

A N N U A L R E P O R T

20  
25

M A K I N G D A N C E S  
A S B L

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## PARTNERS

*In a world shaped by increasing interdependence, dance emerges as a powerful medium through which relationships between individuals, communities, and their environments can be explored. It offers a sensorial and reflective space in which complex societal questions are not only articulated, but experienced.*

*As President of Making Dances a.s.b.l., I consider the company's work to be deeply embedded in this field of engagement. Through its interdisciplinary approach and its collaborations with diverse artistic and cultural partners, it continuously expands the boundaries of choreographic practice. These partnerships are not only integral to the creative process, but also reinforce the company's role within a broader cultural and societal landscape.*

*Equally central is the company's commitment to outreach and public engagement. By creating spaces for encounter, participation, and dialogue, it fosters meaningful and lasting connections with audiences, reflecting a deep belief in dance as a shared and accessible experience. The past year has been both demanding and rewarding - marked by significant achievements as well as considerable challenges. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the entire team for their dedication, resilience, and continuous efforts. My gratitude also extends to all partners, supporters, and collaborators whose trust and commitment make this work possible.*

*Continuing and sustaining such work requires not only artistic vision, but ongoing support and shared responsibility. We therefore remain deeply grateful for the support we receive, and aware of its importance for the future development of the company. It is through this collective commitment that we can ensure the long-term vitality of these practices and their meaningful contribution to our cultural and social fabric.*

*Thank you for your continued support and for being part of this journey — we look forward to shaping the future together.*

ANJA DI BARTOLOMEO

President

Dear Sir or Madam,

2025 has been an ambitious and defining year for Making Dances a.s.b.l. - a year marked by artistic expansion, interdisciplinary dialogue and structural consolidation, while navigating financial challenges that required resilience and strategic clarity.

At the heart of the year stood the creation and premiere of *Sensorial Symphonies*, a mid-scale immersive stage work exploring the interdependence between humans and nature. Conceived as a multi-sensory choreographic experience, the piece combined dance, music and performative research to question how we perceive and relate to the living world.

The work was created and primarily produced by Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg, in collaboration with Karukera Ballet in Guadeloupe and during a residency with RedSapata in Linz. These diverse contexts shaped the artistic process before the premiere in Luxembourg. Alongside four performances at Les Théâtres de la Ville, the production was presented internationally at the Mosel Musikfestival in Trier, strengthening our cross-border touring presence.

2025 was also a landmark year for outreach. With *Botanical Beats*, we realised a city-wide framing programme in partnership with LUGA, the Service des Parcs and several interdisciplinary artists. Through walks, performances and participatory formats, the programme extended the themes of *Sensorial Symphonies* into public space and urban ecology. For the first time, such a comprehensive framework accompanied a major stage production - an important step in our audience development strategy.

A new trilingual publication further deepened the research foundations of the work. We also continued *MAT IECH* as a vital outreach strand, ensuring access for communities with limited mobility and reinforcing our commitment to mediation and accessibility.

Despite these achievements, sustaining productions of this scale remains challenging within Luxembourg's evolving structural landscape. Nevertheless, we strengthened internal processes, clarified responsibilities and focused on long-term sustainability. I extend my sincere gratitude to our entire team — especially our administrative team — whose dedication enables us to pursue our vision of establishing a sustainable mid-scale company.

My heartfelt thanks also go to Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg for their trust and continued support.

Looking back, 2025 stands as a year of growth under pressure - where artistic ambition and structural resilience advanced hand in hand.

ELISABETH SCHILLING

Artistic Director & Choreographer



M A K I N G  
D A N C E S  
A S B L

Founded in 2016, Making Dances a.s.b.l. has evolved from a solo-driven initiative into one of Luxembourg's leading mid-scale dance companies. In less than a decade, the company has realised close to 350 performances in 19 countries and built a dynamic international network of approximately 120 partner institutions. With the support of the Ministère de la Culture since 2020 — strengthened through a renewed multi-year agreement — the company has consolidated its organisational structure and professionalised its administrative team. This foundation enables the sustained development of ambitious artistic projects both in Luxembourg and internationally.

## WE CONNECT

Elisabeth Schilling & Company create distinctive artistic experiences that bring art forms - and people - into dialogue. Their works invite audiences to engage emotionally, intellectually and sensorially.

## WE BRING DANCE EVERYWHERE

Committed to expanding the spaces of contemporary dance, the company presents its productions in theatres and concert halls as well as in museums, galleries, historic buildings and public spaces — touring European metropolises and rural regions alike. In doing so, dance becomes accessible to new audiences.

## WE WORK TOWARDS EQUITY

Recognising that access to art is often shaped by structural privilege, the company actively works to reduce barriers and create inclusive formats — for audiences, participants and artistic collaborators alike.

Elisabeth Schilling & Company stand for artistic excellence, social engagement and entrepreneurial responsibility, understanding dance as a connective force that opens spaces, shifts perspectives and fosters resonance.

## WE MAKE DANCES BEYOND DANCE

Working with an international team and across diverse collaborations, the company develops transdisciplinary projects at the intersection of movement, design, visual and plastic arts, and music. Driven by curiosity and research, the works strive for excellence in conception, execution and reception.

## WE INVITE PEOPLE IN

Audience engagement is an integral part of the company's practice. Each production is accompanied by tailored framing programmes including workshops, discussions, symposia and publications. Outreach initiatives further extend access to communities with limited cultural mobility.

