

Company Portmanteau:

Piste piste piste

**"One day a kid planted three little dots.
And they grew into lines..."**

Piste, piste, piste, by Luis Sartori do Vale and Mira Ravald, is an interdisciplinary performance for children and young audiences, combining contemporary circus, dance and visual arts.

In a fascinating journey into the world of shapes and creativity, a blank white stage transforms into an imaginative universe with the use of old overhead projectors.

Inspired by the children's book **"Três pontinhos"** (three little dots), by the brazilian author/illustrator Mario Vale, the performance sensitively builds up around a journey of two characters that one day discover three little dots...

Through movement, illusion, circus skills and handmade image projections executed live, the performers play with the transformation of dots into lines.

Using the overhead projectors to build a dynamic and poetic visual environment, Luis and Mira create different situations and universes in which they travel through, leaving space for the children's own imagination and interpretations.



NOTES ON DRAMATURGY

Giving continuity to the research started with their previous performance **Portmanteau** (2018), Luis and Mira explore the use of handmade visuals executed live on old overhead projectors, not only as visual and scenographic effects, but as a main part of the dramaturgy.

As in **Portmanteau**, the aesthetics of **Piste, piste, piste** are based on simple and graphic images, created live on the stage. All the images are constructed using different arrangements of dots and lines, becoming shapes, characters and spaces to interact with.

For a general audience, the use of old analog objects in a performance, such as overhead projectors, can bring feelings of nostalgie.

For the young generations, raised in a strongly digitalised and technological world, we believe that these unfamiliar machines can actually be seen as a curious "novelty."

By showing how these objects work and what possibilities they can offer, we aim to stimulate the children's curiosity and imagination, as well as the wish to experiment on their own.





THREE LITTLE DOTS...

Piste, piste, piste takes its main inspiration from the children's book "**Três pontinhos**" (three little dots) by the Brazilian author and illustrator Mario Vale.

In the book, a kid discover three little dots and decides to plant them. They grow into beautiful long lines and become the kids' closest friends. He uses the lines to draw and to create different kinds of shapes and characters, playing with his imagination...

Not underlining but rather suggesting, the performance sensitively explore the general concept of transformation, as well as the symbolism of dots growing into lines, making references to situations such as planting trees, growing older and observing a seed sprouting...



CONCEPT / PERFORMANCE



MIRA RAVALD

Mira is a performing artist working within dance, contemporary circus and physical theatre. Specialized in dancing on a tight wire, Mira has graduated from Salpaus Further Education school in Lahti (Finland) in 2009.

Her first full length work as an author is the multidisciplinary performance Portmanteau, together with Luis Sartori do Vale / company Portmanteau. Having toured internationally since its premiere, the show has been awarded the Sirkuksen Lumo prize 2018 as an acknowledgement for the work done to promote Finnish circus arts.

Mira's short dance/circus film OMI (2020) has gained international recognition for its experimental kind.

Previously Mira has worked in various theater productions, musicals, dance theatres, and free-lance groups both in her home country Finland as well as in Sweden and Switzerland.

LUIS SARTORI DO VALE

Luis is a performing artist, director and visual artist born in Brazil, based in Finland.

After a diploma in Visual Arts from the Fine Arts School of UFMG (Brazil), Luis graduated from the Ecole Supérieure des Arts du Cirque (ESAC, Belgium) as a circus artist.

He has worked with several directors and companies, such as Rolf Alme, Liisa Risu, Petri Dish, Archaos, Les 7 Doigts de la Main and Hurjaruuth.

In 2012 he co-founded the Finnish company Nuua, becoming a laureate of the platform Circus Next with the performance Lento, also awarded the Special Prize of the Jury in the 35th Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain, in Paris.

He has performed in more than 25 countries worldwide. Besides Piste, piste, piste, he is nowadays touring with his other performances Dois, Portmanteau and Pendulum.

When not performing, Luis develops works with visual arts, between illustration, video and photography.



CREDITS

CONCEPT / PERFORMANCE

Luis Sartori do Vale
Mira Raval

LIGHT DESIGN

Jere Mönkkönen

MUSIC / SOUND DESIGN

Petteri Rajanti

PRODUCTION

WHS (FI)

SUPPORT

TAIKE (FI), WHS Teatteri Union (FI), Cirko (FI),
Annantalo (FI), Subtopia (SE)

Project awarded as the ITU 2020 performance

INFO

Age: +4 years old
Duration: 42 minutes
Language: non verbal

Disciplines: Object manipulation, dance, illusions,
handmade live visuals.

