

Aktion Kolectiva

Contemporary dance/physical theatre /video research laboratory

Pioneers of dance, performance, physical theatre and video dance in Caracas, Venezuela.

Between 1985 and 2004, under the direction of Julie Barnsley, some of the events in which Acción Colectiva participated include: Several editions of the Congreso Latinoamericano de Danza, Encuentro Internacional de Creadores, Festival Internacional de Teatro de Caracas, Venezuela.

I Festival Internacional de Danza, Cuba.

The Haus der kulturen der welt, Berlín, the Mousonturm, Frankfurt, the Kampnagelfabrik, Hamburgo, and the Brotfabrik, Bonn, Germany.

II y III Gran Festival Internacional, México City,

I Festival de Arte Contemporáneo, León,

IX Festival de Danza, San Luís, Potosí, Mexico.

Two seasons at La Mama E.T.C in New York, U.S.A.

II Festival de Nueva Danza, Barranquilla, Colombia.

III Festival Independiente de Danza, Santiago de Chile.

I International Meeting of the Art of Movement in Solo, Java. Indonesia.

The company has also intervened in several art exhibitions in La Galeria de Arte Nacional, El Museo de Bellas Artes and El Museo de Arte Contemporanea de Caracas, in Venezuela,

The audiovisual productions of the company have been seen in La Casa Encendida in Madrid, Spain, IX Dance screen Mónaco, Il Coreógrafo Elettrónico, Nápoli, Italia and La Cinemateca Nacional in Caracas.

Between 2004 and 2006 the Acción Colectiva laboratory temporarily closes and the artistic director Julie Barnsley undertakes theoretical investigations which result in the publication of her book *El Cuerpo como Territorio de la Rebelión* (Iudanza, 2006.) In 2006 Barnsley reinitiates the practical laboratory, renaming the project Aktion Kolectiva.

In Venezuela, for her work with Acción Colectiva /Aktion Kolectiva Julie Barnsley has received ; the Critven Award (Critic's Associations of Venezuela), the National Award, Casa del Artista, and is 4 times winner of the Municipal Dance Award, the most recent being the Municipal Dance Award 2007 for the multimedia dance event *Shakti en Ascensión o Rainbow Revisited*.

For more information enter web page:
www.juliebarnsley.com

"Shakti en Ascension (Shakti Rising) or Rainbow Revisited" a performance work which explores the energy of the feminine... Barnsley begins this cathartic event with reference to the Rainbow Dance, (a previous dance work of her creation), and alongside Vanessa Lozano and Claudia Capriles explores intimately themes which have been constants in her expressive investigations; violence, role playing, social manipulations, the intrinsic isolation of the individual." Shakti Rising" approaches the body in no formal way to activate a discourse which is authentic and primordial, a dissertation with great audiovisual potential inspired by the particular temperaments of the performers. Here, Barnsley bewitches the public with a solid and coherent proposal which arises from intense experiences and reflections, experiences which have converted her into an exceptional performer..."

José Antonio Blasco, El Mundo, Caracas

"Aprés Petipa"...this feminine quartet disturbs the solid foundations of the academy and using strategies of the New Dance movement offers moments of beautiful plasticity... Barnsley deconstructs the physicality and the aesthetics of ballets which are emblematic of romanticism, "Swan lake" and the "Dying Swan", to create another discourse around the feminine."

José Antonio Blasco, El Mundo, Caracas

Three women, perspicaciously off balance, reveal the veracity of their weaknesses, yearnings and impossibilities. They share the same scenario with an audiovisual installation, conceived by Goar Sanchez, here there occurs some aggressive chromatic contrasts, which could be conceived equally as a pure and abstract environment or as a bar in which to relieve an aching heart.

Here we evidence the expressions, born from lived experiences and also from the cold rationalization of the conflicts, of figures, incarnated by militant performers who enjoy the maturity and completeness of their bodies and spirits, Julie Barnsley, Claudia Capriles and Vanessa Lozano, each with their own individual impulses and sensibilities, transform the codes of the contemporary dance into something really significant, something which really pertains to them, overwhelming the public with the authenticity of their work.

The three scenic presences in "Shakti en Ascension o Rainbow Revisited", have now entered the world of women, who are traumatized and violent, non conformist and radical, characteristics of Julie Barnsley...