## THE BOARD

**Anja Di Bartolomeo**  
President (since July 2025)

**Sebastian Simon**  
Treasurer

**Ana Tzekov**  
Secretary

**Christopher Petry**  
Deputy President

**Maria Olaondo**  
Deputy Treasurer

**Sarah Rock**  
Deputy Secretary

**Hildegard Schilling**  
Member

**Daniel Jones**  
Member

**Stela Bocakova**  
Member

**Eulalia Codipietro**  
Member

**Isabelle Schiltz**  
Member

**Aliki Zachariadis**  
Member

**Grâce Andrianjatovo**  
President (until July 2025)



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## THE TEAM

**Elisabeth Schilling**  
Artistic Director

**Jon Roberts**  
Producer  
Company Manager

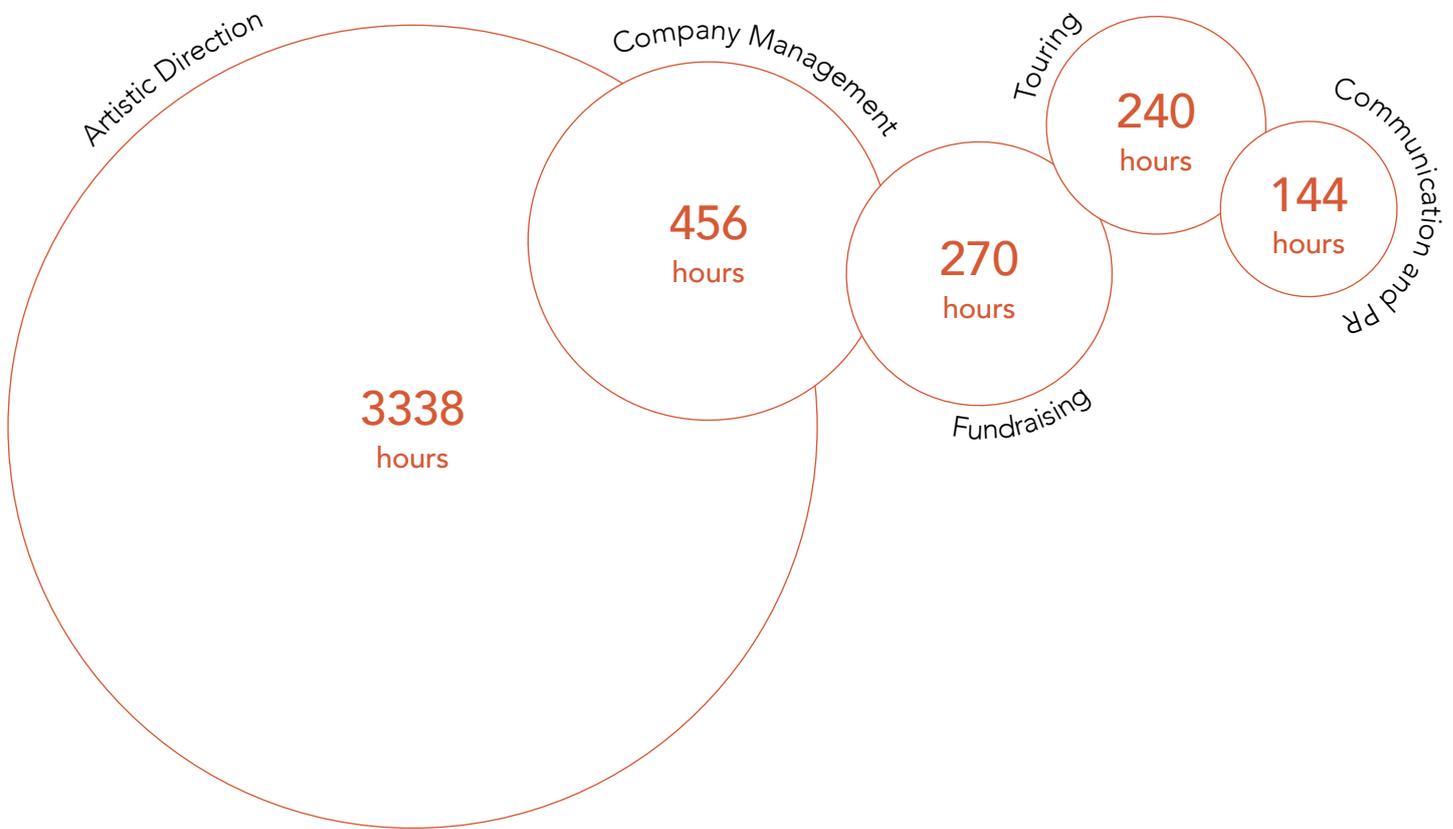
**Tyska Samborska**  
Communication and PR Assistant

**Marie Simplex**  
Touring

**Clara Berrod**  
Fundraising  
Mat lech Manager

**Eva Martinez**  
Coach and Consultant

HOURS WORKED ACROSS THE TEAM



BREAKDOWN OF TASKS FOR THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

53.71%  
Administration

16.55%  
Artistic

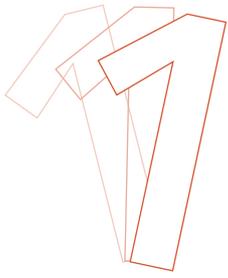
4.51%  
Networking

24.18%  
Studio

1.05%  
Workshops/  
Educational

ARTISTIC  
PROJECTS





# CREATION

## SENSORIAL SYMPHONIES

In *Sensorial Symphonies*, Associate Artist at Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg, Elisabeth Schilling explores a radical question: What if we could perceive the world as plants do?

Set to a reimagined version of Sergei Rachmaninov's *Piano Concerto No. 2*, interwoven with a contemporary score by Pascal Schumacher and the bio-data sounds of The Plant Philharmonic, the work unfolds as an immersive, multi-sensory experience. Plants are not treated as metaphors but as active protagonists, inviting audiences to reconsider human-centred narratives and reflect on our place within interconnected ecological systems.

Performed by an all-female cast, the choreography mirrors vegetal structures of mutuality, resilience and non-hierarchical organisation. Through movement, sound, scent and design, the piece creates a layered landscape that blurs the boundaries between human and non-human expression.

*Sensorial Symphonies* is both an artistic and perceptual inquiry - a poetic exploration of interdependence that challenges audiences to experience nature not as backdrop, but as collaborator.

**Premiere:**

27<sup>th</sup> September - 02<sup>nd</sup> October

**Residency sharings:**

19<sup>th</sup> April, Karukera Ballet,  
Guadeloupe

26<sup>th</sup> June & 23<sup>rd</sup> September:

Open Rehearsal, Les Théâtres  
de la Ville de Luxembourg



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## C R E D I T S

For further biographical information on all our Team Members, including the Plant Philharmonic, please click [HERE](#)

**Concept:** Elisabeth Schilling in collaboration with the team

**Choreography:** Elisabeth Schilling

**Dance:** Manuela Hierl, Marla King, Noa Nies, Aurore Mettray, Marine Tournet

All movements are created together with the dancers

**Choreographic Assistant & Rehearsal Director:** Brian Ca

**Costumes & Stage Design:** Agnes Hamvas

**Musical Concept & Original Composition:** Pascal Schumacher rooted in a De- and Reconstruction of Sergei Rachmaninov's 2nd Piano Concerto integrating elements of The Plant Philharmonic

**The Plant Philharmonic:** Dogwood bush (*Cornus*), Pando Forest – Beneath the Tree (*Populus tremuloides*), Japanese Eelgrass (*Zostera japonica*), Eelgrass (*Zostera*), Pando Collage, Scotch Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), Apple Tree (*Malus domestica*), Ginkgo Tree (*Ginkgo biloba*), Pine Tree (*Pinus*), Weeping Willow (*Salix babylonica*), Sequoia (*Sequoia sempervirens*), Linden Tree (*Tilia*), Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*), Platane Tree (*Platanus*),

Beech (*Fagus*), Den (*Pinaceae*), Mexican Jumping Bean, Icelandic Birch (*Betula pubescens*), Tomato Plant (*Solanum lycopersicum*), French Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), Eucalyptos (*Eucalyptus*), Fig (*Ficus*), Larches (*Larix*), Oak (*Quercus*), Scotspine (*Pinus sylvestris*), Sedge Roots (*Carex*), Teasel (*Dipsacus*)

Communities, interactions and communication in ecosystems (P1-0255) and Ecotremology (Z1-50018) financed by Sloevian Research and innovation Agency.

