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AAKASH ODEDRA COMPANY

Presents

"Dark, intense, troubled and troubling
This showed dancers can really mean it."
Seeing Dance

#JeSuis (in progress)



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paradise is here

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**POWERFUL CONTEMPORARY DANCE-THEATRE EXPLORING DISPLACEMENT,
FEAR & THE POWER OF THE COLLECTIVE IN A POST-TRUTH ERA**

When you find yourself surrounded by ideas you do not subscribe to, laws you cannot uphold and truths you're not able to believe, home can feel like a frightening place to be.

The award-winning Aakash Odedra Company and an extraordinary ensemble of Turkish dancers present *#JeSuis (in progress)*, inspired by personal stories of conflict, media manipulation, displacement and identity, wrapped up in the wider geopolitical issues of life in a homeland that doesn't know the meaning of "home" anymore.

Following the attacks in Paris in January 2015, the hashtag *#JeSuisCharlie* trended to show camaraderie for lives lost and freedom of expression. During some early choreographic research, the dancers highlighted the disparity of worldwide media coverage and public sympathy between first-world countries and those countries where war and casualties seem to be a daily given. *#JeSuis* became the title for this first ensemble project of AOC to pay tribute to the notion that life matters in every corner of the world.

The R&D for *#JeSuis* revolved around the strangulation of freedom speech; the role conflict/regime plays leading to people being displaced or forced to flee; the media misrepresentation of lives caught up in conflict; and the xenophobic rise in Western countries.

#JeSuis is a plea to say I count,
I matter, I exist; but also:
"We Are".



Aakash Odedra Company proudly presents *#JeSuis (in progress)*

The work-in-progress version will be seen at Zoo Southside, Edinburgh Festival Fringe and Journey's Festival International in Leicester (Curve Theatre), Manchester (Contact Theatre) and Portsmouth (Theatre Royal Portsmouth).

#JeSuis will then be developed further in Autumn 2017 and Spring 2018 with a final residency and world premiere at The Arts Center at NYU Abu Dhabi on 7-9 February 2018.

#JeSuis

(in progress)

CREDITS

Artistic Director: Aakash Odedra
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