theatre
LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE, LA NUIT
ALBERTO MANGUEL - ROBERT LEPAGE
Video / Virtual reality

In a world created by Robert Lepage and inspired by Alberto Manguel's eponymous book, this all-immersive journey through time and space reveals ten of the world's most astonishing libraries through a system combining 360° video projection and surround sound, and exposes the beauty of these shrines to the written word.

19 September to 07 January 2017

MUJER VERTICAL
ÉRIC MASSÉ

Original production – May 2017
Éric Massé travelled to Bogotá to record the first-hand accounts of women, all of whom have very different profiles: victims, members of the FARC, demobilized or paramilitary women, and politicians. On stage, four radiant actresses breathe life into these stories. Alongside them, Juliette (played by Massé himself) shares the writings of female authors that have changed mentalities in France and elsewhere.

Wednesday 04 & Thursday 05 October 2017

LA FAMILLE ROYALE
THIERRY JOLIVET - COMPAGNIE LA MEUTE
Based on William T. Vollmann’s novel, The Royal Family

Thierry Jolivet presents us with a royal family – only this one presides over the crack dens and prostitution-ridden slums of San Francisco. With his masterful adaptation of William T. Vollmann’s novel, Jolivet paints a portrait of a nightmarish America, where the amoral capitalists have won, and the meek inherit nothing.

Wednesday 18 & Thursday 19 October 2017

TIME’S JOURNEY THROUGH A ROOM
TOSHIKI OKADA

Toshiki Okada is a major figure in Japanese performing arts. With this production, he has created an hypnotic and claustrophobic play exploring the impact of the Fukushima disaster on Japanese society. A man loses his wife just after the tsunami. She dies with the hope that this nuclear catastrophe will offer her country a new lease on life, leaving her husband to confront reality...

Monday 6 to Friday 10 November 2017
What could be more reassuring than a house? And yet, this safe haven can also be a place of arguments, annoyance and irritation. This duality at the heart of a universal symbol is explored by Gustavo Giacosa – that actor and stage director who earned his stripes by accompanying Pippo Delbono for over two decades.

Wednesday 22 & Thursday 23 November 2017

“Don’t chain me, I’m the sage, and you’re the madmen!” - Dionysos

The line between insanity and wisdom is one of the main themes of Euripides’ The Bacchae. Two Millennia and a cultural gulf separates us from this Greek tragedy. And yet, it continues to be just as relevant to our contemporary world.

Tuesday 12 & Wednesday 13 December 2017

“This book taught me to read again,” declared Thomas Mann when Steppenwolf was published in 1927. The same could be said for Tanguy Malik Bordage who was deeply touched by this monument of European literature. Today, he offers us his personal adaptation, which was originally produced with TU Nantes in 2016, and which he now presents at le lieu unique.

Tuesday 16 & Wednesday 17 January 2018

After garnering critical acclaim with his performances of Hamlet and The Idiot, Vincent Macaigne returns to le lieu unique with an explosive new show, where he presents a torn society and a young generation caught between a desire to live and to destroy everything in sight.

Wednesday 07 to Friday 09 February 2018
III FRÈRES SORCIÈRES
JORIS MATHIEU / COMPAGNIE HAUT ET COURT
Original production 2018

Antoine Volodine has entrusted theatre company, Haut et Court, with a brand new text whose working title is Frères Sorcières (“Sorcerer Brothers”). The play is a single sentence that poetically and breathlessly runs the length of 80 pages without a single period, where we follow the adventures of a character who is condemned to wander endlessly, and must leap into different bodies throughout the ages.

Tuesday 13 to Thursday 15 February 2018

III BLACK CLOUDS
FABRICE MURGIA

“Learn to code, and teach it to your kids. Control the machine before you become dependent on it.” Fabrice Murgia – a young Belgian director, a former student of Jacques Delcuvellerie, and the director of Belgium’s National Theatre – offers spectators a show that is also an injunction. In Black Clouds, he explores modern man’s relationship to computers, as well as the political dimension of the digital divide between rich and developing countries.

Wednesday 04 & Thursday 05 April 2018

III RENTRER AU VOLCAN
AUGUSTIN REBETEZ

Rentrer au volcan (“returning to the volcano”) means entering the hot primeval magma within the earth, where life is condensed. You return inside the volcano as you would your home – a place where you feel good, but where things might explode at any moment. Rentrer au volcan, was also an invitation for performers and musicians to develop their art in a scenography designed by visual artists.