**Recorded by:** Alexandra Duvekot, Jez Riley French, Jeff Rice, Rok Šturm (National Institute of Biology, Slovenia), Hidden Sound.

**Recording 2nd Piano Concerto:** Daniil Trivonov, Philadelphia Orchestra, Yannick Nézet-Séguin

**Scent Artist:** Ezra-Lloyd Jackson

**Lighting Design:** Fränz Meyers

**Sound Installation The forest still sings for us:** Alexandra Duvekot

**Live Music:** United Instruments of Lucilin, (Galdric Subirana – percussion)

**Dramaturgy & Leadership Coach:** Eva Martinez

**Sound Designer:** Jan Brauer

**Dancer in research:** Giulia Cenni

**Texts on the piece:** Neel Chrillesen

**Accompanying Philosopher:** Héctor Andrés Peña

**Photography & videography:** Bohumil Kostohryz

**Accompanying Musicologists:** Jean-François Boukobza (CNDSM Paris), Steffen A. Schmidt (ZHdK Zürich)

**Producers:** Joëlle Träuffler, Antoine Krieps, Jon Roberts, Clara Berrod and Susan Hay

Management Pascal Schumacher: Executive Music Producer Rafael Junker, Monday NightProductions

**Head of Technique:** Patrick Floener

The framing program was created together with Manon Meier.

Elisabeth Schilling's research on vegetality has been informed by books of Michael Marder, Stephano Mancuso, Emmanuele Coccia, Wolf-Dieter Storl, Monica Gagliano, Zoë Schlanger, amongst others.

**Commissioned by:** Theatre de la Ville de Luxembourg

**Co-produced by:** Elisabeth Schilling & Company & United Instruments of Lucilin

Supported by SACEM Luxembourg, Minister de la Culture Luxembourg, TROIS C-L I Maison pour la danse

**Residences:** Karukera Ballet Guadeloupe & RedSapata Art, Culture and Dance Initiative



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*'One thing is certain you will never look at your garden or at nature in the same way, after you've seen this multi-sensory piece.'*

*'Schilling does not deliver what she thinks the vegetal world would do if it could dance. She has painstakingly observed plants, and the dancers portray this with complete accuracy.'*

*'A lesson in life for us all, and a very unusual project to convey it. Schilling and her co-producers have created something daring. It's quite extraordinary, and not something I have ever seen on stage.'*

Sarita Rao, *Luxembourg Times*

*'Elisabeth Schilling likes challenges'*

Grégory Cematti, *Le Quotidien*

*'A poetic, vibrant, and resolutely contemporary performance that leaves in the eyes and mind the luminous power of an authentic encounter between body, music, and nature.'*

Giovanni Zambito, *Fattitaliani*

*'Her dancers form an organism in which individuality is not so important. What matters most is that every element of the group is equally important and carries the group forward. 'Plants, too, do not exist as individuals, but together with the earth, with the air, with the sun. And this idea of togetherness was essentially the starting point for this work, which is reflected not only in the choreography but also in other elements,' says Schilling.'*

Daniel Konrad, *Luxembourger Wort*

## GREEN DISCO

*Green Disco* is an interactive public art installation inviting audiences to experience nature through movement and sound. Conceived as part of the extended framework around *Sensorial Symphonies*, the project transforms a city park into a space of artistic encounter.

Seven panels are installed on selected trees throughout the park. Each panel features a QR code allowing visitors to listen to the internal soundscape of the respective tree, alongside movement prompts that encourage participants to engage physically - dancing a "duet" with the living environment.

By combining sonic exploration and embodied response, *Green Disco* invites individual creative journeys in public space. Open and accessible to all, the project emphasizes playfulness, curiosity and sensorial awareness, reinforcing the company's commitment to expanding dance beyond traditional theatre contexts.

**Concept:** Alexandra Duvekot & Elisabeth Schilling  
**Tree sounds recorded by:** Alexandra Duvekot  
**Dance prompts by:** Elisabeth Schilling  
**Poem:** Anja Meder – di Bartholomeo  
**Design:** Studio Polenta  
Project supported by LUGA



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## THE FOREST STILL SINGS FOR US

Presented as part of *Sensorial Symphonies*, *The Forest Still Sings for Us* invited visitors into an immersive dialogue between architecture and plant life. The installation combined the inner sounds of trees - recorded in forests around the world and in the Parc Municipal de Luxembourg - with a living vegetal environment created in the foyer of the Grand Théâtre.

**Sound Installation:** Alexandra Duvekot  
**Vegetal Installation:** Ville de Luxembourg  
– Service des Parcs



# TOURING

## SENSORIAL SYMPHONIES

At Mosel Musikfestival  
1<sup>st</sup> October 2025

Following its premiere, *Sensorial Symphonies* was presented at the Mosel Musikfestival, bringing the production into a new concert and festival context. Performed with a minimal technical setup, the work acquired a particularly pure and raw quality. Presented in the church setting of St. Paulus Church, the piece shifted into an alternative spatial environment, further aligning with the company's ambition to bring dance into new and unexpected spaces. The performance was met with standing ovations.

## MAT IECH TOUR

In November, we toured *Mat lech – With You*, bringing dance, live music and sensorial experiences to people who are no longer able to easily attend theatre performances. Across 11 performances in 12 locations in central and southern Luxembourg, we encountered nearly 300 audience members in senior homes, hospitals and care institutions for children and young people.

Since its founding in 2022, *Mat lech / With You* has become a deeply rooted part of our company's work - an artistic mediation programme designed to bridge the distance between art and those with limited access to it. Over the past three years, the programme has reached more than 1,300 people through over 50 performances across Luxembourg - a milestone we proudly celebrate as we continue to professionalise and deepen its impact.

