

# OTUS

CIA O&B  
INFO PACK



COMPANY  
O.B

# ABOUT THE SHOW

*Two beings living in an abstract world, Otus is rooted in human nature. Here is a unique perspective, a glimpse into their lives, motivations, relationships and habits. Utilising circus, physical theatre, movement, clown and set design Otus explores tension, the space between characters, objects and the wooden world in which they reside. With precarious piles of cut wooden planks, a rope, table and trapeze, their peculiar domain is set. Immersed in their own nuances and rendered through acrobatics, juggling, rope, trapeze and staff manipulation, their world unfolds.*



# ABOUT THE WORK

*Oliveira & Bachtler believe that it is in the exploration of many stage disciplines that they will find their own form of artistic expression. With ambition to create a unique and multi-faceted physical language.*



# ABOUT THE COMPANY

*Company Oliveira & Bachtler was founded by Hugo Oliveira and Sage Bachtler Cushman in 2013. An alumna of The National Institute of Circus Arts, Sage specialized under Helene Embling. Hugo is an alumni of the London International School of Performing Arts, where he studied with pedagogical director Thomas Pratkanis. Hired for the creation of NoFit State's award winning show Bianco, they completed several tours together before forming Oliveira & Bachtler.*

*Supported and funded by the Wales Millennium Centre's creative development program, Incubator, they created and presented their first collaboration Portus. This stage of development was then presented at the Wales Millennium Centre in 2013.*

*Chapter's creative producer of dance programme, Coreo Cymru, in association with Chapter and NoFit State Circus subsequently selected the company to create work in two stages of development. The first stage presented*



*their second collaboration Dessert Trees to an international panel at the 2015 Wales Dance Platform. Upon presentation, Company Oliveira & Bachtler were offered continued support and funding through Coreo Cymru and Arts Council of Wales to develop a full-length production entitled Otus.*



*Oliveira & Bachtler also received support from the Black-E, CACE Cultural do Porto and Cia UmporUm as well as funding from the Arts Council of England. In 2016 they presented the company's first tour of Otus at the Dance House Wales Millennium Centre, Festival Cata Vento, The Riverfront, Black-E and Theatre Brycheiniog with support from Coreo Cymru, Chapter and the Arts Council of Wales' Lottery Scheme.*

*Sage Bachtler Cushman and Hugo Oliveira moved to Wales in 2012, when hired for the creation of NoFit State's award winning show Bianco. Although they continue to work internationally, Sage and Hugo have based themselves in Cardiff. In Wales they have performed, taught and/or directed with companies such as NoFit State Circus, Citrus Arts and the Wales Millennium Centre.*



# SAGE BACHTLER CUSHMAN

*An alumna of the National Institute of Circus Arts, Sage specialised in dance trapeze under Helene Embling, gaining a scholarship for her studies. Sage then joined Tick Tock Aerial Dance where she choreographed and performed for Domestic Variations. Hired for the creation of NoFit State's award winning show Bianco, she worked closely with director Firenza Guidi to create and perform the grand finale, touring for three seasons.*

*Sage, born in the United States of America has worked in France, the Netherlands, Egypt, Australia, Canada, Ireland, Scotland, England, Wales and the United States of America, with Tick Tock Aerial Dance, The Aerialistas, Teatro ZinZanni, Citrus Arts and NoFit State Circus among others.*

[www.sagebcushman.com](http://www.sagebcushman.com)



*'Sage Bachtler Cushman's dance-trapeze finale has.. impact, combining first-rate skills with a joyful, unashamed pleasure..'*

*Lynn Gardner, The Guardian*

# HUGO OLIVEIRA

Hugo is an Alumni of the London International School of Performing Arts where he studied under Thomas Pratkanis, gaining a distinction for his final project, *The Fridge*. *The Fridge* has since received funding and support from The Arts Council of Wales, Corda Bomba, and Teatro Municipal Da Guarda. He also received funding from Pontio for the premier of his outdoor show *Kaboom*.