Tuesday 10 & Wednesday 11 April

III LE CAMION
MARINE DE MISSOLZ
From Marguerite Duras

Actress Marine de Missolz is known for her roles in the stage productions of Stanislas Nordey and Julien Gosselin. This time, she is directing a comic (but also poetic) version of Marguerite Duras’ Le Camion (1977).

Tuesday 17 to Thursday 19 April

Au TU, Théâtre Universitaire de Nantes
NACHLASS
STEFAN KAEGI, DOMINIC HUBER - RIMINI PROTOKOLL

Stefan Kaegi met with people who, for different reasons, chose to prepare their own deaths. Spectators are invited to visit eight rooms/plays, each with their own scenography, portraying what they wish to leave after they die.

Friday 25 May to Sunday 3 June 2018
III **AND SO YOU SEE...**
ROBYN ORLIN

In 2014, South Africa commemorated its 20th year of “freedom.” South African choreographer, Robyn Orlin, decided to put this very notion of freedom to the test in a country where traditions do not die easily. Alone on stage, Albert Silindokuhle Ibokwe Khoza is now the Master of Ceremonies, acting as both the body and soul of this breathtaking performance.

Tuesday 10 & Wednesday 11 October 2017

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III **FLOOD**
DANIEL LINEHAN

Even though novelty has become a dominant cultural value, objects, technology, and lifestyles continue to become obsolete at breakneck speed. This paradox has not escaped Daniel Linehan, who has decided to play with this concept. Immersed in our culture of fluidity, the choreographer highlights just how much it has shaped our view of the world.

Tuesday 14 & Wednesday 15 November 2017

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III **SCENA MADRE***
AMBRA SENATORE

New production Avignon 2017
Starting with a scene that is rehearsed, deformed and transposed in different places and times, Ambra Senatore, director of Nantes’s national dance centre (CCN), has created several other stories – or rather, fragments of stories – that echo and overlap one another, resulting a joyfully cinematic experience.

Tuesday 28 to Thursday 30 November 2017

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III **FOULES**
OLIVIA GRANDVILLE

Among her many fetish subjects, this French choreographer and lieu unique associated artist, explores the idea of the group – but also that of partition. Foules (“Crowds”) is at the junction of these two themes where an ephemeral community must follow a series of voiced instructions.

Wednesday 24 & Thursday 25 January 2018
*** LE SYNDROME IAN ***
CHRISTIAN RIZZO

London, 1979. While night clubs throb to the sound of disco, punk rules the city streets. But a chilling sound can be heard through the voice and music of Ian Curtis – the dark lead singer of the group Joy Division. And thus cold wave is born... At that very same moment in Paris, a young Christian Rizzo struts his stuff across the city's dance floors, including the legendary night club Le Palace, where he discovers a world of parties, bleary-eyed mornings, and disillusion.

Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 January 2018

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*** ROBOT, L’AMOUR ÉTERNEL ***
KAORI ITO
Original production October 2017

Can humans create robots to fulfill all their needs? Does that mean an android might resemble a human? And vice versa? Throughout her career, Kaori Ito has developed an acute awareness of these questions. In this choreographed piece, she will offer us her interpretation.

Tuesday 20 & Wednesday 21 February 2018

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*** FORME SIMPLE ***
LOÏC TOUZÉ
Original production 2018

Loïc Touzé is a politically active artist with a rich career (after training at the Opéra de Paris, he decided to follow the choreographers of La nouvelle danse française – a contemporary dance movement born in the 1970s). For his new show, he takes on a monumental piece of classical music: Bach's Goldberg Variations.

Tuesday 13 & Wednesday 14 March 2018

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*** MANGER ***
BORIS CHARMATZ

Eating (manger, in French) is a primary instinct for humans. Throughout the process of chewing, swallowing, and ingesting, our bodies are involved in a vital operation engaging all of our organs. With this raw material, Boris Charmatz – dancer, choreographer and director of the National Centre for Choreography in Rennes – has created a fascinating show, which has not stopped touring since its creation in 2014.

Tuesday 17 & Wednesday 18 April 2018
À L’OUEST
OLIVIA GRANDVILLE
Original production – le lieu unique

Before working on this project, Olivia Grandville undertook a maiden voyage into the heart of Canada’s and North America’s native reserves. Walking in the footsteps of the composer, Moondog, she explores the foundational pulse these populations continue to embody: a revolutionary and spiritual heart that continues to beat too late for the West (against the West?). This choreographic travel journal ends with Invocation: a canon for 16 saxophones playing a single note.