...To this fascinating and complex universe has now been added, by means of her latest creation "Aprés Petipa", the desolate vision of the swan, the inextinguishable symbol of the western ballet academy, of tragedy, splendor, decadence and death. In Julie Barnsley's hands, the classic myth turns convulsively contemporary, in an historic moment which admits no return.

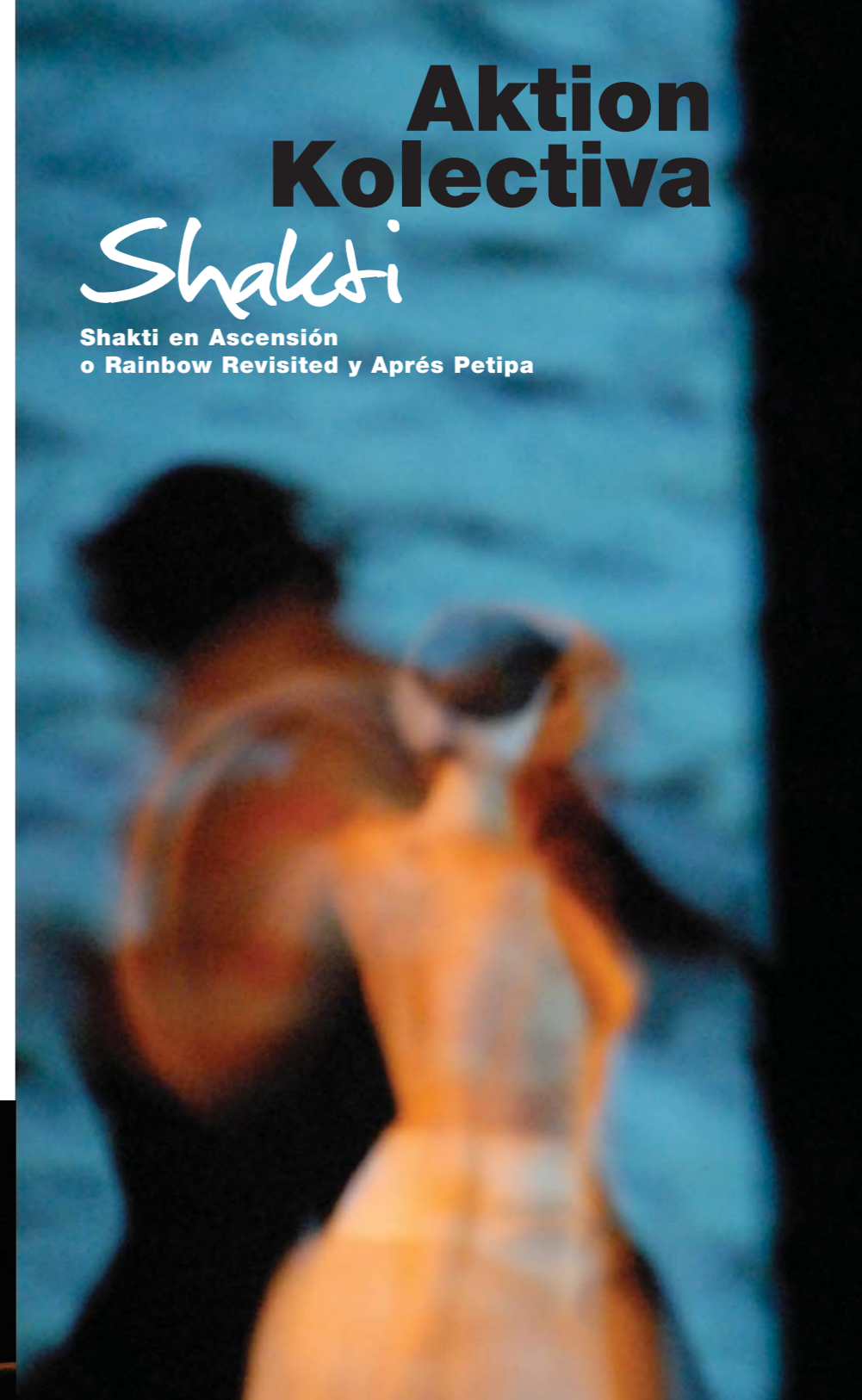
Carlos Paoliillo. El Nacional. Caracas



Aktion Kolectiva

Shakti

**Shakti en Ascensión
o Rainbow Revisited y Aprés Petipa**





Shakti en Ascensión o Rainbow Revisited y Después Petipa

Municipal Dance Award, 2007,
best choreography: *Shakti en Ascensión*
o *Rainbow Revisited*.



