Visiting Artist Series presents
COMPANY WANG RAMIREZ
Monchichi
March 8, 2017, 8 PM
KAY THEATRE
at The Clarice
Visiting Artist Series presents

COMPANY WANG RAMIREZ
Monchichi

This performance will last approximately 55 minutes without intermission.

Join the artists for a conversation with the audience following the performance.

Artistic direction.................................................................Wang Ramirez
conception, choreography, dance

Dramaturgy.................................................................Vincent Rafis

Light design.................................................................Cyril Mulon

Set design.................................................................Ida Ravn

Costumes.................................................................Honji Wang

Composer..................................................Ilia Koutchoukov aka Everydayz /+∞

Arrangement.................................................................Fabien Biron

Additional music........................................Carlos Gardel, Alva Noto, Nick Cave & Warren Ellis

The bedrock piece by duo Wang Ramirez, Monchichi creates a portrait of a new, urban, mobile, and intercultural generation. Here, they choose their artistic language as freely as they did one-another, even though they speak different languages... or several. Dance is their language. Sébastien, French with Spanish origins, crosses choreographic paths with Honji, born in Frankfurt to Korean parents, because, in this open-minded world, everyone can be a cultural mix with blended origins. Honji brings suppleness and Asian musicality to her movement, and Sébastien brings his Mediterranean vivacity. Together, they tackle Monchichi as they construct their life – in perfect balance between masculine and feminine. Their dance puts its virtuosity at the service of a quest for truth, where nothing is left to conceal doubt, difficulties in communicating, or especially the joys of togetherness. In the end, Monchichi is a piece full of humor and self-deprecation; a joint self-portrait that celebrates daily life using as much humor as it does poetry.
Sébastien Ramirez and Honji Wang cultivate a dance rooted in Hip Hop that incorporates all artistic languages. This French-Hispanic-Korean couple, inseparable in life as onstage, translates their complicity in difference through artistic blending. Without denying their origins in urban dance, they create works with multiple entries. Their choreographic research results directly from their “blended” identities. In addition, their interrogations are based on human relationships, both intimate and group. Confronted daily to the realities of this new urban mobility, they never seize to deepen their quest of finding new choreographic languages. Their means of expression are built on technical virtuosity, poetry, humor, and the questioning of human identities.

Since its creation in 2007 in Perpignan, France, the Company has continued to develop its creative formats - from duos to the distribution of dancers and riggers - by shaping its identity and singularity within a choreographic landscape. The Company’s projects, accompanied from the beginning by Dirk Korell and for six years by camin aktion (for all development and production), have rapidly received support from the national theaters of Perpignan (Théâtre de l’Archipel) and Narbonne (Le Théâtre) as well as from the Initiatives d’Artistes en Danses Urbaines. Since 2012, additional support has come from La Villette (Paris) and the Théâtre de la Ville (Paris). The Company receives company support by Ministry of Culture, Regional Council of Occitanie / Pyrénées-Méditerranée, and the County Council Pyrénées Orientales. Réseau en Scène Languedoc-Roussillon supports mobility and co-productions. Since 2014, the Company also receives support from the BNP Paribas Foundation for project development.

Company Wang Ramirez is represented by Clash66, a non-profit organization based in Perpignan.
Honji Wang is a dancer, choreographer and artistic director born and raised in Germany by Korean parents. Wang’s dance language is an abstraction of hip-hop dance and has influences of earlier martial arts and ballet training.

She was invited as a guest artist to perform a duo with acclaimed choreographer Akram Khan titled *The Pursuit of Now* and accompanied by pianist Shahin Novrasli. She also collaborated with compelling and avant-garde female flamenco dancer Rocío Molina in the duet *Felahikum*.

Wang was invited to Madonna’s final auditions in New York, where her outstanding performance earned her an invitation to tour and perform for the Rebel Heart Tour.

She was part of the movement research team for Wachowsky Brothers’ *Jupiter Ascending* and had her first film experience as the Mongolian witch in the movie *Hansel & Gretel*, directed by Tommy Wirkola.

Born in the south of France, Sébastien Ramirez is an internationally renowned dancer, choreographer and artistic director. Starting as a gifted b-boy, Ramirez soon won major hip-hop championships and acted as a judge for numerous international competitions. Winner of the Redbull BC ONE French championship, he founded his company and developed a new vision of space and choreography, bringing hip-hop dance to a wider and new audience.