Ideal stage: 9m width x 8m depth
Minimum width: 8m
Minimum depth: 7m
Minimum height: 5m to the light rig

Touring team: 3 people

Set-up time: 4/6 hours
Take down: 1/1,5 hours
The show can be performed 2 or 3 times a day

CONTACTS

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PRESS

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A TOUCH OF CIRCUS MAGIC, WARM HUMOUR AND OVERHEAD PROJECTORS

First of all, it must be said that while **Mira Ravald's** and **Luis Sartori do Vale's** new contemporary circus work "Piste, piste, piste" is marketed as a performance for children and young audiences, it is just as much - as the best works for children always - an adults' performance.

Sure, the performance is based on the children's book "Três Pontinhos" (Three Little Dots) by the author-illustrator **Mario Vale**, but for the sake of receiving the work, it doesn't really matter much.

Already in their previous work "Portmanteau" (2018), Ravald and do Vale used enchantingly old overhead projectors to create the visual look of the performance. Now they have taken the idea forward. In addition to creating an environment and atmosphere, overhead projectors also take events forward and sometimes even turn into performing animals.

Non-verbal Piste, piste, piste is a playful and atmospheric story of growth and change with gentle humour that is captivating. The moon turns into a juggling ball, which becomes a seed, which grows into a line, which becomes a stick, from which grows a musical line, whose note becomes a ball, from which... almost indefinitely.

The changes are small, imaginative and fun. As if surreptitiously, they combine Ravald's acrobatics and dance with do Vale's juggling. The skills of both are in no way underlined, but are part of the whole. The performance lives and breathes lightly and effortlessly.

While the whiteness of the stage image is necessary above all because of the light patterns created by the overhead projectors, it also gives the performance a sense of intangibility.

Petteri Rajanti's sound universe and **Jere Mönkkönen's** lights are such an integral part of the whole that one doesn't even pay attention to them separately. For their part, they create a fairytale-inspired, exciting, yet safe atmosphere that does not scare even the youngest viewers.

"Piste, piste, piste" is a lovely little gem enjoyed by viewers of all ages.

~ ANNIKKI ALKU

ARVOSTELU

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Alkuperäinen artikkeli:
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RIPAUS SIRKUKSEN TAIKAA, LÄMMINTÄ HUUMORIA JA PIIRTOHEITTIMIÄ

Heti ensimmäiseksi täytyy sanoa, että vaikka **Mira Ravaldin** ja **Luis Sartori do Valen** uutta nykysirkusteosta Piste, piste, piste markkinoidaan lasten ja nuoren yleisön esityksenä, se on aivan yhtä lailla – kuten parhaimmat lapsille suunnatut teokset aina – aikuisten esitys.

Toki esitys perustuu kirjailija-kuvittaja **Mario Valen** lastenkirjaan Três Pontinhos (Kolme pientä pistettä), mutta teoksen vastaanottamiseksi sillä ei oikeastaan ole sen enempää merkitystä.

Jo edellisessä teoksessaan Portmanteau (2018) Ravaldi ja do Vale käyttivät lumoavan kekseliäästi vanhoja piirtoheittämiä luomaan esityksen visuaalista ilmettä. Nyt he ovat vieneet ajatusta eteenpäin. Sen lisäksi, että piirtoheittimillä luodaan miljöötä ja tunnelmaa, ne myös vievät tapahtumia eteenpäin ja muuttuvat välillä jopa esiintyviksi eläimiksi.

Sanaton Piste, piste, piste on leikkilinen ja tunnelmallinen kasvu- ja muutostarina, jonka lempeä huumori on valloittavaa. Kuu muuttuu jongleerauspalloksi, josta tulee siemen, joka kasvaa viivaksi, josta tulee keppi, josta kasvaa nuottiviivasto, jonka nuotista tulee pallo, josta... melkein loputtomiin.

Muutokset ovat pieniä, kekseliäitä ja hauskoja. Kuin vaivihkaa ne yhdistyvät Ravaldin akrobatiaan ja tanssiin sekä do Valen jongleeraukseen. Kummankaan taitoja ei mitenkään alleviivata, vaan ne ovat osa kokonaisuutta. Esitys elää ja hengittää kevyesti ja pingottamatta.

Vaikka näyttämökuvan valkoisuus on ennen kaikkea tarpeellista piirtoheittimien luomien valokuvioiden vuoksi, antaa se esitykselle myös eräänlaisen aineettomuuden tunnun.

Petteri Rajantin äänimaailma ja **Jere Mönkkösen** valot ovat niin olennainen osa kokonaisuutta, ettei niihin tule edes kiinnittäneeksi erikseen huomiota. Ne luovat omalta osaltaan esitykseen satumaisuudella silatun, jännittävän, mutta silti turvallisen tunnelman, joka ei pelota nuorimpiakaan katsojia.

Piste, piste, piste on ihastuttava pieni helmi, josta nauttivat kaikenikäiset katsojat.

~ ANNIKKI ALKU