The 2025 edition featured a specially adapted version of *Sensorial Symphonies*, transformed into an intimate and flexible format capable of meeting each audience in their own rhythm, capacities and realities. The project wove together dance, live marimba music, scent, participatory movement workshops and conversations, creating moments of shared attention, imagination and connection.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the partners who make this work possible:

- Fondation Sommer
- Ministère de la Culture – Accès à la Culture
- Œuvre Nationale de Secours  
Grande-Duchesse Charlotte
- Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg

**Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> November**

10h: Fondation Pescatore,  
Luxembourg City

15h: Fondation Autisme,  
Centre Culturelle Rambrouch

**Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> November**

10h: Maison St. Martin,  
Luxembourg City

15h: Servior – Op der Léier,  
Esch sùr Alzette

**Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> November**

16h30: Fondation Kraizberg,  
Foyer la Cersaie

**Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> November**

10h: Fondation Kannerschlass  
Centre Thérapeutique,  
Souleuvre

14h30: Elysis, Esch-sur-Alzette

**Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> November**

10h: LAM – Lycée des Arts  
et Métiers, Luxembourg City

15h: Foyer Familial, Esch-sur-  
Alzette

**Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> November**

10h: Centre Hospitalier,  
Ville de Luxembourg

14h30: Fondation Autisme,  
Belval

10h: Centre Hospitalier,  
Luxemburg-Stadt

14:30: Fondation Autisme,  
Belval

**Dance:** Marla King, Manuela Hierl, Marine Tournet

**Live Music:** Galdric Subirana

**Management:** Clara Berrod



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## R E S I D E N C I E S

In 2025, the team around Sensorial Symphonies participated in the following residencies:

- 8<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> April Karukera Ballet, Guadeloupe
- 9<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> June Grand Théâtre de la Ville de Luxembourg
- 7<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> July RedSapata Linz
- 1<sup>st</sup> September - 26<sup>th</sup> September Grand Théâtre Luxembourg
- 1 - 6<sup>th</sup> December Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg

### V I R I D I T A S - I N D I A L O G U E

### W I T H H I L D E G A R D V O N B I N G E N

1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> December 2025

During this residency, Jessie Jeanne Stinnett (Founder and Co-Director of Boston Dance Theater) and Elisabeth Schilling (Associate Artist of the Grand Théâtre de la Ville de Luxembourg) initiated a new collaborative research project inspired by Hildegard von Bingen and her concept of *viriditas* - the vital life force understood to animate all living beings.

Bringing together ecological inquiry, music-driven collaboration and trans-disciplinary dance practice, the research explores Hildegard's holistic worldview in which nature, spirituality and creativity are deeply interconnected. Her music, texts and visionary imagery serve as catalysts for contemporary choreographic explora-

tion, with a focus on polyphonic ensemble structures, relational movement systems and vegetal modes of growth.

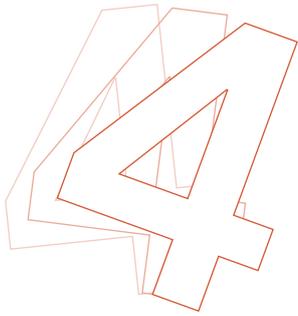
Three Luxembourg-based dancers were invited to join the research, engaging in individual and collective studio explorations that deepened the embodied investigation of Hildegard's ideas.

This residency marks the beginning of a larger project aimed at developing a performance work that places historical and contemporary perspectives into dialogue, with a view toward the 850th anniversary of Hildegard von Bingen's death in 2029.

**Dance:** Aifric Ní Chaoimh

**Choreography:** Jessie Jeanne Stinnett & Elisabeth Schilling

**Photography & Film:** Bohumil Kostohryz



## A U D I E N C E D E V E L O P M E N T

### FRAMING PRO - GRAMME 2025

#### Extending *Sensorial Symphonies* beyond the stage

For the first time, Elisabeth Schilling & Company realised an extensive framing programme accompanying *Sensorial Symphonies*, developed in close collaboration with Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg.

Spanning eight months, the programme expanded the creation into a civic and cultural dialogue around plant life, interconnectivity and ecological perception. Bringing together art, science and community engagement, it created multiple entry points into the artistic research of the production - through workshops, panel discussions, public installations, exhibitions and open rehearsals.

The programme was realised in collaboration with LUGA Luxembourg, the Service des Parcs, Fondation Jeunes Scientifiques Luxembourg, University of Luxembourg, and Fondation Pescatore, among others. Artistic collaborators included writer Ian De Toffoli, plant composer Alexandra Duvokot, and numerous emerging dance artists and community participants.

All events were open to people of different ages and backgrounds, reinforcing the company's commitment to accessibility, dialogue and shared artistic experience.

### BOTANICAL BEATS

*Botanical Beats* is a participatory accompanying programme developed in connection with the stage production *Sensorial Symphonies* by choreographer Elisabeth Schilling.

Conceived as an extension of the performance into public and community space, *Botanical Beats* invites participants to engage creatively with themes of plant life, ecology and interconnectivity. Through workshops, storytelling formats and collaborative artistic processes, participants share personal plant-related memories and reflections, which are then transformed into artistic outcomes — including written texts, choreographic interpretations and spatial installations.

By linking community participation with professional artistic creation, *Botanical Beats* creates a living dialogue between art and nature. The programme strengthens audience engagement, fosters interdisciplinary collaboration and expands the thematic universe of *Sensorial Symphonies* beyond the theatre stage.

#### **BOTANICAL BEATS**

*Framework programme of Sensorial Symphonies, a new creation by Elisabeth Schilling*

**Commissioned by:** Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg

**Filmed at:** Service Parcs de la Ville de Luxembourg

**All films directed and edited by:** Bohumil Kostohryz

**Texts by:** Ian De Toffoli

#### **1. Moundkaktus**

Dance: Ioanna Anousaki

#### **2. Le détour**

Dance: Carine Baccega

#### **3. Metamorphosis**

Dance: Djamilia Polo

#### **4. Le bouquet de la mariée**

Dance: Vita Stasolla

#### **5. Bristles**

Dance: Alisha Leyder

#### **6. Le chêne**

Dance: Tyana Schartz

#### **7. Anker an der Zäit**

Dance: Sissy Mondloch

8 February 2025

**Théâtre des Capucins**

**Verdant Echoes** - Panel discussion connecting choreography and plant science.

8 March 2025

**Botanical Beats Workshop**

Creative writing and storytelling workshops exploring personal plant narratives.

7 May – 18 October 2025

**Green Disco (Public Installation)**

Interactive public art project as part of LUGA Luxembourg, inviting embodied encounters with trees in an urban park setting.

26 June 2025

**Grand Théâtre**

Lunch Break Rehearsal - Open insight into the creative process.

28 June 2025

**Dance Workshop**

Plant Dance - Translating plant textures and temporality into movement.

26 August 2025

**Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art**

Workshop on dance and plants in a museum context.