Tuesday 16 to Friday 18 May 2018
circus
**III P.P.P.**  
**PHIA MÉNARD**

Final performances for this cult show!  
A hundred milky white bulbs hanging from the ceiling, a silver carpet spread over the floor, large translucent blocks on stage, and ice everywhere... In this world of perpetual transformation, choreographer and dancer, Phia Ménard, creates her own space, plays with snow, and juggles ice cubes... until her environment becomes hostile.

Tuesday 19 to Thursday 21 December 2017

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**III LA VASE**  
**PIERRE MEUNIER**

Original production 2017  
Pierre Meunier has invented a form of stagecraft that showcases concrete physical reality. Here, he shares the spotlight with sludge: a substance remarkable for its deep softness, that slowly invades his intimate space.

Tuesday 20 & Wednesday 21 March 2018
music
**III IMMENSITY OF THE TERRITORY**
CHRISTOPHE HAVARD + CHARLES-HENRY BENETEAU + ANTHONY TAILLARD

Original production – le lieu unique
For nearly ten years, all three members of the musical project, Immensity Of The Territory, play a single electric guitar using a remote motorized system. Together they recently zigzagged US in order to collect the sounds, images and videos that make up their shows.

Saturday 7 October 2017

**III ROSCOE MITCHELL & WILL GUTHRIE**

A summit meeting between saxophone legend, Roscoe Mitchell, and one of the most singular drummers of his generation, Will Guthrie. Although forty years separate them, they nevertheless share an unconventional taste for free forms and the fragile power of improvisation.

Thursday 12 October 2017

**III UN AUTRE ORIENT #2**
Carte blanche au festival Les Orientales
Avec notamment Mehdi Nassouli solo (Gnawa, Maroc) et Parvathy Baûl en guest

+ White Spirit (Hosni Hertelli aka Shoof / Street art & les derviches tourneurs de Damas)

Saturday 14 October 2017

**III HANDS & VOICE**
HENRI TEXIER NONET
La Cité, Centre des Congrès de Nantes / part of the Jazz en Phase festival
With one of the richest careers in European jazz, Henri Texier has remained a tireless bandleader and musician who has never ceased to explore new musical constellations. For Hands & Voice, a one-time performance (création unique?), Henri Texier has invited incredible talents to join his usual quintet: the great Nguyen Le, Himiko Paganotti (the incredible singer of Magma), the superb trumpet player, Matthieu Michel, the flamboyant Manu Codjia, and young, Nantes native, Armel Dupas.

Tuesday 24 October 2017
MANUEL ADNOT + TETUZI AKIYAMA
+ YANN JOUSSEIN

Manu Adnot, a pillar of Nantes’ jazz scene, decided to combine written music with improvisation. This avant-garde guitarist, improviser and composer, works with an alternative approach to his instrument. Tetuzi Akiyama plays the guitar almost primitively, adding a desire to endow the instrument with minimalist and natural characteristics.

Wednesday 25 October 2017

RIDE + KEVIN MORBY
FESTIVAL SOY

For its closing event at le lieu unique, the Festival Soy has invited the band, Ride, to celebrate their comeback album, Charm Assault, produced by Erol Alkan after 20 years of silence. The Oxford quartet were at the avant-garde of the shoegaze movement of the early 90s, thanks to an unforgettable combination of radiant refrains, droning and hypnotic guitars, harmonies that float heavenward, and throbbing, uplifting rhythms.

Sunday 29 October 2017

SHADOW
ASIA ARGENTO + PHILIPPE PELLAUD + PASCAL GRECO

What genetic heritage do we pass down to our descendants? Through two characters – a runaway teenager and a narrator who intervenes via a voice-over – we wander around in uniform and monochrome worlds that blend reality and the imaginary.

Thursday 2 November

EINSTÜRZENDE NEUBAUTEN

Since their dizzying débuts in 1980, Einstürzende Neubauten have risen to the rank of international reference in experimental music and a pioneer of industrial music. Einstürzende Neubauten celebrates the noise and poetry of early 1980s Berlin by indulging in industrial destruction and decrepitude, while embracing the abrasiveness of found materials that would become their instruments.