Akram Khan invited him to direct a personal workshop at Théâtre de la Ville in Paris, a recognition of his unique quality of movement. He was also invited by Sadler’s Wells as one of the five choreographers of *RIOT OffSpring*, a unique dance piece performed to Igor Stravinsky’s iconic *The Rite of Spring* played by Southbank Sinfonia.

Most recently, Ramirez was invited by Madonna to choreograph for her Rebel Heart Tour.
Exclusive North American Representation:
John Luckacovic / Eleanor Oldham
info@2luck.com | www.2luck.com

Executive production:
Company Wang Ramirez, Clash66

Co-production:
Act’art – Conseil général de Seine-et-Marne
Le Théâtre*/Scène Nationale de Narbonne
Initiatives d’Artistes en Danses Urbaines
(Fondation de France – Parc de la Villette with the support of Caisse des Dépôts et l’Acsé)
Tanzhaus NRW Düsseldorf
Communauté de Communes de la Région Lézignanaise

Support:
Regional council Languedoc-Roussillon
Regional Cultural Affairs Directorate Occitanie
Hebbel am Ufer – HAU, Berlin
Hauptstadtkulturfonds (Senat Berlin)
Casa Musicale Perpignan
Association Départementale de Développement de la Musique et de la Danse de l’Aude
Réseau en Scène Languedoc-Roussillon

Thanks to:
Dansens Hus Stockholm

Company Wang Ramirez - Clash66 receives a company support by Regional Cultural Affairs Directorate Occitanie, Regional council of Occitanie / Pyrénées-Méditerranée and the County council Pyrénées Orientales.
The company receives the support of Foundation BNP Paribas for the development of its projects.
Sébastien Ramirez & Honji Wang are associated artists of Théâtre de l’Archipel, scène nationale de Perpignan for the seasons 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17.
We’re excited to have Wang Ramirez with us this week to share their amazing work with so many students and faculty members who are here as part of the American College Dance Association’s regional meeting. Tomorrow they will be teaching a technique class for conference participants, and yesterday they taught in our School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies in MFA student Chris Law’s Hip Hop class.
THE NOUVEAU CLASSICAL PROJECT (USA)
Sacred-Profane
FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2017 . 8PM
A musical ensemble mash-up incorporating visual and fashion elements into its concert experience.

THIRD COAST PERCUSSION (Chicago)
SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2017 . 8PM
The energy of a rock concert, the sophistication of classical music and the innovation of interactive technology meet in this inventive percussion ensemble.

QUATUOR EBÈNE (France)
SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2017 . 3PM
Known for its versatility to perform across genres, French string quartet Quatuor Ebène’s concerts are filled with energy and enthusiasm.

NEXTLOOK: ORANGE GROVE DANCE (Takoma Park, MD)
FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2017 . 7PM
JOE’S MOVEMENT EMPORIUM
Pay what you wish, no tickets required.
In collaboration with Joe’s, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Brentwood Arts Exchange and their workshop participants, Orange Grove Dance will investigate the personal and uniquely traversed spaces of the community.

AUGUSTIN HADELICH (New York)
with Joyce Yang, piano
SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2017 . 3PM
Known for his impressive technique and gorgeous tone, violinist Augustin performs a varied classical repertoire.

MARYLAND DAY
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017 . 10AM-4PM
FREE, NO TICKETS REQUIRED
This yearly campus-wide open house features artistic performances, experiences and activities at The Clarice and across the University of Maryland.

NEXTLOOK: MEGHAN ABADOO
Gatekeepers
FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2017 . 7PM
JOE’S MOVEMENT EMPORIUM
Pay what you wish, no tickets required.
An immersive dance-theatre work that seeks to unearth the web of influences that impact decisions relating to race and structural inequity.
**GIVING DAY** is the single largest day of giving at the University of Maryland and you’re invited to join us during this record-breaking event. Today, we have come together to support the artists and creative innovators who we engage through our Artist Partner Program. These artists are committed to sparking exploration and discovery through participatory arts experiences.

*We need your support to keep going.*

**ALL GIFTS, REGARDLESS OF SIZE, HAVE THE POWER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

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**THE CLARICE**

The **Visiting Artist Series** at The Clarice engages regional, national and international artists and creative innovators. Through performances, extensive engagement programs and creation residencies, the Visiting Artist Series creates intriguing opportunities for our students and community to participate in a world of discovery and exploration. To learn more, visit theclarice.umd.edu/app