23 September 2025

**Studio Presentation**

Behind-the-scenes sharing of the work in progress.

27 September – 2 October 2025

**Grand Théâtre**

Botanical Beats Exhibition – Community stories transformed into text, choreography and spatial installation.

28 September 2025

Theoretical Introduction to Sensorial Symphonies prior to the performance

2 October 2025

**Grand Théâtre**

Post-Show Talk with the creative team.

8 October 2025

**Conference "Art & Botanique"**

Academic and artistic exchange in collaboration with the University of Luxembourg and LUGA Luxembourg.



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## MENTORING ACTIVITIES

### TALENTLAB 2025

In June 2025, the tenth edition of TalentLAB took place at Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg. Since its founding in 2016, TalentLAB has become an important platform for contemporary performing arts and a key element of the theatres' commitment to supporting emerging national and international artists.

Conceived as a laboratory for new and interdisciplinary forms, the festival fosters research, dialogue and artistic exchange. Elisabeth Schilling was proud to be invited as a mentor for this anniversary edition, accompanying young artists in their creative processes and sharing her experience in transdisciplinary practice.



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## COMMISSIONED WORKS

### CARNEVAL OF THE ANIMALS

31<sup>st</sup> January 2025 & 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025

In 2025, Elisabeth Schilling was commissioned by the Philharmonie Luxembourg to create the choreography for Carnival of the Animals, a children's concert combining music, theatre and dance.

Directed by Nelly Danker and performed live by the Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg under the baton of Kristian Salminen, the production reimagined Camille Saint-Saëns' iconic composition as an immersive and participatory experience for young audiences.

Framed by the fictional researcher Dr Hanna Wizelstiff, the concert invited children and families to rediscover the animal world with curiosity and humour. Through choreography that translated animal characteristics into playful and expressive movement, Elisabeth Schilling contributed to a performance that encouraged wonder, laughter and active engagement. The commission reflects the company's ongoing commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration and to creating accessible, high-quality artistic experiences for audiences of all ages.



© Alfonso Saigüero



**Conducting:** Kristian Sallinen

**Acting:** Betsy Dentzer

**Dance:** Noa Nies, Aifric Ní Chaoimh, Emilie Bahlert, Julie Boonen, Constança Áurea Carvalho Fonseca, Caroline Dombra, Léna Duhamel, Sophia Fernandes de Oliveira, Hannah Fleming, Héloïse Hysa, Mona Kuborn, Clara Kugener, Karolina Luque Oliveira, Mia Rutledge, Yéliane Tientcheu, Ysaline Tientcheu, Betty Wampach

**Piano:** Katharina Treutler, Boris Kusnezow

**Directing:** Nelly Danker

**Choreography:** Elisabeth Schilling

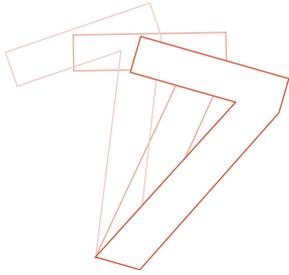
**Stage design:** Isabelle Kaiser

**Costume design:** Amélie Sator

**Assistant to the Costume Designer:** Lynn Scheidweiler

**Video:** Andreas Ivancsics

**Text:** Pamela Dürr



## WORKSHOPS

Throughout our residency at Karukera Ballet in Guadeloupe, we organised three different workshops for the local community.

During the Atelier Chorégraphique (9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025), we shared the choreographic methodologies and ideas behind Sensorial Symphonies with professional dancers of the region.

On 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025, we offered a workshop to a class of disabled children.

## HALLOWEEN AT THE PHILHARMONIE DE LUXEMBOURG

25<sup>th</sup> October 2025

In this immersive **workshop**, music and dance come together to create a world of mystery and magic: Overnight, an unexpected spell has transformed the **Philharmonie** into a labyrinth, and the musicians have vanished—some are trapped, others enchanted, their sounds barely echoing through the eerie silence. Only the ghost **Labyrinthia** can break the spell, but it needs the help of young explorers!

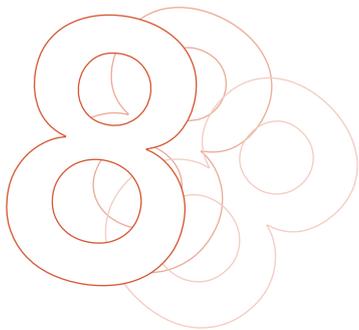
Through creative tasks and playful interactions, children are introduced to the art forms of music and dance, discovering their similarities and differences while unleashing their imagination. This interactive experience fosters creativity, teamwork, and a love for **music and movement**.

Elisabeth Schilling created the original concept, which is a fusion between performance and workshop, participatory art and concert.

Composer Philip Schwartz arranged musical compositions by Michael Jackson as well as Johann Sebastian Bach for a Quintett of chamber music, accompanying the story and the dance.



© Philharmonie Luxembourg



## NETWORKING



© Bohumil Kostohryz

### CONFERENCES: ART & BOTANIQUE – PERSPECTIVES DU VIVANT

8<sup>th</sup> October 2025

On 8 October 2025, Elisabeth Schilling participated as a speaker in the conference “Art & Botanique – Perspectives du vivant”, organised by the University of Luxembourg in collaboration with LUGA Luxembourg.

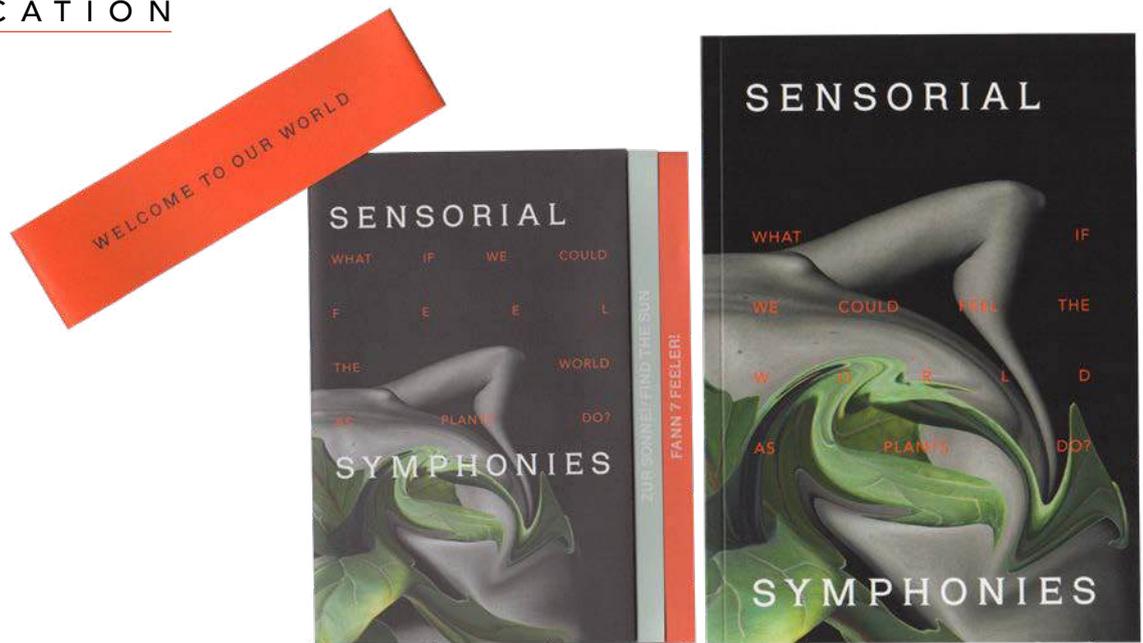
Bringing together artists, curators and researchers from Luxembourg and abroad, the conference explored the intersections between art and natural sciences, with a particular focus on plant life and vegetal temporality. Elisabeth contributed a presentation reflecting on her choreographic research in *Sensorial Symphonies*, situating her artistic practice within broader ecological and transdisciplinary discourses.

