



HOPKINS CENTER

presents

**Compagnia T.P.O.
(Teatro di Piazza O D'Occasione)**

Farfalle (Butterflies)

This performance is made possible in part by generous support from the Richard A. Towbin 1957 Fund.

the summer
arts
festival

Part of Dartmouth's Summer Arts Festival eMotion

Friday, June 26, 2009 • 7 pm & 9 pm

Saturday, June 27, 2009 • 2 pm, 7 pm & 9 pm

Sunday, June 28, 2009 • 7 pm

The Moore Theater • Dartmouth College

PROGRAM NOTES

Butterflies

This show is dedicated to all child painters and dancers.

Watch the butterfly move. The fluttering of its wings looks as if a paintbrush were painting up in the air, but it also looks like a dance. This delightful dance sometimes lasts but a day. It all happens between dawn and sunset.

Now look: there is a landscape. In it there are an egg, a cocoon, a larva, a caterpillar, a butterfly and a swarm of butterflies. They are beautiful, colorful. They flutter in the wind. They seem to whirl in your ear. They are ballerinas painting in the air with their great wings. In *Butterflies*, the audience is immersed in the many folds of this life, “told” by two dancers moving inside a sensitive environment made of music and digital images. The setting of this perfor-

mance is simple: a white carpet and two large wings. The images are projected onto different planes: the horizontal plane of the carpet and the vertical plane of the slanted wings. A few stylized objects decorate the stage. At times, audience members are invited to take part, to enter the scene, to move in among images which react to their gestures, their movements. Images enfold them.

With *Butterflies*, Compagnia T.P.O. continues its experiments in the expressive potential arising from the use of new digital languages (computer graphics/interactive technologies) associated with dance, music and movement. In this work, the company has a sound/image interactive system based on Max/Msp software with Jitter. This system makes use of various types of sensors, which interact with the movements of the dancers and the public, in real time.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Compagnia T.P.O. (Teatro di Piazza O D’Occasione) was founded in 1981 as a visual theater company. From its earliest years, the company produced children’s theater conceived as paintings in movement, making use of artistic objects, mechanical devices and plays of light. Since then, the group has continued its focus on the figurative arts, with performances for children that have brought together theater and contemporary art. Since 1999, under the direction of Davide Venturini and Francesco Gandi, Compagnia T.P.O. has explored the use of digital graphics, combining traditional theater with other artistic forms such as dance and video art. Compagnia T.P.O.’s experimental work with digital technologies has facilitated the development of new modes of interaction between performers and the stage-space by applying computer-controlled sensors to images and sound.

Ultimately, this process has led to the creation of the CCC (children’s cheering carpet), a theatrical concept in which performances are conceived as imaginary journeys into “sensory gardens,” where artists dance to images and sounds while exploring new ways of telling stories. Between 2002 and 2007, Compagnia T.P.O. developed the CCC, a mat specially fitted with sensors that produce sounds and images projected from above. At the same time, the group has continued its study of the dynamics of theatrical communication, based on the language of the body and images. This research has led to a trilogy of performances for children, dedicated to the poetics of gardens: *The Japanese Garden*, *The Painted Garden* (inspired by Oriental gardens) and *The Italian Garden*—and two newer productions: *Butterflies* (2007) and *Baroque* (2008).

ABOUT THE ARTISTS CONTINUED

The success of the CCC has brought international fame to Compagnia T.P.O. It has opened up new paths for collaboration with a variety of European actors, dancers, musicians, writers, engineers, designers and illustrators, as a way of creating performances and interactive, installations that children and adults appreciate throughout the world. This synergy has given rise to projects which put new technologies to artistic use, creating an innovative relationship between children and performers.

Since 2002, the company has taken part in numerous international festivals in Europe, Asia, the Americas and Australia. At present, Compagnia T.P.O. is recognized as one of the most original and outstanding groups for children's theater in Europe. In 2004, Compagnia T.P.O. was awarded the Ade Art Digital Prize (Polverigi). This is Compagnia T.P.O.'s first performance at the Hop.

Anna Balducci *performer/dancer* graduated from Schweizerische Balletberufsschule in Zurich in 1993. She went on to specialize at the Ecole-Atelier Rudra Béjart Lausanne, broadening her skills as a dancer to encompass acting, singing, music and choreographic composition. She dances with Ensemble and Company Blu and has been involved in children's theater since 2004.

Piero Leccese *performer/dancer and choreographer* focuses his research on the more specific spatial and improvisational implications of contemporary dance, as well as contact improvisation in both performing and teaching. He has worked with Compagnia T.P.O. since 1996 teaching dance workshops and performing.

www.tpo.it

CREDITS

Directors.....	Francesco Gandi, Davide Venturini, with Anna Balducci, Piero Leccese
Digital Designer.....	Elsa Mersi
Sound Designer.....	Spartaco Cortesi
Multimedia Console.....	Rossano Monti
Scenography and Props.....	Gregory Petitqueux, Valerio Calonego
Costumer.....	Loretta Mugnai
Scenes Assistant.....	Livia Cortesi
Voiceover.....	Caterina Poggesi
Script Collaborator.....	Stefania Zampiga
Tour Managers.....	Valentina Martini, Francesca Nunziati, Valeria Castellaneta
Executive Producer U.S. Tour.....	Thomas O. Kriegsmann/ArKtype

A co-production with Teatro Metastasio Stabile della Toscana

For further information, please contact:
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CONNECTING HOP ARTISTS TO THE COMMUNITY

Teatro di Piazza Magic Carpet

Sunday, June 28 • 12 – 4 pm • The Moore Theater Stage • Free

Take off your shoes and surround yourself in T.P.O.'s astonishing digital environment: a new reality in which your movements trigger sound, light and images. *All ages welcome, no registration required.*

For more info, call Hop Outreach at 603.646.2010.

JOIN US FOR OUR '09/10 HOPSTOP FAMILY SERIES



OPENING DOORS TO THE PERFORMING ARTS!

FREE

HopStops are entertaining, hands-on free programs designed to introduce young audiences to the wonders of the performing arts. These hour-long interactive performances are an engaging way to stimulate the curious minds of children in preschool through third grade (and their families).

HopStops are offered one Saturday each month at 11 am in Alumni Hall throughout the school year.

Here's what parents are saying...

"This was great for its combination of education, performance and involvement. All of the components of good arts education."

"HopStops are fabulous learning experiences for me and my children. Thank you for keeping them free."

"We love HopStops for providing creative inspiration, fun togetherness with family and friends and learning about other cultures."

**Check our website, hop.dartmouth.edu/outreach/hopstop.html
in July for the new '09/10 HopStop Series!**

HOPKINS CENTER MANAGEMENT STAFF

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Director of Programming **Margaret Lawrence**

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Assistive Listening Devices available in the lobby.



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