



“She Poems”: Spanish-Namibian contemporary dance

The Embassy of Spain, with the collaboration of Casa Africa and the College of the Arts, has the pleasure of informing the media about “*She Poems*”, a Spanish-Namibian cultural cooperation project which will be presented in Windhoek from 3 till 12 April.

The project: “She Poems”

“*She Poems*” is a contemporary art project implemented in Africa with creative African women which has produced workshops, dance short films, dance photographs and contemporary dance pieces (solos and duets).

“*She Poems*” aims at creating female African role models in dancing and drawing a Women-Poetry-Dance-African map. The creative process is based on poems written by women, universal realities transformed into poetry in motion. “*She Poems*” is a tribute to African women, the expression of their own identity, giving them a voice which is expressed through dancing: it is a female empowerment project connecting Afro-descendant women and women in general.

“*She Poems*” was officially presented in New York, and it has also been released in Cape Verde, Cameroon, Niger, Senegal, Nigeria, Ghana, Togo, Tanzania, Rwanda, Kenya, Mozambique and South Africa. Within Spain, it has been presented in Periferias-Huesca, Francophone festival of Institut Français of Valencia, Centre Cultural Sagrada Família of Barcelona (specialized in gender issues) and in San Sebastian during the European Culture City celebrations.

The Director: Aïda Colmenero Díaz

Aïda, of Galician descent, was born in Madrid and has studied in Spain and Senegal, Drama, Dance, Anthropology and Audio-visual university studies.

The founder of Lanla Acogny Dance technique, she created “*The March*”, the first international dance training on Germaine Acogny technique. She has been implementing drama projects since the beginning of her career, and during the last three years, in the framework of the “*She Poems*” project, she has become a photographer and filmmaker.

In 2017 Aïda organized “*Africa Moment*”, the first International Meeting of Contemporary African Performing Arts in Barcelona. An approach to today's Africa; a diverse, contemporary and plural Africa, found both in the diaspora and in Afro-descendants; the one which is born there and here, which pulsates and inspires. “*Africa Moment*” aims at bringing together the work of African artists as well as bringing it closer to the audience, with the final objective of provoking a profound reflection on the "African" concept.

She has been invited as a lecturer to several universities, such as Winneba University and Copenhagen Sport University.

The program: “*She Poems*” in Namibia

- 3 April: Masterclass Workshop: aimed at Namibian female artists. One of them will be selected to shoot a short film and prepare the final performance together with Aïda.
- 4 till 10 April: rehearsals of Aïda and the selected artist.
- 11 April: outdoor short film shooting.
- 12 April: final presentation (7.30 till 9.30, College of the Arts, Fidel Castro St, free entrance until full capacity), including short film screenings, dance performance and exchange of views with the audience.

More information

Webpages

www.aidacolmenerodiaz.com

www.exteriores.gob.es

www.casafrica.es

Interviews

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