



Synopsis

In **La Wagner**, four women, like Valkyries, straddle Wagner's music to grapple with the difficult task of deactivating stereotypes and exposing prejudices about femininity, violence, sexuality, eroticism and pornography. All these stereotypes and prejudices take shape in the body of woman and poison her. But this body has the intelligence and potential to rise up and turn this state of affairs onto its back.

Why is there a link between the music and figure of Richard Wagner and the task of these four women? Because Wagner is one of the greatest composers and there has never since then been such a deeply controversial composer. Historical events have turned him into a repellent being and his music has borne the consequences. We are fascinated with seeing these two universes clash, where banality comes into contact with the sublime, the irreverent with the sacred.



About the piece

“I have told the erotic life of Wagner in so much detail, not only for the vast role eroticism played in his life and in the formation of his character; but also because, in understanding this aspect in depth, you have the key to his entire nature.”

Ernest Newman

“What you call repetitions appear in all of my books. This is a literary device which I began using with a certain timidity, but which I have perhaps begun to abuse. From my point of view, it gives greater body to a work and strengthens its sense of unity. This recourse is in some aspects similar to Wagner’s motifs.”

Émile Zola

“Wagner’s formula is that of a drama not based on actions but rather on reactions. His characters are only subjects as far as sentiment is concerned; as regards action, they are always objects.”

Bryan Magee



Press reviews

“La Wagner, a play that depicts the violence of this time period.” *MU* N°75 (21/04/14)

“Once again the experimentation and transgression prevails in the creation of music and choreography of Pablo Rotemberg. On this occasion, his universe crosses paths with that of Richard Wagner in a play that simultaneously catches your attention and perplexes you. (...) Pablo Rotemberg returns to strongly arouse the spectator’s attention. He does it with the conviction of these acts that he builds upon, in which tensions can rise to unsuspected heights as he provokes strange emotions.” *LA NACION* (Carlos Pacheco, 26/03/14)

“Pablo Rotemberg is undoubtedly one of the most original and defiant artists of the current Argentine art scene. His unique style is put on display in La Wagner, which is quite difficult to classify, just like his previous works... This is a must-see play : experience of the extremes, it’s one of the key parts of the renovation of the art scene of Buenos Aires.” *TIEMPO ARGENTINO* (Jorge Dubatti, 09/08/15)

“It’s nearly impossible not to be impressed by the performances in La Wagner. The physical, emotional delivery of the four protagonists is just as much magnificent as it is moving. There aren’t any restrictions nor is there anything average about Pablo Rotemberg’s new play.” *REVISTA BRANDO* (Alejandro Lingenti, 10/08/15)

“The physical display and performance of the four ballerinas leave the audience stunned and on their feet in applause at the end of the play—alternatively they instill a horror mechanism that operates in both male and female spectators from the depths of this Wagnerian opera. (...) Whistles and cheers carry on for many long minutes... not only as an esthetic admiration of Rotemberg’s marvelous play, but also as a necessary atonement of personal and collective pain.” *PÁGINA 12* (Paula Jiménez España, 17-07-15)

“La Wagner is a ‘play of total art’, not only because it includes and intertwines different types of art, but because it also refers back to the human being as an enigma: violent, violated, a special being, but still an animal?” *DIARIO PERFIL* (Analía Melgar, 13/09/15)



Pablo Rotemberg

Director, choreographer, musician, and writer.

He graduated from the Argentine Conservatory of Music (Conservatorio Nacional de Música) and the Argentine Film University (Universidad del Cine) in Buenos Aires. He received an extensive education in dance and theater from various international teachers including Cristina Barnils, Gloria Kazda, Ricardo Bartís, Gabriel Chamé Buendía (Argentina), Renate Schottelius (Germany/Argentina), Julyen Hamilton (England), Mark Haim, Kirstie Simson (United States), and Wim Vandekeybus (Belgium). He also collaborated with artists such as Margarita Bali, Gustavo Lesgart, Rubén Szchumacher, and Alejandro Tantanián among others. As a choreographer, he directed various plays: *El Lobo* («The Wolf», created in El Camarín de las Musas, 2005-08), *Bajo la luna de Egipto* («The Setting of the Egyptian Moon», Ricardo Rojas Cultural Center, 2007-08), *Los Sensuales* («The Sensuous», direction by Alejandro Tantanián and choreography of Pablo Rotemberg, El Camarín de las Musas, 2008-13), *Nada te turbe, Nada te espante* («Let Nothing Trouble or Frighten You», Ricardo Rojas Cultural Center, 2008), *La Noche más negra* («The Blackest Night», created for the Contemporary Ballet Company of the General San Martín Theater, 2012), *Joan Crawford* (created for the Ballet Argentino directed by Julio Bocca, 2010), *La Idea Fija* («The Fixed Idea», El Portón de Sanchez, 2010/14, IX FIBA), *La Casa del Diablo* (created for the Contemporary Ballet Company of the General San Martín Theater, 2012) *Las Vírgenes* («The Virgins», created for the UNA - National University of the Arts, 2012), *Savage* (created for the UNA - National University of the Arts Dance Company, 2013), *The Stubborn Night* (GAM- Gabriela Mistral Cultural Center in Santiago, Chile, 2014), and *Todos o Ninguno* («All or None», La Casona Iluminada, 2014).

