

# Minna **no** Project

## Contact Details

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## *Our partners*

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Minna **no** project was founded in 2007 when Marine Combrade and Carl Harrison won the 'Deutsche Bank Pyramid Award for Contemporary Dance'.

The company gets regular residencies at the Rencontres Internationales de Danse Contemporaine (RIDC) and studios at the Centre National de la Danse.



## Minna **no** Project

Franco-British Contemporary Dance Company



Minna **no** Project  
Marine Combrade & Carl Harrison  
[minnanoproject@free.fr](mailto:minnanoproject@free.fr)  
<http://minnanoproject.free.fr/>

## *The company*

**Marine & Carl** are two dance artists, who began collaborating five years ago and together created the Minna **no** Project in 2007.

The company is developing both in the UK and in France. **Minna no Project** means 'everybody's project' in Japanese and our work aims to elaborate a choreographic voice based on body language and on the exploration of human relationships.

**May 07** – Creation of the Franco-British project.

**June 07** – Marine & Carl win the 'Deutsche Bank Pyramid Award for Contemporary Dance 07'.

**November 07** – Residency in Paris for the first piece creation: 'I Love you ; me neither'.

**January 08** – Premiere of 'I love you; Me neither', Resolution! at Theatre Robin Howard at The Place in London.

**May 08** – Re-creation of the duet 'I Love you ; me neither' at the Centre National de la Danse in Pantin, then called 'Contre toi' for the Sauvages festival at Le Regard du Cygne in Paris.

**August 08** – Choreographic research residency for the Gombrowicz Project at the Rencontres Internationales de Danse Contemporaine (RIDC) in Paris.

**Year 08-09** – 'Contre Toi' touring in France and the UK.



## *The team*

### **Marine Combrade** **Co-director and dancer**

Marine dances in various companies in France (Artefact – Marc Vincent, Ektos – Jean-Christophe Boclé, Litecox – Daisy Fel) and teaches dance in a training centre and Pilates in private lessons.

Before she trained at The Place (BA Hons – First Class), Marine completed her teaching diploma for dance at the RIDC in Paris and her training in Pilates at the CND with Dominique Dupuy. She also lectured Modern Literature and completed her Master at La Sorbonne (Valéry, Degas, Rodin: the body and its dance at the beginning of the XX<sup>th</sup> Century).

### **Carl Harrison** **Co-director and dancer**

Carl works for various companies in Ireland (Myriad Dance Company, Pony Dance Theatre) and in the UK (Evolving Motion Dance Company, State of Emergency). He teaches workshops to children and adults as well as leading technique class for company members.

Carl studied theatre before training in contemporary dance. During the BA at The Place, he explored and deepened the ties between dance and theatre.

### **Seke Chimutengwende** **Dancer**

Seke Chimutengwende was born in London and studied dance at Lewisham College and London Contemporary Dance School. Since 2004, Seke has performed internationally with Alias Cie, DV8 Physical Theatre, Lost Dog, Henrietta Hale, Rick Nodine, Karl Jay Lewin, Rannva Karodottir, Tino Sehgal, Ruby Worth, Zephyr in Zanussi, 5 Men Dancing and most recently with Jose Vidal and Company. Seke has also been practicing and performing his own solo improvisation work since 2006.

### **Ida-Klara Johansson** **Dancer**

Ida-Klara comes from Sweden. She currently works with Talat Samawi in Sweden and Algeria. She is a founder member of the 'InMotion' dance company (Elinor Matti, Linnea Gunnesson, Siri Persson and Björn Nilsson). The collective works in Sweden on set pieces and improvised scores. She took part to the Müuval Collective in Mexico and gave dance workshops and performance there. She also teaches dance for children and adult in Gothenburg (Sweden).

Ida-Klara initially trained at the Balett Akademien Umeå before joining the London Contemporary Dance School at The Place where she graduated with a BA (Hons).

## *Contre Toi (2007-08)*

**7 years old onwards**

Duration : 8 min

Choreographed and danced by Marine Combrade & Carl Harrison

Music : Django Reinhardt

This duet explores the evolution of a relationship from the initial flirting to the moment when the relationship is just a painful habit. The physicality of the dance evolves from tenderness to violence and denotes the emotional state of the couple. The duet balances between light comedy and moments of resentment and aggression.

You can see the duet online on the following link:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U5mB7Kh6-wA>



## *The Gombrowicz Project (2009)*

**Quartet in process**

Choreographed by Marine Combrade assisted by Carl Harrison  
Danced by Carl Harrison, Ida-Klara Johansson, Marine Combrade & Seke Chimutengwende

The **Gombrowicz Project** is a quartet freely inspired by a novel entitled *Pornografia* and written by Witold Gombrowicz. This author is very modern in the way he deals with human relationships. Body language is very much central in his work and define the people even more than what they do or say. All the characters are thus defined by the way they move and the interaction with others make them evolve. A game of manipulation is initiated by the two elder characters but the balance of power soon gets disrupted by the younger characters taking unexpected moves. The influence the elders wanted to exert on the youth also gets reversed to the point where the characters find themselves in unknown territory.

