IL GIARDINO GIAPPONESE

IL GIARDINO GIAPPONESE

compagnia TPO **in co-production with**
Teatro Metastasio di Prato

artistic direction Davide Venturini, Francesco Gandi
choreography Leonor Keil, Piero Leccese
dance for three performers
visual design Elsa Mersi
computer engineering Rossano Monti, Martin von Günten
sound design Spartaco Cortesi
props Livia Cortesi
collaboration on the concept Cristina Cilli
collaboration on script Stefania Zampiga
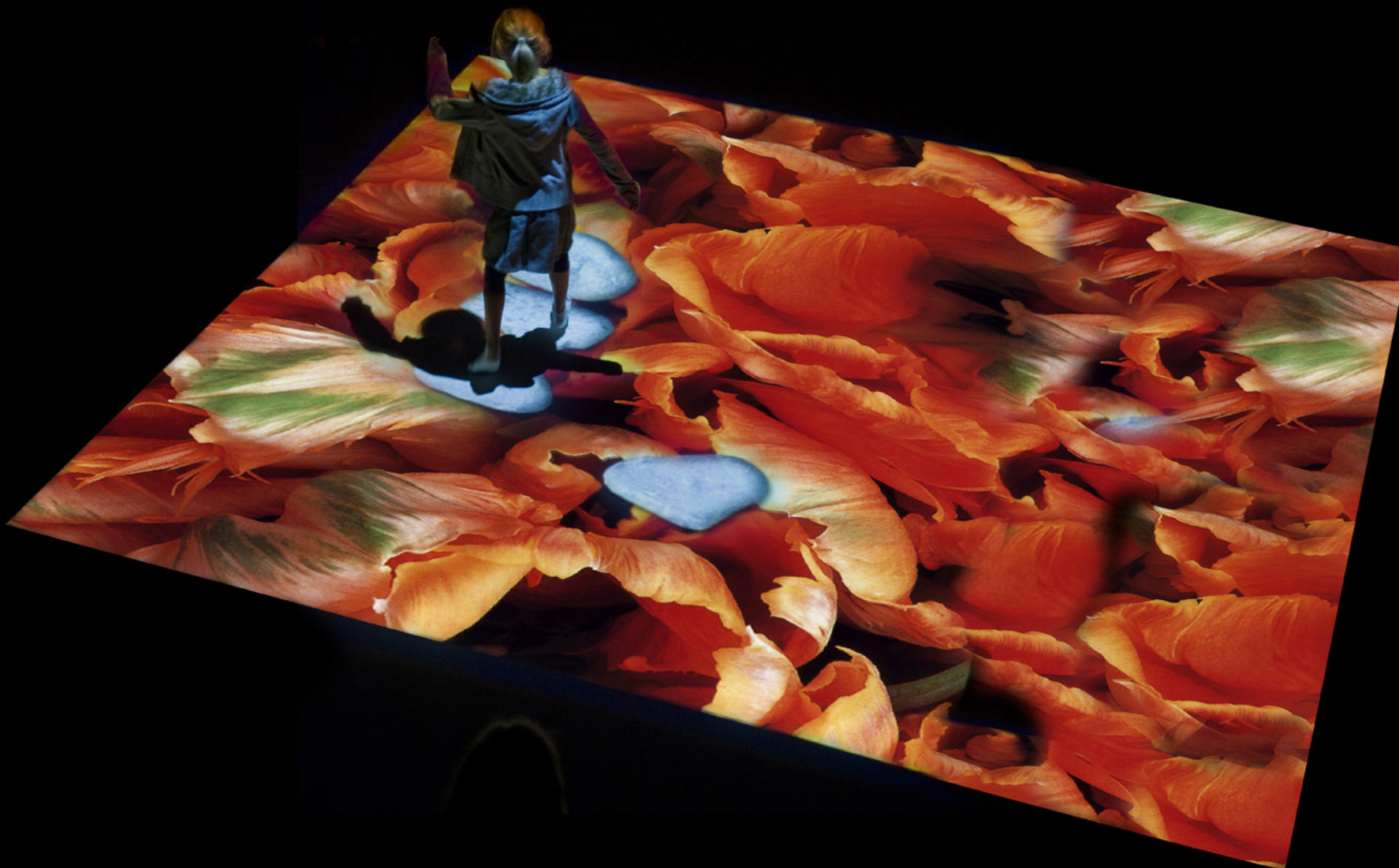**artistic collaboration** Patrizia Menichelli, Caterina Poggesi

THE SHOW

The show is a fairytale with images and dance inspired by the beauty of the Japanese garden. This particular garden is a world in miniature and has its origins in a story: a brave young boy named Shiro is the first Japanese ever to leave his small mountain village and travel as far as the ocean shore. He cannot go farther.