The day concluded with a collective discussion on collaboration with plants as a political and artistic gesture, fostering dialogue across disciplines and perspectives.



## FURTHER ACTIVITIES

### PUBLICATION



### SENSORIAL SYMPHONIES

Accompanying the creation, the company released a trilingual publication that deepens and expands the artistic and intellectual framework of *Sensorial Symphonies*. Conceived as an extension of the stage work, the publication brings together philosophy, musicology, poetry and dialogue.

Dr. Héctor A. Peña reflects on *The Absolute Dance of Plants*, offering a philosophical perspective on vegetal life and perception. Musicologist Dr. habil. Steffen Alexander Schmidt explores *Rachmaninov Arabesques*, tracing the musical architecture and resonances underlying the production.

The volume further includes in-depth interviews: dancer Marla King in conversation with Eva Martinez, and the creative

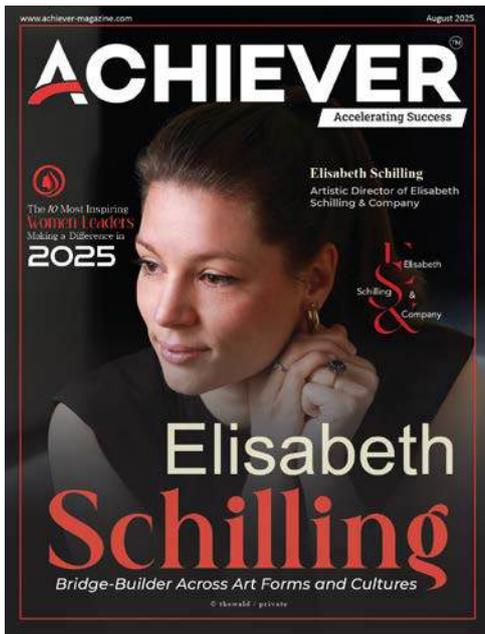
team in dialogue with Clara Berrod, providing insight into the artistic process. The section *Transformations* by Ian De Toffoli adds a poetic dimension through three literary pieces inspired by metamorphosis and plant life.

Blending essays, conversations and literary texts, the publication serves as a reflective companion to the performance - extending its themes of interconnection, resonance and transformation beyond the stage.

Elisabeth Schilling was also honoured to be invited to contribute to the 10-year anniversary edition booklet of Talent-LAB at Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg, reflecting on artistic research, mentorship and the evolving landscape of contemporary performance.

## TALKS

Also in 2025, Elisabeth continued her Artist Talks at Théâtre interviewing artists such as Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Laura Bachmann, Amala Dianor and Akram Kahn.



## SPECIAL PRESS RECOGNITION

In 2025, Elisabeth Schilling received notable international recognition for her artistic and entrepreneurial leadership.

She was named one of the "Top 30 Women Entrepreneurs to Follow for Inspiration in 2025" by New York Weekly, featured in "Top 10 Self-Made Women" by MSN, and listed among "The 10 Most Inspiring Women Leaders Making a Difference in 2025" by Achiever Magazine.

These recognitions highlight her contribution not only as a choreographer, but also as a cultural leader and entrepreneur shaping innovative and socially engaged artistic practice.





STRUCTURAL  
DEVELOPMENT

2025 marked the sixth consecutive year of support through the *Aide à la structuration* of the Ministère de la Culture. Since 2020, this funding has enabled the company to steadily build and consolidate its administrative team, strengthening the management structure behind its growing artistic activities.

At the beginning of 2025, we submitted our application for a multi-annual Convention with the Ministère de la Culture, which was successfully approved in December 2025. This renewed commitment provides an essential foundation for the years ahead. With an ambitious and internationally oriented programme - including the premiere and touring of *Sensorial Symphonies*, the continued international tour of *HEAR EYES MOVE*. Dances with Ligeti in 2026, and the expansion of *Florescence in Decay* into a full-length work - sustained multi-annual support is vital.

Our aim is to position the company internationally as a mid-scale dance company with international reach, firmly anchored within Luxembourg's cultural landscape and societally engaged at home. As an organisation, we are committed to fair remuneration for our team and artists. Maintaining this standard while delivering work of international calibre requires continued structural strengthening.

Thanks to the generous support of Fondation Sommer, we were able to engage Clara Berrod as manager of the *Mat lech* (*Avec vous / With You*) programme, further professionalising and strengthening this essential strand of our work. The *Mat lech* programme experienced an exceptional year in 2025 and has now reached approximately 1,300 people since its founding. It remains a core pillar of the company's mission to broaden access to the arts. Long-term commitments from Fondation Sommer, Fondation EME, l'Oeuvre National and the Ministère de la Culture ensure the continued growth and community impact of this programme.

