

- A number of speeches have become famous over time: Martin Luther King, JF Kennedy, Mahatma Gandhi, Hitler, and the protagonist of Chaplin's film 'The Great Dictator'. Do you have a favourite speech?

Maybe the best speech would be a collage of all named here, including Obama's "Yes we can!!"-address. A mix of someone's theatricality, serenity, rage and all that with a, hopefully, honest content performed by a master comic like Charles Chaplin !

- Speeches play an important role in rites of passage and social ceremonies, baptisms, graduations, birthdays, funerals. It's as if they punctuate important moments in life, isn't it? Society seems to be obsessed with speeches?
- Are you a good orator?

hmmm... I can motivate dancers and colleagues to believe in my cause, haha!

°God is seen as words descending through a spokesman ,we all love to be blown away by a spiritual leader then to believe or to look for it within ourselves .

I wanted to dance a speech . Dance is the soul that speaks and speeches is the mind .I wanted to overpower words by movement by making this performance. I was very drawn when I looked at the many speeches and 'inflamed' people talking; how much the body speaks as well . Especially the older generation of orators as the Pentecostal priests like Swaggart was. Politicians of today are much more trained to move very little because they know that a lie can be detected through body language. I do not like to dance without content. Movement has to make sense for me, so this idea to dance a speech seemed to me the right thing to try out and do.

- What do you take from a speech in order to create a choreographic score? The content, the rhythm, a pulsation, sonority?

The basis was taking in and learning from videos all possible gestures I could detect in the different speeches; small and big movements and to transform them, turn them into an personal alphabet/vocabulary, if you will. I did that for 2 months mixing and matching all the gathered gestures and slowly I made a choreographic score. I worked on accents, sharpness, different qualities and so on?

- What was it about conservative tele-evangelist Jimmy Swaggart that drew your attention to such an extent that it provoked you creatively?

After the choreographic language started to take off we felt we needed words to underline the movement. With no words we felt the show could soon look like sign language and that was not the purpose so we searched for speeches and fell on the speech on a vinyl-record by Jimmy Swaggart. What the bible says about drugs and so on. During the process of creation we discovered that it would be better to use only one speech (voice) by one and the same person and he had such a ranting rhythm and a pretty good voice, he is the cousin of Jerry lee Lewis... haha that counts !! We left out all the connotations to drugs and religion and edited it to 'universal' sentences that also could serve the time we live in now. Like the title "it's going to get worse and worse and worse my friend!" or "we have made advancement!".

- It's funny, some hate speeches appeal to people's belief systems. Hitler, for example, said that Germany needed a leader that people could believe in.
- Historically, many violent acts have been carried out in the name of faith. Is faith blind?

Faith is misunderstood and carried out to control the masses. Religion is deformed spirituality. It has been proven that in the bible there are parts missing, parts in which is written that we can all be unlighted, that there is no other god than the oneness within each one of us, that connects us all. Religion has become a power game. Each religion calls up to prayer. For that is meditation, and meditation is silence and being connected to your inner being. Religion is thought and thinking is ego.

- Can art illuminate?

It can be a (candle)light in the dark or an explosion that blows up falsehood, make-believe etc...

- Do you believe in the persuasive force of your art?

I do not like to see my dancing in terms of force or power, more like a vibration that reaches out to the gut feeling of the audience. Rather than to punch them in the face, I rather take them out of their own heads and make them feel something real through vibrations and emotions.