contemporary Dance. She is associated artist in CCN de Caen for the years 2022-2025 and in the Master Program EXERCE in CCN de Montpellier where she takes part in the design and development of the pedagogical program. She shares her practices and tools in different schools, such as Ecole Supérieur des Beaux Arts de Paris, Ecole Supérieur d'Architecture de Nantes, Fontys Academy in Tilburg. She is a Panorama Artist of the network DNA - Departures and Arrivals.

<https://katerinaandreou.com>

Hole is a format that Xing has been experimenting with since 2022, occupying and activating non-institutional places as a temporary redefinition of a public space.

Nuovo Parcheggio Stazione. The parking tower, located behind Bologna's Central Station at the corner of Via Carracci and Via Fioravanti, is a 5-story ramped structure built next to the new headquarters of the Municipality of Bologna designed by Mario Cucinella Architects in the 1990s. The building stands at the entrance to an area long perceived as external ("outside the walls"). Beyond the railway bridge, it rises on the border between the expanse of tracks for one of Italy's busiest stations and Bolognina, a neighborhood in progress that has repeatedly taken on a symbolic value concerning Bologna's transformation processes. The structure's top floor reveals a large rooftop suspended above the urban cityscape, with a 360-degree view of the different gradations of the territory. A visual field opens up to observe the emergence of



old and new (defensive, productive or residential) towers that dot a discontinuous landscape between attempts of regenerative innovation and layered remnants of stylistic and behavioral holdouts. Recent gentrification processes in a formerly working-class neighborhood have not irreversibly extinguished the social, multiethnic, and countercultural complexities brought together here from the 1990s through the late 2010s on Via Fioravanti, a street where the echoes of such historic experiences as the Link Project and XM24 have left vague traces and small scars.

Katerina Andreou

Bless This Mess

concept/creation Katerina Andreou

performance Lily Brieu Baptiste Cazaux, Melissa Guex , Katerina Andreou

sound Katerina Andreou & Cristian Sotomayor

space/lights Yannick Fouassier

dramaturgical advice Costas Kekis

technical direction Thomas Roulleau Gallais

production & touring Elodie Perrin

production BARK

coproducers CCN de Caen en Normandie dans le cadre du dispositif « Artiste as- associé », KLAP Maison pour la danse à Marseille, ADC Genève, Athens Epidaurus Festival, T2G théâtre de Genevilliers, Festival d'Automne à Paris, Kunstenfestivaldesarts Bruxelles, Next Festival, les Subs, Lyon, Maison de la Danse, Lyon - Pôle européen de Création -, CCN de Grenoble dans le cadre de l'accueil studio, CCNR, Centre chorégraphique national de Rillieux-la-Pape, ICI—CCN Montpellier Occitanie

residencies Espace Pasolini, Kunstencentrum BUDA Courtrai

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Bless This Mess was created in part at the watermill center - a laboratory for performance in april 2023

Partners: Regione Emilia-Romagna, Comune di Bologna, Bologna Estate 2025. Thanks to Newco Duc Bologna SpA. Media partners: Edizioni Zero, ATPdiary, NEU Radio.

Where

Hole 44°30'32"N 11°20'25"E

Nuovo Parcheggio Stazione

Roof 5th floor

Via Fioravanti 4 – Bologna – I

Free access

Xing info

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www.xing.it www.xing.it/event/553/bless_this_mess

facebook.com/xing.it instagram.com/xing.it

Bologna Estate info

www.bolognaestate.it

Press kit

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/5vkbq3lq59bqljq85tdys/ADzmN8OheJtZ8CooXtMPocq?rlkey=q3qze12t8ob8kpkym01ruyn&dl=0>

Hashtag

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