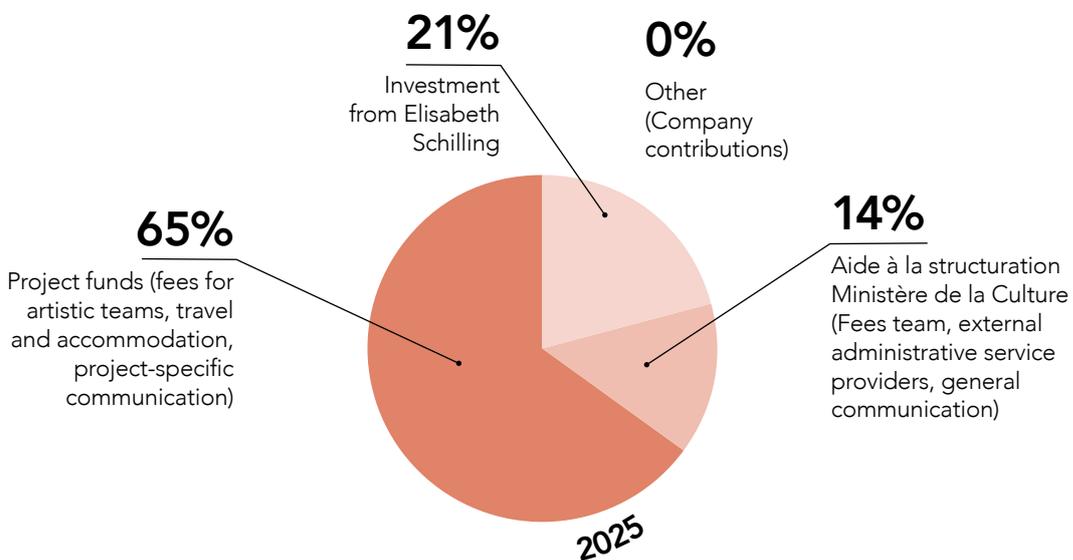
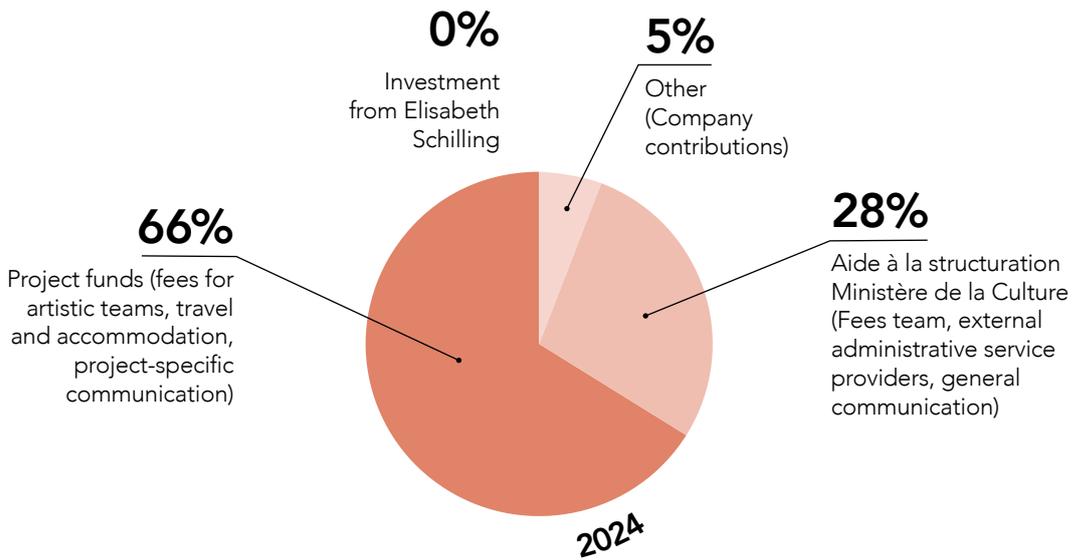
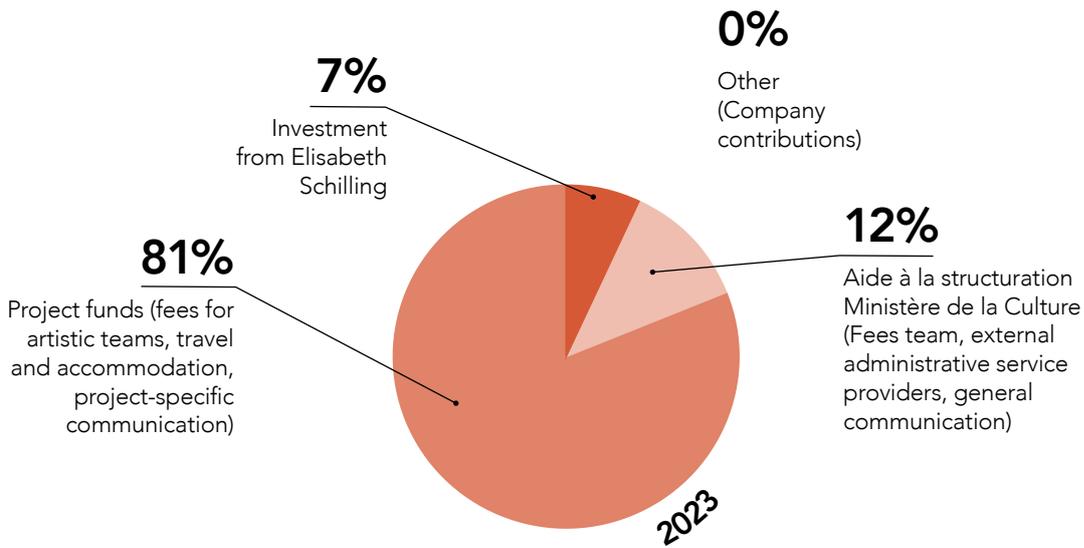
A further important structural milestone in 2025 was the appointment of our new President, Anja Meder di Bartolomeo. We warmly welcome her leadership and look forward to working together as the company enters its next phase of growth and consolidation.

Since summer 2024, Elisabeth Schilling has been enrolled in the Executive Master of Business Administration and Leadership Excellence at the University of Zurich. The strategic, financial and organisational insights gained through this programme have already begun to inform structural developments within the company, contributing to refined governance processes, clearer role definitions and a strengthened long-term leadership vision.

SOURCE  
OF FUNDS



The diagrams below show the financial structure of Making Dances asbl behind the execution of its artistic projects and the performance of administrative activities by the team.