After a brief 'telling', the story turns into a dance, a journey to discover a landscape which changes at every step. When he returns home, Shiro is at a loss for words and resorts to describing his marvelous journey by creating a garden.

The TPO show recreates the garden via the projection, from above, of images onto a large dance mat, a 'magic' carpet which reacts to physical presence. Hidden pressure transmitters make the images and sounds come alive as children are invited onstage to explore the various natural environments. The children, either individually or in small groups, play in the garden and plunge themselves into the same visual and auditory sensations that Shiro experienced during his journey.
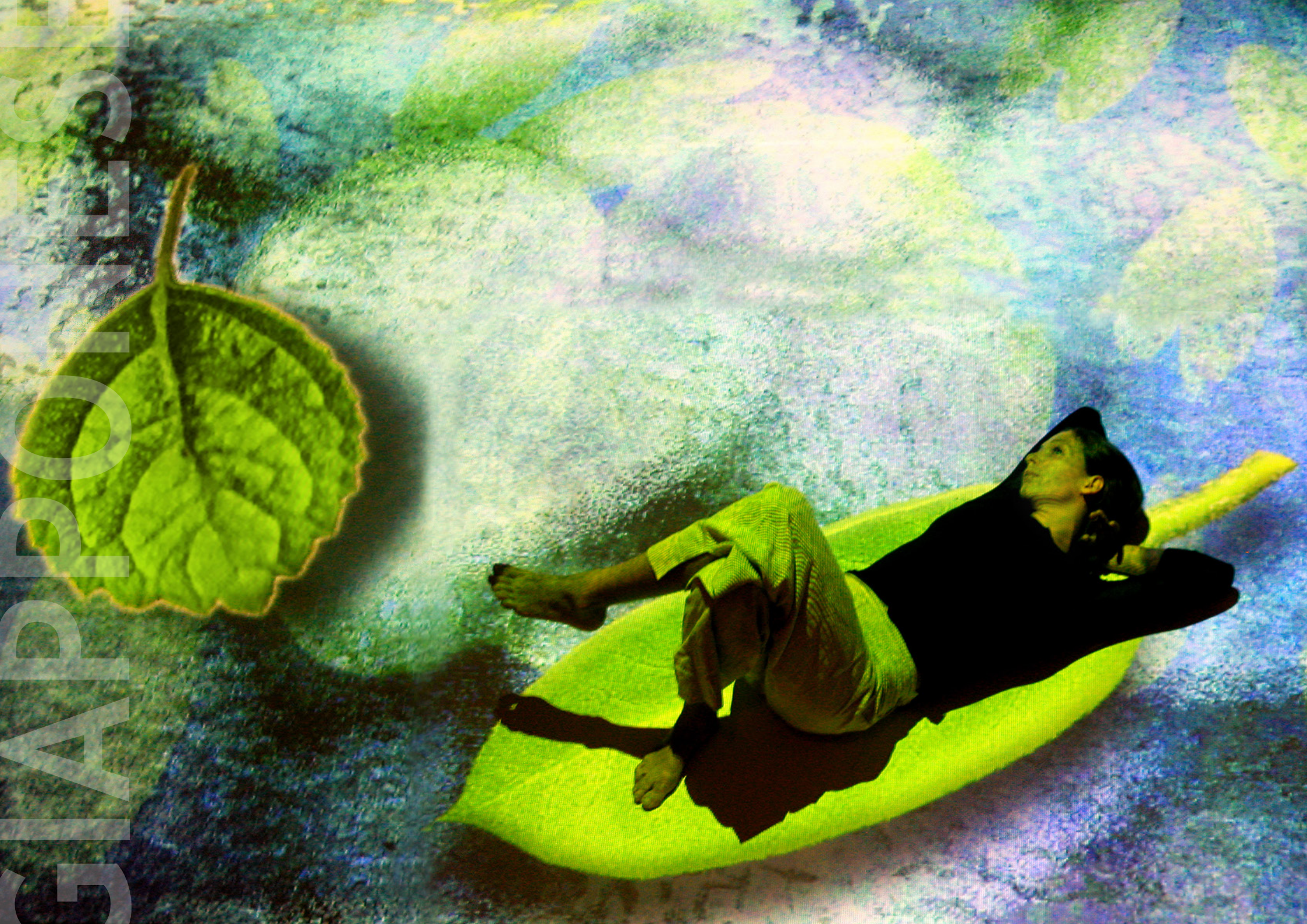
NOTES
running time: 50'
limited capacity
age level: 5 years old and up
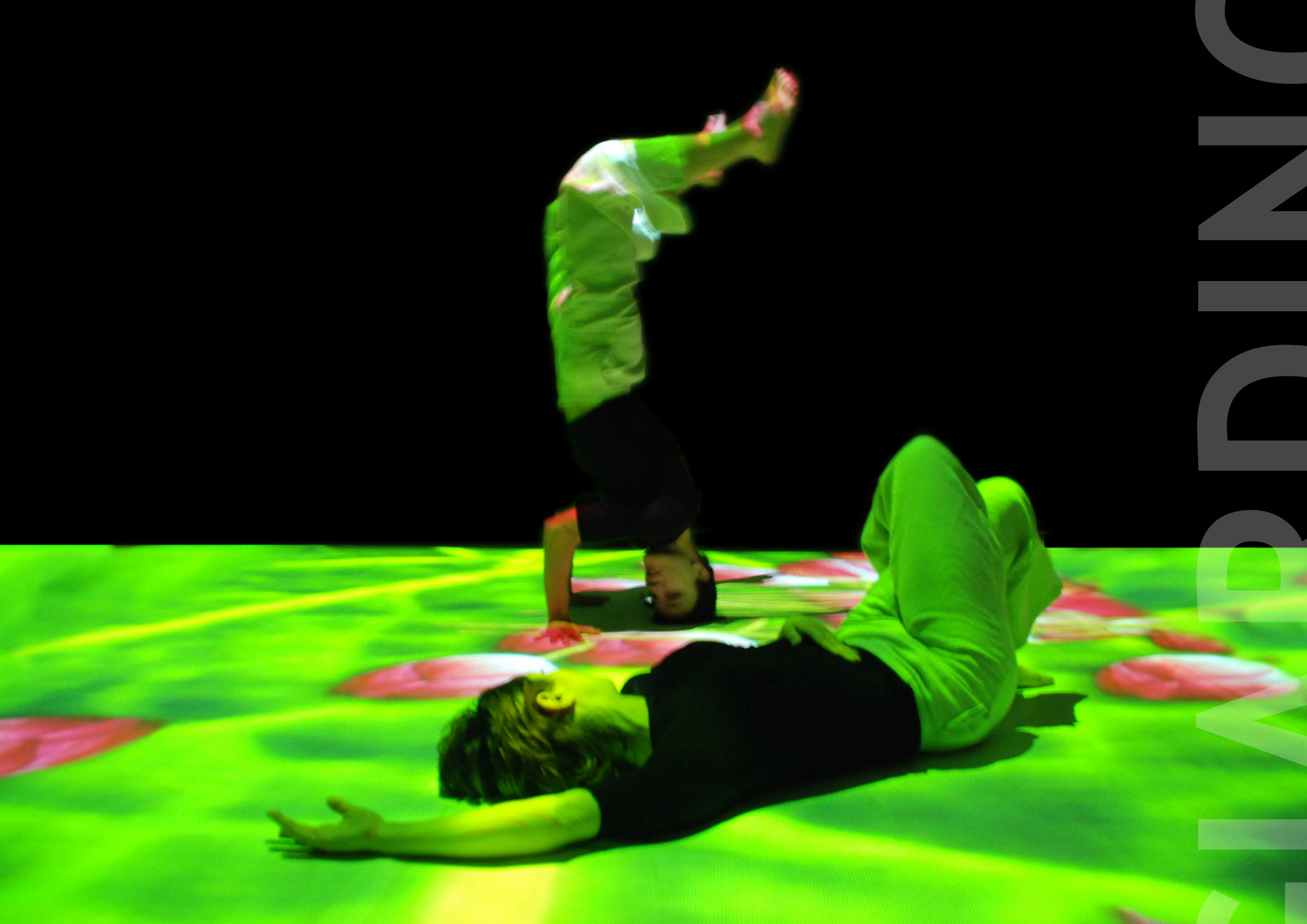
CCC [CHILDREN'S CHEERING CARPET]