His work as a choreographer has been on display in various international, dance and theater festivals such as the FIBA - the International Festival of Buenos Aires, the Theater Festival of Rafaela, the Cipolletti Festival of Contemporary Dance, the National Theater Festival of ECUNHI, the International Festival 'El Teatro Festeja', the International Festival 'El Cruce', the Fiesta Nacional del Teatro (Argentina), The Dance Festival Danza en la ciudad (Colombia), the International Festival of Danza Usina do Gasômetro (Brazil) ; and TanzFest (Germany). He also received support from the Argentine National Foundation of the Arts, the ProDanza Institute, the Antorchas Foundation, the National Theater Institute, and the American Dance Festival. *La Idea Fija* received the Trinidad Guevara prize for best choreography and best lighting and also the World Theater prize for best choreography, best directing, best lighting, and best original music. In 2014, *La Wagner* received the World Theater prize for best choreography and was nominated in the category for best lighting.



PABLO ROTEMBERG

Cast and Crew

Show

La Wagner

Genre

Contemporary dance

Audience

Adult

Approximate duration

60 minutes

Cast

Ayelén Clavin
Carla Di Grazia
Josefina Gorostiza
Carla Rímola

Music

Richard Wagner
Phill Niblack
Armando Trovajoli
Gianfranco Plenizio

Lighting design

Fernando Berreta

Space & objects

Mauro Bernardini

Artistic collaboration

Martín Churba

Music editing

Jorge Grela

Sound editing

Guillermo Juhasz

Photos

Hernán Paulas
Juan Antonio
Papagni Meca
Paola Evelina Gallarato

Video

Lucio Bazzalo
Francisco Marise

Graphic Design

Guillermo Madoz

Assistant director

Lucía Llopis

Director

Pablo Rotemberg

Production and distribution

Leila Barenboim, Gabriela Marsal, Mireia Gràcia (Mika Project)

Background

Awards

2014 / World Theater award for best choreography and direction.
Nominated in the category for best lighting.

Seasons

2013 / 2014 / El Cultural San Martín, Buenos Aires.
2014 / El Portón de Sánchez Theater.
2015 / 2016 / Espacio Callejón Theater.

National and International Festivals

2016

International Festival Santiago a Mil, FITAM, Santiago de Chile.
Semana de Programadores, Festival Santiago a Mil, Chile.
Mix Dança Transcendente, SESC Paladium, Belo Horizonte, Brasil.
Festival Latinamericano de Teatro da Bahia, FILTE, Salvador de Bahía, Brasil.
Festival Internacional de Londrina, FILO, Brasil.
Cena Contemporânea Festival Internacional de Teatro, Brasilia, Brasil.
Encontro Internacional de Dança, Natal, Brasil.

2015

Cena Cumplicidades Festival Internacional de Dança, Recife, Brasil.
IV Festival Internacional de Artes Escénicas, FIDAE, Montevideo, Uruguay.
Festival Argentino de Artes Escénicas, Santa Fe, Argentina.
Festival de Teatro de Rafaela, Santa Fe, Argentina.
GIRART, Mercado de las Artes Escénicas, Córdoba, Argentina.

2014

VIII Festival Buenos Aires Danza Contemporánea, Argentina.
Festival Internacional "El Teatro Festeja" de Chaco, IX Circuito Nacional de Festivales INT.
Festival de Teatro de Corrientes, IX Circuito Nacional de Festivales INT.
Festival de Teatro "En la Ribera del Río" de Formosa (IX Circuito Nacional de Festivales INT.

Co-production, subsidies and supports

Co-production of El Cultural San Martín.
Prodanza Institute.
Instituto Nacional del Teatro (National Theater Institute).



Video

Trailer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8E6ZsZsCo8o>
<https://vimeo.com/86577240>

Complete video

<https://vimeo.com/98714550>
Password: chopin1849

Contact / Distribution