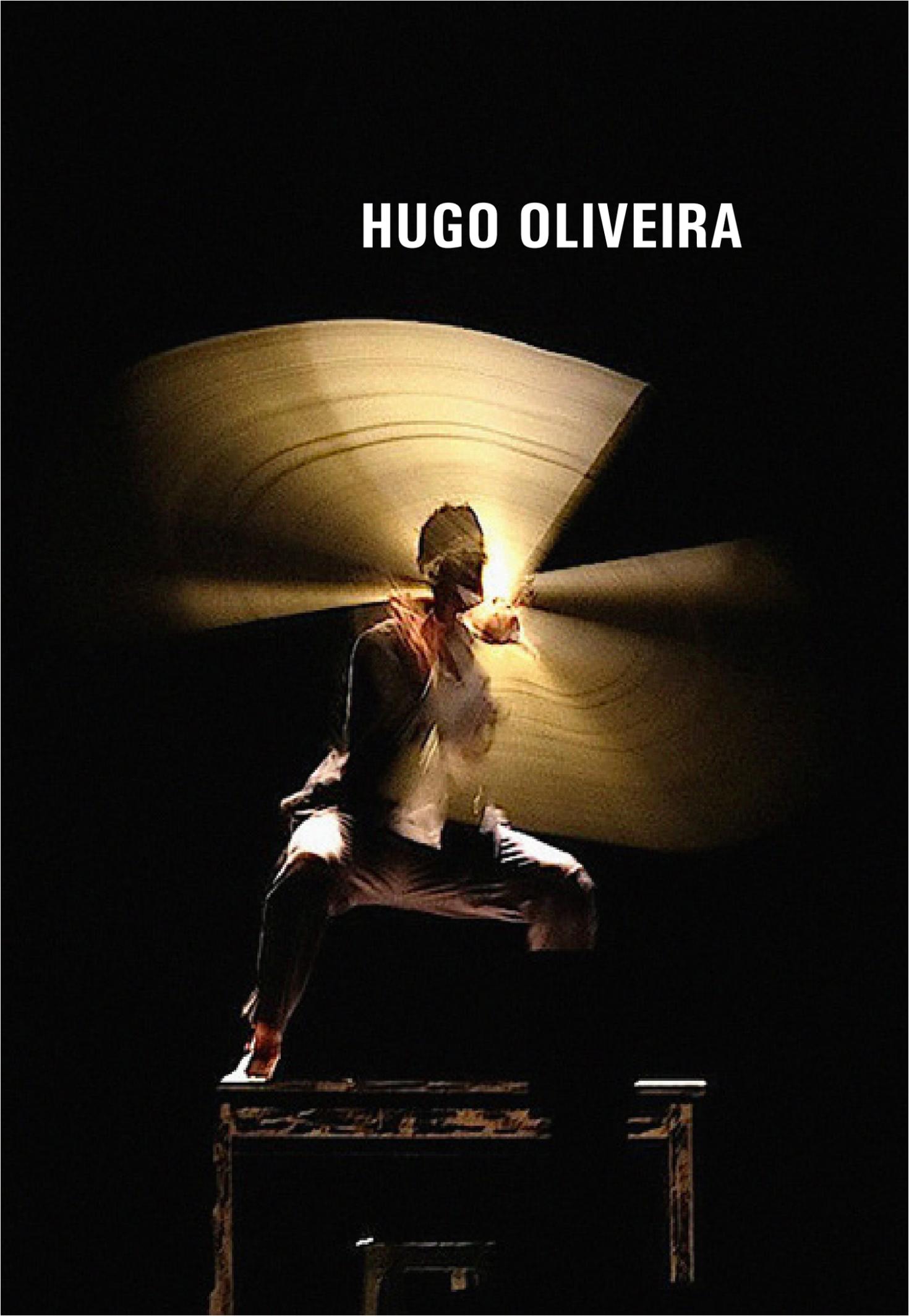
Hired for the creation of NoFit State's award winning show *Bianco*, Hugo performed for three seasons. Also known for directing, Hugo has worked in Portugal and the UK with *Historia e contos da minha Vila* (community project for Festival Cata Vento), directing Christian Lee for *POP* and a show for the *The Black-E* (commissioned through NoFit State Circus and *The Black-E*).

