

Biography of artists

A.lter S.essio

A.lter S.essio is a France-based artist collective with members Fabrice Planquette (conception, direction, audio-visual creation) and Yum Keiko Takayama (choreography, performance). Each project is the result of a specific interdisciplinary collaborative research by the team. Guest artists bring along his or her own language, sensitivities and perspectives.

The group creates dance-performances mixing contemporary and neo-butoh dance and audio-visual/digital development, as well as video series and installations. The work explores the place of the individual in society and questions the conditions of contemporary existence. Confrontation with the environment, oneself, each other, others... In background, these projects are focused on question of loss and the struggle it entails. Live or survive, it is between fight, collapse and game with a radical construction.

All pieces are interconnected: continuation, complement, parallel, opposition. The components (body, image, sound, text) are treated equally without any particular priority. It tries to produce an incisive work, at the same time subtle and brutal.

A.lter S.essio has presented in most European countries, as well as in South America, Canada, and Japan in various festivals, ranging from music and digital art to dance and performance.

Conception/ Direction/ Audio-visual creation - Fabrice Planquette

Fabrice works mainly as a sound designer and composer in the large field of experimental music, sound poetry, installation and performances. He has collaborated with many dance and theatre companies since 1997. In 2007, within the group A.lter S.essio which he directs, he began a series of performances in collaborations with international artists. He was awarded the 2006 Villa Kujoyama grant in Kyoto (Japan).

Choreography/ Interpretation/ Costumes - Yum Keiko Takayama

After learning classical ballet, modern and butoh dance, Yum has been working on solo performances including other collective projects such as dance, theatre and photography. As a dancer of the neo-butoh Japanese company Sennichimae Blue Sky Dance Club, she has performed in tours to Japan, Korea, France, USA, Canada and Chile. Her solo performances are also dedicated to non-theatre spaces (galleries and live houses). Since 2007, she is a choreographer, performer and costume designer with A.lter S.essio performing art group.