Saturday 18 November 2017
III SAUL WILLIAMS + MIKE LADD
FESTIVAL MIDIMINUITPOÉSIE

MidimaïntPoésie builds bridges between contemporary poetry and other artistic practices, like music or visual arts. This year, among roughly thirty guest poets, artists and publishers, two major American spoken word artists will be present for a brand new production at le lieu unique.

Saturday 25 November 2017

III LA FOLK JOURNÉE
VIOLENT FEMMES par MOON GOGO
THE BYRDS par MEHDI ZANAD & SEAN O’HAGAN

The Folk Journée festival – a distant and depraved cousin of the very serious Folle Journée festival – enjoys irreverent interpretations of the folk repertoire and its most obscure derivatives. For this fifth edition, Nantes-based duo Moon Gogo will take on the steep and craggy songs of cult American indie band, The Violent Femmes. The second concert will be dedicated to songs by The Byrds, this time performed by Mehdi Zanad and Sean O’Hagan.

Friday 15 December 2017

III SARAVAH REVISITED
AVEC THE RECYCLERS, ARESKI BELKACEM, ARLT, BORJA FLAMES, MARION COUSIN

To celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Saravah studios – and the label of the same name – drummer and record producer Steve Arguëlles produced roughly twenty songs selected by Benjamin Barouh, summing up the Saravah experiment from 1968-1978. Together, they created the basis for a musical epic, mixing, jazz, songs, world music and experimental rock to be performed by The Recyclers and their guests, including David McNeil and Areski Bel Kacem.

Saturday 13 January 2018

III L’EXIL INTERIEUR
NICOLAS HORVATH – solo piano

The theme of La Folle Journée 2018 is Exile. For this edition, Nicolas Horvath imagined a recital questioning this notion in its most intimate form, at the limits of sanity and solitude.

Friday 02 February 2018
Nils Frahm is a German musician, composer and producer, born on September 20th 1982. Based in Berlin, he mixes classical and electronic music via an original approach to his instruments.

Sunday 04 February 2018

Lenparrot

After being inspired by a Baxter Dury song, Nantes native Romain Lallement (aka Lenparrot) dug deep into the bone marrow of pop and extracted his own minimalist form of groove. Le lieu unique has devoted an exclusive weekend, where he will delight audiences with two concerts: an electric show on Saturday with big name guests, and an unplugged version on Sunday with a string quartet.

Saturday 10 & Sunday 11 February 2018

Bryce Dessner & L’Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire

Known for his work as guitarist for rock the band, The National, Bryce Dessner has also made a name for himself as a composer. After being won over by his adventurous, stimulating, accessible work and vision, le lieu unique has offered him a long-term artistic residence. This concert, with the Pays de la Loire National Orchestra, will be one of the highlights of this collaboration.

Saturday 24 February 2018

Rone

In only a few albums, Rone has made a name for himself as one of France’s most influential producers. He is also a top players at the record label, In-Finé, infusing his brand of electro with an extra hint of soul. Rone’s concerts plunge spectators in immersive video projections that endow his kaleidoscopic music with a rare power resulting in live performances that are total experiences.

Saturday 31 March 2018
Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho blends the subtlety of gestures with the magnitude of forms and writes music combining sensuality and mystery, with a slight hint of Finland. For le lieu unique, and as part of a partnership with the Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire, she presents her piece «... » for flute, electronics and video.

Thursday 12 April 2018

More than a concert, La Colonie de Vacances offers an immersive experience in a quadriphonic layout where four rock groups respectively occupy a corner of the room with their own sound system. At le lieu unique, La Colonie de Vacances have designed a new version that will push the limits of rock by opening onto new influences from traditional and contemporary electronic music.

Friday 27 & Saturday 28 April 2018

Seeking out young composers in contemporary Mexican music Georgina Derbez & Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez

Every season, Nantes-based ensemble Utopik organizes a concert at le lieu unique featuring the music of a given composer. This year, Utopik has decided to highlight the young artists making up Mexico’s musical scene by inviting Georgina Derbez and Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez: two rising stars in contemporary Mexican composition.

Friday 04 May 2018

For several years, the career paths of both French illustrator Joan Sfar and French rock band Dionysos have crossed and overlapped throughout their numerous collaborations: album covers, music videos, and more. But, above all, their aesthetic worlds share a penchant for the poetic and the fantastic, where cats talk and vampires live in the city. With this shared passion, Joan Sfar and Dionysos have come up with an enhanced concert that mixes drawing and music.

