## Programme Notes

## *AFTER ALL*

## Solène Weinachter

A warm welcome to the first public performance of AFTER ALL. Dance North and the community in Moray have been a great support and inspiration in the development of this project and it is a pleasure to be

here as part of RISE tonight.

The subject of death will be sensitive for each of us in a different way, so please if you need to take some time out during the performance for whatever reasons, this is welcome.

The very first time I realised everyone I knew, including myself, were going to die, it was a Sunday at 9.30pm. My family was watching a Hollywood fiction about WWII. I walked in the living room drowned in the sonic chaos of the shooting scene, tears soaking my pyjamas top, overwhelmed both by this feeling of finitude and existential dread and declaimed – mainly with vowels – between two sobs: ‘*On va tous mourir’*;\*. My gran took me back to my bed, dried my tears, changed my pyjama, and said gently as she walked out of the room: ‘Listen, I don’;t know anyone who came back from death to complain about it.’.

I am now 38. If things goes well, I have another half to go – although I can’t be sure. People have started to die and I still find myself at loss with grief and terror of being sucked back into nothingness. My gran is not here anymore to put me back to bed.

So I have made a show.

\**we are all going to die.*

**Solène Weinachter**

Solène is a dance artist born in Paris who came to live in Scotland in 2007. Her love for dance started when she was 5 doing pirouettes (only) on her kitchen floor. Later she formally trained in the regional conservatoire of Lyon and then pursued her education at London Contemporary Dance School where she graduated with a BA(Hons) 1st class degree and an MA in contemporary dance and performance.

Story-telling, dance and laughter have been at the heart of a number of critically acclaimed pieces Solène has performed all over the world. This includes the solo of *Antigone, Interrupted* created with Joan Clevillé (Scottish Dance Theatre) and *Juliet & Romeo* by Ben Duke (Lost Dog) for which she was awarded best female performer by the National Dance Awards Critic Circle in 2020.

As a performer, Solène’s path includes collaborating with Scottish Dance Theatre, Lost Dog, Oona Doherty, Gecko and Vera Tussing.

Solène is also co-founder of the Glasgow based music/dance Collective Endeavours.

**CREATIVE TEAM:**

Solène Weinachter: Director & Performer

Matthias Strahm: Scenographer

Emma Jones: Lighting Design & Production manager

Rachel Bunce: Videographer

Chris Thorpe: Script Adviser & Dramaturgy

Neil Callaghan: Artist Companion & Dramaturgy

Lisa Fannen: Outside Eye & Engagement

Helen McIntosh: Producer

Amy Steadman: Production & Stage Manager

Genevieve Reeves: Documentation

Yvonne Strain: BSL performance interpreter

Raquel Meseguer: Audio Description

**Supported by:**

Creative Scotland, Dance North, Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre, The Work Room, Dance Base, The Space.

More people have been involved along the way in the research and development of this show in different capacities and I’d like to thank them for their support in all kinds of crucial ways:

Vicky Wilson

Robin Mason

Dance North

Karl Jay-Lewin

Cath Giles

Gail Sneddon

Kinloss Church

Lorna Norman

Kate Clark at Pushing up the Daisies

Karen Collins at Naturally Useful (willow coffins)

Cornelia Featherstone

Before I go solutions

Scottish Dance Theatre

Dundee Rep

Joan Clevillé

Dancebase

Morag Deyes

Kirsty Sommerville

Ben Duke

Amanda Lowson

Amanda Chinn

Everyone in Beautiful People

Wangmo Kelsang

Ephraim Borowski at Scottish Council of Jewish Communities

Sue Williamson at Catholic Women's Ordination

Gordon Sharp

Tayside Inter-Faith and Belief group

Madge Bray

Nethergate Church

Janet Smith

Jer Reid

Simon Brown

Alex South

Skye Reynolds

Katye Coe

Ben McEwen

Kieran Brown

Jessie Roberts