



YEBO YES! by AFIA

"Singing more than one part, telling more than one story, at the same time,
No voice surrenders its individual identity, nor does any one voice steal the show,
There is no front person, no soloist, no leader."

"When I soften my hearing, something happens.
The many songs coalesce to make one song that doesn't exist in any of the one voices alone.
It is an emergent song that I can't find by unravelling the music into its separate strand!"

- "Entangled Life" by Merlin Sheldrake

YEBO YES is a work for five dancers by/with choreographers and artistic leaders Joanna Holewa Chrona and Theresa Gustavsson - with the dancers Sibusiso Mthembu, Gugulethu Mofokeng and David Morale from South Africa joining on stage.

The idea behind the performance started from seeking connections between different street dances and individual dancers. Later on in the process the interest grew of exploring the power in the individual expression, in choreography and in a club environment. What really caught Joanna and Theresa's interest to work with Pantsula was the feeling of a synchronized mass that never seem to stop, amongst rhythms, characters, playfulness, footwork and drive. The dancers are using their own dance as a way of expression to create their unique self. This is something that the artistic leaders has chosen to highlight, but also to nurse the energy that occurs between the self-taught street dancers.

The meeting between the dancers, the cultures and the personalities gives the performance an honest expression and a raw image of what streetdance culture and personal expression could be.



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Choreographers: **Joanna Holewa Chrona and Theresa Gustavsson**

IsiPantsula choreographer: **Sibusiso Mthembu**

Dancers: **Sibusiso Mthembu, Patricia Mofokeng, David Mokale, Theresa Gustavsson, Joanna Holewa Chrona**

Music: **Yared Tilahun Cederlund**

Vocals: **Ntsika Fana Xganga**

Costume: **Victoria Denise Tcha**

Light: **Erik Wiedersheim-Paul**

Producer: **AFIA**

Co-producer: **Norrlandsoperan, Dansnät Sverige, Dansens Hus**

With support from: **Konstnärsnämnden, Vusi Art project, Riksteatern, Kulturrådet**

About AFIA

AFIA is a non profit organisation that produce culture events and performing art to celebrate, acknowledge and strengthen African traditions/cultures and Streetdances from the African Diaspora, and to broaden the culture range of expressions. AFIA's vision is that these cultural expressions should get an equal amount of possibilities on stage, financial support and appreciation as other cultural forms.

AFIA is founded by Joanna Holewa Chrona and Theresa Gustavsson, both born and raised in Sweden and currently situated in Malmö. During the past 10 years Joanna and Theresa has been active both together and individually in the Swedish Streetdance within different fields such as battling, performing, choreographing, teaching and producing events. With their common interest for dance and music they have been traveling together to Gabon, Senegal and South Africa to engage with dancers and to learn more about local cultures. For the past 4 years they have been organizing a festival called "Afia Presents Pantsula" but who recently switched name to "AFIA FESTIVAL" with invited South African artists (Dancers and Djs), and since 2019 they are active with their own dance piece "YEBO YES!" starring both Swedish and South African dancers.

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