Aktion Kolectiva

"Few artistic projects erupted with the ferocity of Accion Colectiva during the decade of the 80s in Venezuela...with minimum or no compliance to the traditional divisions of dance and theatre...investigations rooted in the pulsations of the body, body as material of the unconscious, source of dark and powerful forces... a reference point of creation in this country... today as dance/physical theatre productions are common place, almost fashionable, Accion Colectiva maintains its role as a visionary in this particular territory... teacher, dancer of a profound versatility and an undisputable creator, Julie Barnsley is relentless in opening new paths as an outlet for her creative needs."

José Antonio Blasco, El Mundo. Caracas, Venezuela.



Artistic director,
choreographer, performer

JULIE BARNESLEY

B.Arts in dance; choreographer, dancer, teacher. Trained at The Place London, and in Germany, New York and Caracas. Dancer with Reinhild Hoffman and Gerhard Bohner in Germany, Lloyd Newson (DV8) in England, Poppo Shiraiishi (Butoh) in New York. Founder member of Danzahoy and CLADA (Latin American Dance Centre) and founder director of Accion Colectiva /Aktion Kolectiva. Teacher at the IUDANZA (University Institute of Dance in Caracas). Author of the book, *Cuerpo Como Territorio de la Rebelión* and resident collaborator with the magazine "Movimiento" Danza Escenica, in Caracas.

Shakti in sanskrit signifies the creative energy of the universe, its symbol is the female form



THE PERFORMERS

CLAUDIA CAPRILES B.Arts in dance; choreographer, dancer and teacher. Trained at the Folkwang Hochschule in Germany and in Caracas. Former soloist with the Neuer Tanz company, the folkwangtanz studio and the Essener theatre, Germany, and with several major dance companies in Caracas. Has presented her own solo recitals with the Jovenes Coreografos of Venezuela. Teacher at the IUDANZA, and instructor of Pilates and Gyrotonics.

VANESSA LOZANO B.Arts degree; choreographer, dancer and teacher. Trained at the Instituto Superior de Danza in Caracas and in New York. Especialist in Release techniques and Pilates. Is actually dancer with several major dance companies of Venezuela and founder choreographer with Luis Armando Castillo of her own company Lapuesta in Caracas. Teacher at the IUDANZA and chief coordinator of the dance magazine: "Movimiento", Danza Escenica in Caracas. In Venezuela, is winner of the Municipal Dance Award, 2006.

INÉS ROJAS B.Arts in dance; choreographer, dancer and teacher. Founder member of the Nacional Ballet of Caracas where she partnered Rudolf Nureyev and Vladimir Vasliev (amongst others). From 1987 is dedicated to the New Dance and Improvisational techniques, is founder director, teacher and dancer of NEODANZA and TEAE (experimental dance workshop) in Caracas. This company has achieved international recognition for its provocative experimental dance work. In 1999 is founder director of the annual Festival of Improvisacion (Dance, Circus and Music). Teacher at the IUDANZA in Caracas.

VIDEO ARTIST

GOAR SANCHEZ Former member of Tarima Theatre, and a producer of film projects at the Los Andes University and the Andina television channel, Venezuela. Between 1989 and 1997 worked in the Art department of more than 12, 35mm films made in Venezuela. Director of the making of Manuela Sáenz (based on the film by Diego Risquez) and two short films of the Venezuelan painter Alirio Palacios. Since 1997 works with Accion Colectiva/Aktion Kolectiva as video artist and also as chief technical director. Studies philosophy at the Central University of Venezuela (UCV).

Light Design: Eduardo Varas

Costumes: Efrén Rojas (Shakti) / Julie Barnsley (Aprés Petipa)

Assistant technician: Jorge Mirada

Musical consultant: Miguel Noya

Photographs: Celia Bendelac, Goar Sánchez, Renato Donzelli