

Circus performance

“Gynoïdes Project - Bêta Test VI - Cyborg Acrobat”

authors and performers:

Kajsa Bohlin, acrobatics and text

Maurizio Goina, sonic interaction

Marie Andrée Robitaille, artistic direction

The piece presented in movement and text is inspired by the absurdity of everyday life. The contradictions in which we find ourselves, referring to bureaucracy and humanity.

A text recording has been segmented into single words, triggered by predefined movements of an acrobat's limbs. The movements are tracked by four wireless inertial sensors placed each on a different limb of the performer.

Ten file players are used to let play till ten words at the same time, so to avoid words truncation in the fast parts. There are three main modalities to trigger the words: in sequence, random, and four selected words, one per limb. These modalities are changed several times during the performance by the laptop performer.

A collaboration between the Sound and Music Computing Team at KTH, DOCH University of Dance and Circus (Stockholm University of the Arts) and Gynoïdes Project.

Kajsa Bohlin (www.kajsabohlin.com) - Contemporary circus artist specializing in dance acrobatics and Cyr Wheel, educated at The University of Dance and Circus (DOCH) in Stockholm. She is one of the founders of Sputnik & Wild Wonder and has worked with companies such as Cirkus Cirkör, Le Sept Doigts de La Main, and Cirk La Putyka. She is also a poet, and has a passion for accidental absurdities.

Maurizio Goina - Academic Diploma in Viola performance and Master degree in Music and Technology at the Conservatory of Trieste – IT. He is a guest researcher in the Sound and Music Computing Team at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, and a researcher at DOCH University of Dance and Circus - Stockholm for the Gynoïdes Project. Developer of the EGGS system (www.visualsonic.eu) for gesture sonification together with Pietro Polotti, is active as an audio-visual composer.

Marie Andrée Robitaille - Educated in human sciences at CEGEP Ste Foy higher education College in Quebec and trained simultaneously as a dancer at l'École de Danse de Québec, and as a circus artist at the National Circus School in Montreal. Professional circus practitioner since 1998,

worked as a circus performer, artistic counsellor, instructor/pedagogue, stunt women, producer, talent scout and artistic director. Currently senior lecturer and head of the artistic studies at the bachelor of art in circus at DOCH. Founder and Artistic Director of Gynoïdes Project (www.cirkusperspektiv.se).

The **Gynoïdes Project** addresses the problematic of the status, role and re-presentation of women in circus. Its objective is to explore new forms of artistic expression in the circus art through the use of motion capture technology, enabling performers to interactively control computer-generated sounds by means of their own body. The research seeks to demonstrate that sonification is a possible solution to overcome the restrictions imposed by the standardized set of rules in composition, production and distribution of circus art.