	2022	2023	2024	2025
Investment from Elisabeth Schilling:	4 220€	17 500€	0€	42 000€
Other (Company contributions):	1 425€	0€	5 490€	0€
Aide à la structuration Ministère de la Culture (Fees team, external administrative service providers, general communication):	25 000€	25 000€	30 125€	28 000€
Project funds (fees for artistic teams, travel and accommodation, project-specific communication):	122 745€	170 670€	70 105€	128 895€

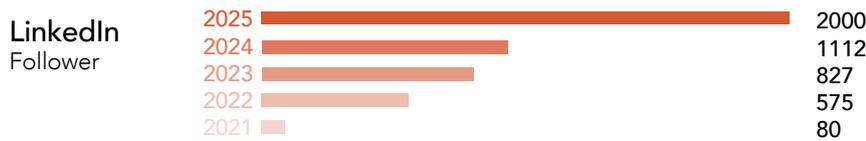
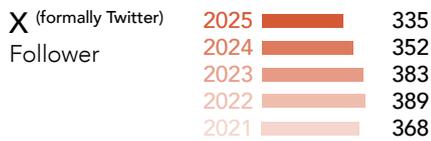
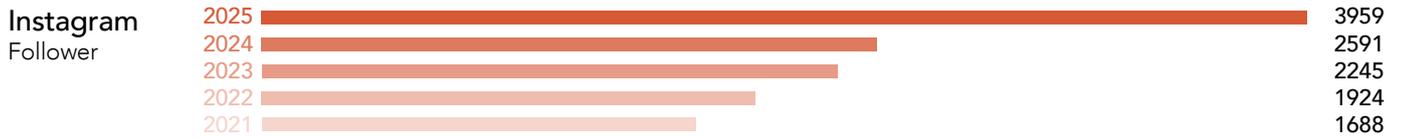


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STATISTICS

# COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS



## MAILING \* Contacting Organisers, invitations, press correspondence

<b>2025</b>	13 Newsletters Sent	2627 Newsletter Subscriptions	3500 Mails *
<b>2024</b>	8 Newsletters Sent	2145 Newsletter Subscriptions	3100 Mails *
<b>2023</b>	15 Newsletters Sent	2612 Newsletter Subscriptions	3200 Mails *
<b>2022</b>	27 Newsletters Sent	2446 Newsletter Subscriptions	2530 Mails *
<b>2021</b>	11 Newsletters Sent	2343 Newsletter Subscriptions	1341 Mails *

# PROJECT STATISTICS

HOME PAGE \*estimate based on previous data

<b>2025</b>	<b>11 620</b> Users	<b>51 090</b> Page views
<b>2024</b>	<b>10 950</b> Users	<b>40 672</b> Page views
<b>2023</b>	<b>10 500 *</b> Users	<b>30 500 *</b> Page views
<b>2022</b>	<b>9 044</b> Users	<b>23 590</b> Page views
<b>2021</b>	<b>10 450</b> Users	<b>30 617</b> Page views

## VISITORS

- China
- Germany
- United States
- Luxembourg
- France
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom

PROJECTS IN NUMBERS	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
PRODUCTIONS	3	1	1	4	1
PUBLIC RESIDENCY SHARINGS	3	2	-	-	-
RESIDENCIES	5	5	5	8	2
PERFORMANCES ON TOUR	17	33	38	2	3
WORKSHOPS	9	22	36	7	6
COMMISSIONED WORKS	1	5	5	3	3
OTHER FORMATS Talks, Publication, etc.	6	9	7	7	10
<b>ARTISTIC PROJECTS TOTAL</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>62</b>

PERFORMANCES	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Own productions, commissioned works, public workshop presentations	<b>36</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>44</b>

# APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING 2025

In order to carry out the company's artistic projects, various applications were submitted to Luxembourg and non-Luxembourg funding institutions in 2025.

	Fully approved	Partially approved	Rejected
<b>Ministère de la Culture Luxembourg</b> Aide à la composition musicale for <i>Sensorial Symphonies</i>	x		
<b>North East Arts Touring (NEAT) for <i>Sensorial Symphonies</i></b> Tour in Schotland		x	
<b>Oeuvre Luxembourg</b> Support for the Tour <i>Mat lech/Sensorial Symphonies</i> in November 2025	x		
<b>Cité Internationale des Arts Paris</b> for <i>Florescence in Decay / Residency</i>			x
<b>Fondation Sommer</b> Partners of 3 years for <i>Mat lech</i>	x		
<b>PACT Zollverein</b> for <i>Florescence in Decay / Residency</i>			x
<b>Ministère de la Culture</b> Aide à la création for the Residency of <i>Sensorial Symphonies</i> in Linz			x
<b>Fondation Indépendance</b> for the Residency of <i>Sensorial Symphonies</i> in Linz			x
<b>Fondation Loutsch-Weydert</b> for the Residency of <i>Sensorial Symphonies</i> in Linz			x
<b>Fondation Luxembourg</b> for the Residency of <i>Sensorial Symphonies</i> in Linz			x
<b>Kulturfactory Italy</b> for <i>Sensorial Symphonies / Residency</i>		x	
<b>Fondation d'entreprise Hermès</b> for <i>Sensorial Symphonies / Touring Programm "transforme"</i>			x
<b>Florence Dance Festival</b> for <i>Sensorial Symphonies / Show in Festival programm "Twilight In The Round"</i>	x		
<b>Fellowship 2026 at the Beethovenfest Bonn</b> for <i>Sensorial Symphonies</i>			x
<b>Kulturstiftung Trier</b> – Support for the <i>Sensorial Symphonies</i> at <i>MoselMusikFestival</i>			x
<b>Sparkasse Trier</b> – Support for the <i>Sensorial Symphonies</i> at <i>MoselMusikFestival</i>			x

	Fully approved	Partially approved	Rejected
<b>Trier Kulturstadt</b> – Support for the Sensorial Symphonies at MoselMusikFestival	x		
<b>Volksbank Trier</b> – Support for the Sensorial Symphonies at MoselMusikFestival			x
<b>Ministère de la Culture</b> – Demande de subside for Florescence in Decay	x		
<b>Ministère de la Culture</b> – Demande de subside for HEAR EYES MOVE	x		
<b>Ministère de la Culture</b> – Bourse pour la promotion de la création artistique for Residency with Boston Dances Theater in Luxembourg	x		
<b>TROIS CL</b> for Florescence in Decay / Artist Residency Programm	x		
<b>Fondation Indépendance</b> – Financial Support for HEAR EYES MOVE	x		
<b>Ministère de la Culture</b> – Accès à la Culture for MAT IECH / Florescence in Decay	x		
<b>Oeuvre Luxembourg</b> – Partner for MAT IECH / Florescence in Decay	x		
<b>Kultur!x</b> – Support for Tour for HEAR EYES MOVE	x		
<b>Kultur!x</b> – Participation to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2026 with Sensorial Symphonies			x
<b>Fondation Loutsch Weydert</b> – Partner for MAT IECH / Florescence in Decay	x		
<b>Fondation EME</b> – Partner for MAT IECH / Florescence in Decay	x		
<b>Danse Élargie</b> – Appel à projets for Florescence in Decay			x

PARTNER



## PRODUCERS :

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## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

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## PROJECT PARTENERS

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## OTHERS

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Association sans but lucratif  
107 Rue de Mühlenbach  
L-2168 Luxembourg

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