CCC [children's cheering carpet] is a trilogy by TPO dedicated to dance and to the poetics of gardens.
The project is composed of three shows:

The Japanese Garden
The Painted Garden
The Italian Garden

The interactiv carpet is set inside a stage space with a central plan, devised by TPO in collaboration with Martin Von Gunten, for the realization of theatrical events with interactive dynamics. The stage is composed of a white dance carpet, a video projector sending animated images from above and a system of 32 sensors (hidden under the carpet), which react to an impulse synchronizing sounds and images.

On the carpet, virtual landscapes are created through the development of games for individuals or groups. By entering this stage space, it is possible to create musical works, activate images and other complex events through movements and pressure over the sensors.

PRESS REVIEWS

"Les enfants s'introduisent dans un jardin magique, créent des compositions musicales, animent des images sous leurs pieds. Dans ce jeu interactif, pas de règle, de délais ou d'interprètations rigides. Les enfants explorent les surprises dèlicieuses de ce jardin tridimensionnel et prennent part à un voyage imaginaire, loin très loin".

- Karin Kotsoglou, Le Temps, Gèneve

"A new experience in participatory theatre.
A warm assault on all the senses.
Inclusive and embracing.
It's about theatre as a shared experience and I've never seen anything quite like it."

- Tony Reekie, Director Bank of Scotland's Childrens International Theatre Festival

TPO AND INTERACTIVE THEATER

Visual, emotional and immersive theatre. Space is the protagonist in TPO's shows with its images, colours and sounds. Thanks to the use of interactive technologies every show is transformed into a 'sensitive' environment where the thin border between art and play can be experienced. Dancers, performers and the audience itself interact with each other exploring new expressive forms that go beyond language and cultural barriers.

The work of TPO is a collaborative effort of a multi-talented and close-knit team of authors from various disciplines of the visual and performing arts. The shows are characterized by the use of large-format projections, the creation of immersive theater environments and the use of interactive technologies some of which are specifically developed by the company for their shows.

The stage space is conceived as a dynamic and reactive environment that can involve the public in individual or group actions: infact it is set up with sensors (videocameras and microphones) that allow both the performer and the public to modulate sounds or interact with images through movement or voice. These technologies allow the creation of 'sensitive' theatrical environments where children can explore the stage space, discovering that it responds to their actions in a certain way. Thus an active relationship ensues between the young people and their environment, a kind of dialogue - with space, forms, and sounds - which becomes artistic experience.

In the TPO's shows even the performers'role is imbued with special meaning: the dancers 'paint' and 'play' on stage, using the body and movement thanks to the interactive effects but, especially, they invite the children to explore the space with a theatrical approach that emphasizes the use of the body and the gaze.

Awards:
• China SPAF-Shanghai Performance Arts Festival | 'Going to the world' Award | 'Panda's Home' | Shanghai (CHINA) | 2017
• Festiwalu Teatralna Karuzela - Teatr Pinokio | 'Farfalle' | Włochy (PL) | 2016
• XXI Międzynarodowego Festiwalu Teatrów Lalek SPOTKANIA | 'Il Giardino Dipinto' | Torun (PL) | 2014
• World Congres Assitej | Award for Artistic Exellence | Warsaw (PL) | 2014
• Feten 2010 | Premio especial del jurado a las nuevas propuestas escénicas | Gjon (ES) | 2010
• New England Foundation for the Arts, National Dance Project, US Tour | Compagnia TPO | Boston, MA (USA) | 2010
• Teatri di Vita | Premio della giuria dei ragazzi 'Il Giardino Dipinto' | Porto Sant'Elpidio (IT) | 2007
• ADE (Art Digital Era) | Compagnia TPO | Polverigi (IT) | 2004
• ETI Stregagatto | 'Storie ZIP' | Roma (IT) | 1999
• ETI Stregagatto | 'Riflessioni' | Roma (IT) | 1983

GIARDINO

IL GIARDINO GIAPPONESE

compagnia TPO

via Targetti 10/8
59100 Prato - Italy
tel. +39 0574/461256
fax +39 0574/468988
t p o @ t p o . i t
w w w . t p o . i t