[www.cia-huma.com](http://www.cia-huma.com)

***“an exquisitely understated juggling act so fluid that the balls seem like an extension of the juggler’s limbs, possibly even a manifestation of his thoughts.”***

*(Lyn Gardner, The Guardian)*

Hugo, a Portuguese native has performed in Ireland, Scotland, England, Wales, Portugal, Spain, France, India, Brazil, Emirates Arabs United and Egypt among others. He has worked with companies such as Radar 360, Citrus Arts, Leo&Yam and Glyndebourne Opera, among others.



## SUPPORT

*Coreo Cymru, Chapter's Creative Producer for Dance programme, in partnership with Chapter and Nofit State Circus is supporting the creation of accessible and high quality work which fuses circus and dance. The Development Commission have selected to support Company O&B in further develop their work Otus, previously presented as part of Wales Millennium Centre's Incubator Programme.*

## CONTACTS

*Sage Bachtler Cushman  
sagebcushman@gmail.com*

*Hugo Oliveira  
hugocoisaetal@gmail.com*

***“Otus is a ‘sense-stirringly wonderful’ show that proves the value of harnessing specialist expertise in cross-disciplinary experiments. Neither, as-we-know-it, dance nor circus, the resultant compound is a distinct success.”***

*Circus Diaries*

***“Bravo to the braveness of OTUS and the imagination of all involved.”***

*Art Scene in wales*

***“Occasionally baffling, often beautiful and arresting throughout, OTUS certainly deserves to be widely seen.”***

*British Theatre Guide*

***“...it was a wonderful universe. Each piece of Choreography was superb..”***

***“..a haunting/lingering feel... The tone is beautiful.”***

***“I could have watched them forever.”***

*Incubator presentation at the Wales Millennium Centre.*

# ARTISTIC TEAM

*Concept: Hugo Oliveira, Sage Bachtler Cushman*

*Performers: Hugo Oliveira, Sage Bachtler Cushman*

*Direction: Hugo Oliveira, Sage Bachtler Cushman*

*Dramaturgy: Hugo Oliveira, Sage Bachtler Cushman, Luciano Amarelo*

*Artistic support: Luciano Amarelo*

*Scenography: Hugo Oliveira, Sage Bachtler Cushman, Bruno Neto*

*Photography: Ashleigh Georgiou and JP Martins*

*Producer: Carole Blade, Rodrigo Matos*

*Light design: Hugo Oliveira, Sage Bachtler Cushman, Sergio Vilela*

*Sound and light operation: Sergio Vilela*

*Costumes: Carolina Sousa, Thomas Benjamin*

*Coproduction: Coreo Cymru & Chapter, Arts Council of England, Company Oliveira & Bachtler*

*Artistic residency: Cace Cultural do Porto, Companhia Umpor1, Teatro municipal de Vila do Conde, The Black-E, Wales Millenium Centre.*

*Thanks to: Corda bamba, Circolando, Luciano Amarelo, Companhia umpor1, Iago discount*



## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

- 55 min presentation, performance designed for both indoors and outdoor venues;
- The performance is designed for the general public, families, schools, etc, with a recommended age of 6;
- Workshops can be included as part of the package presentations of OTUS (refer to the workshop sheet).

## STAGE REQUIREMENTS

- Min. stage dimensions: 9m(depth) x 10m (width) x 8m( height);
- Flat and levelled floor;
- Black out required for indoor performances, outdoors performance to be performed in the evening;
- Two onstage rigging points (refer to set design information sheet);
- Get in: one day prior to the presentation;
- Get out: 3 hours.

## COMPANY REQUIREMENTS

- Touring team 3/4 people ( 2 performers/1-2 technician);
- The venue must provide 3-4 stage hands for the get in and get out and 1 light technician;
- 2 back stage rooms;
- Accommodation;
- Meals.





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CYMRU**



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**Y Loteri Genedlaethol**  
trwy Gyngor Celfyddydau Cymru

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