Thursday 14 June 2018
exhibitions
**III KOMOREBI**

In Japanese, the term komorebi is used to describe sunlight filtering through the leaves of a tree. Since art is where we find some of the most beautiful representations of our inner worlds, the term could be understood here as expressing an inner light shining through the cracks. The creativity of these “artists” is free, spontaneous, and intended more for themselves than for any hypothetical spectator – especially in a society as heavily standardized as Japan’s.

Saturday 21 October 2017 to Sunday 14 January 2018

**Curators : Mizue Kobayashi et Patrick Gyger**
In partnership with La Cité, le Centre des Congrès de Nantes

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**III DEVENIR IMMOBILE**

Performances – retrospective

Devenir immobile looks back at 30 years of Yann Marussich’s radical commitment to performance art.

Sunday 21 to Sunday 28 January 2018

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**III THE VIEW FROM NOWHERE**

Semiconductor (Ruth Jarman et Joe Gerhardt)

Semiconductor plays with animated images to create short films, sculptures and immersive installations whose vocation is to develop a deeper knowledge of our physical universe, but also to underline the limits of this quest. By creating connections between matter, sound and images, Semiconductor blurs the lines between perceptible and imperceptible phenomena, between what is tangible and what escapes our senses.

Friday 6 April to Sunday 3 June 2018

**Curator : Patrick Gyger**
In partnership with le CERN (Genève) et FACT (Liverpool)

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**III CARESSER LA PEAU DU CIEL**

The Leu Family has been creating tattoos for several generations. They know the importance of creating one’s own world: a world that is not entirely closed, a skin, a place of exchange that defines the contours of an identity.

Friday 6 April to Sunday 13 May 2018

**Curator : Christian Jelk**

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**III MANGASIA**

Wonderland of Asian Comics

Mangasia is the first exhibition to showcase the connections all mangas share throughout Asia, and to shine a light on their diversity through the largest selection of original drawings ever presented, most of which have rarely (if ever!) left their home countries! Curated by British critic and journalist Paul Gravett, Mangasia offers an in-depth exploration of this new continent known as “Mangasia.”

Friday 22 June to late August

**Curator : Paul Gravett**
Production : Barbican International Entreprises
festivals
For the past five years, le lieu unique and l’Institut de Relations Internationales et Stratégiques (Iris), with the support of Nantes Métropole, has organized Les Géopolitiques de Nantes: an annual event featuring fifteen panel discussions with roughly sixty lecturers who will decipher the strategic challenges confronting our world. Explaining, offering perspectives, multiplying the dialogue between specialists and the public... these are this festival’s objectives.

Friday 29 & Saturday 30 September

**FEMMES SOUS LES VIOLENCES (working title)**

Since last season, le lieu unique and the association, EthicA, have created a new annual event entitled Question(s) d’éthique that strives to bring a new perspective to the major social debates that question morality and our capacity to live peacefully together. Sociologists, political scientists, philosophers, psychoanalysts, doctors, anthropologists, and more... all come together to tackle the issue of violence against women.

Saturday 02 to Sunday 03 December

**FESTIVAL VARIATIONS**

Musiques pour pianos et claviers

With the help of the BNP Paribas Foundation, le lieu unique has invented a new 8-day festival featuring music made with pianos and keyboards. For this year’s programme, several concerts throughout the city will showcase the creative wealth of musical genres, ranging from jazz to classical, electronic, experimental, improvised or traditional music, and the effervescence born from fusing them together.

Saturday 10 to Sunday 18 March

**LES RENCONTRES DE SOPHIE**

Vérité ou vérités ?

Every year, le lieu unique and Philosophy hold a weekend-long philosophical symposium, better known as Les Rencontres de Sophie. Conferences, round tables, debates, historical seminars, abecedaries... all revolving around a theme that is studied and explored through a philosophical (but also scientific, artistic, or political) perspective. Philosophers, psychoanalysts, historians, political scientists, artists, and writers, all come to share their knowledge, debate and question the way the world operates. And, despite addressing a wide audience, they nevertheless preserve the intellectual rigour that one would expect from a university lecturer.

Friday 23 to Sunday 25 March
ticketing
Ticketing

from Thursday to Saturday from 12.00 to 19.00

> at the ticket office 2, rue de la Biscuiterie - 44 000 Nantes
  
> by phone : +33(0)2 40 12 14 34
  
> online on lelieuunique.com

III Rates

• 23€ / 12€*