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A DELIGHTFULLY DARK AND MESMERIZING FEAT OF VISUAL STORYTELLING

ARTSEMERSON PRESENTS THE NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE OF

WHEN ANGELS FALL

CREATED AND DIRECTED BY RAPHAËLLE BOITEL

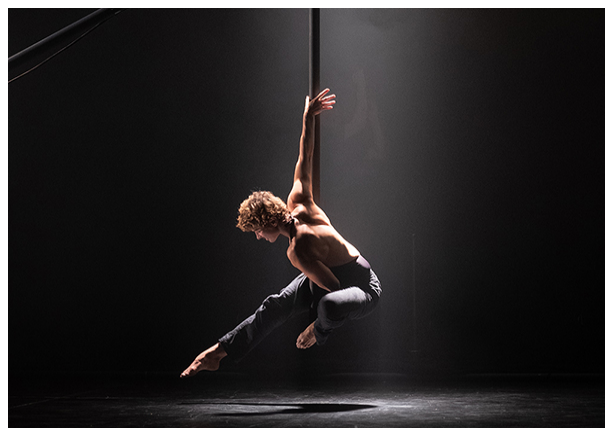
FIVE PERFORMANCES ONLY, FEBRUARY 20 – 24, 2019 AT
THE EMERSON CUTLER MAJESTIC THEATRE

Press Performance is Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 7:30pm

[Boston, MA – January 11, 2019] – ArtsEmerson is honored to host the New England premiere of **When Angels Fall**, a riveting tale of flightless angels surviving in the wake of a global collapse. As a mesmerizing contortionist and aerialist herself, French creator and director Raphaëlle Boitel's storytelling is singular, and her ability to transform space in the air to the ground with large scale illusions – and bodies streaming across the stage – is magical. Boitel brings her spellbinding visual storytelling (no words are uttered on stage) for five performances only, February 20–24, at the Emerson Cutler Majestic Theatre. [WATCH VIDEO](#)

Tickets for **When Angels Fall** start at just \$20 and may be purchased online at www.ArtsEmerson.org, by phone at 617.824.8400, or in person at the box office. Group, student, and senior discounts are also available.

Blending circus, dance, and cinema, **When Angels Fall** is a dystopia where the resilience of the human spirit is pitted against the sterile and mechanical. Drawing inspiration from such disparate artists as Pina Bausch, David Lynch and her longtime collaborator, James Thierrée, this delightfully dark and entrancing theatrical premiere explores how the beauty of letting go gives us the strength we need to rise. **When Angels Fall** will summon laughter and awe during its harsh descent from the heavens. *Photographer credit: Sophian Ridel*



“I was delighted to discover the work of Raphaëlle Boitel on her last US tour,” says Artistic Director David Dower. “There is a freshness of voice and of spirit alive in her that charms and powers the deep, dark, hallucinatory beauty in her work. Boston audiences are well-versed in the elements she’s mixing to create her visually stunning and dream-haunting pieces. She’s combining aspects of circus, modern dance, and multimedia performance— but her results are entirely new to us. I am excited to introduce a fast-rising female-led company to the city.”

When Angels Fall is co-produced by Cie L’Oublié(e) - Raphaëlle Boitel and Peak Performances at Montclair State University (NJ) with US Tour Partners Peak Performances at Montclair State University (NJ), ArtsEmerson, Emerson College (MA) and Williams Center for the Arts, Lafayette College (PA).

Listings Information for When Angels Fall

Dates

February 20 - 24, 2019

Venue:

Emerson Cutler Majestic Theatre
219 Tremont Street Boston, MA 02116

Performance Schedule:

Wednesday, February 20, 2019	7:30pm	
Thursday, February 21, 2019	7:30pm	Press Performance
Friday, February 22, 2019	8:00pm	
Saturday, February 23, 2019	8:00pm	
Sunday, February 24, 2019	2:00pm	

Ticket Information:

Online: **ArtsEmerson.org**

Phone: **617-824-8400**

In Person: **Paramount Center Box Office**, open Tuesday-Saturday from 10am-6pm (also open on Sunday 2/3 beginning at 12noon)

Prices range from \$20-\$95 (subject to change)

Production Credits

Direction and Choreography: Raphaëlle Boitel

Artistic Collaboration, Set Design, and Light Design: Tristan Baudoin

Original Soundtrack and Sound Design: Arthur Bison

Costumes: Lilou Hérin

Rigging, Machinery and Set Design: Nicolas Lourdelle

Artistic Assistant: Clara Henry

Cast Credits

Alba Faivre

Loïc Leviel

Nicolas Lourdelle

Clara Henry

Emily Zuckerman

Tristan Baudoin

For production stills and other media kit assets, click [here](#).

About ArtsEmerson

ArtsEmerson is Boston's leading presenter of contemporary world theatre. We are dedicated to engaging all communities through stories that reveal and deepen our connection to each other. By cultivating diversity in the arts and in the audience, we ignite public conversation around our most vexing societal challenges as a catalyst for overcoming them. Founded in 2010 by Robert J. Orchard — the year the U.S. Census confirmed there was no single cultural majority in Boston — we committed to building a cultural institution that reflects the diversity of our city. We program a full season of performances, film and dialogue that invites each of us to engage in a more contemporary narrative of Boston as a truly global city. ArtsEmerson is led by Artistic Director, David Dower and Executive Director, David Howse. For more information, visit ArtsEmerson.org.

About Emerson College

Based in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,780 undergraduates and 670 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic. The College has an active network of 39,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit Emerson.edu.

Creative and Cast Biographies

Raphaëlle Boitel – Creator, Director & Choreographer

Raphaëlle Boitel was born in 1984 and started studying theatre and performing when she was 6 years old. Noticed by Annie Fratellini, she joined the National School of Circus Arts Fratellini. From 1998 to 2010, she worked with James Thierrée in *La Symphonie du Hanne-ton – The Junebug Symphony* and in *La Veillée des Abysses*. During those 13 years of touring, she also performed in theater, cinema, television movies (directed by Marc Lainé, Lisa Guédy, Graham Eatough in Scotland, Luc Meyer, Serreau Hill, Jean-Paul Scarpitta...), events (Jean-François Zygel), music videos, and in various cabarets in New York, Miami, London... In 2012, she worked under the direction of Aurélien Bory in *Géométrie de Caoutchouc*, founded her own company, and worked on her first personal creations. In 2013, she created *Consolations ou interdiction de passer par dessus bord*, with 3 artists from the Academy Fratellini, and worked on the choreography of the Opera *Macbeth*, at the Scala in Milan, directed by Giorgio Barberio Corsetti. In 2014, she created *The Forgotten*, a long form show of "circus theater" and in 2015, *5es Hurlants*-an homage to circus. Soon after, she choreographed the Opera *La Belle Hélène* at the Théâtre du Châtelet, directed by Giorgio Barberio Corsetti and Pierrick Sorin. In 2017, she wrote and performed a short-form solo, *The Black Beast*, a metaphor of her past life as a contortionist. That same year, she choreographed the Opera *Alcione* at the Opéra Comique, directed by Louise Moaty and conducted by Jordi Savall. Boitel is currently touring throughout France with *5es Hurlants*, *When Angels Fall*, and *The Black Beast*, and is working on a project in collaboration with the Opéra National de Bordeaux, at their home, the Grand Théâtre de Bordeaux. A new performance for young audiences, *Un Contre Un*, will debut in France in January 2020, and in May 2020, *Alcione* will be performed at Barcelona's Liceu.

Tristan Baudoin – Set and Lighting Designer

Baudoin grew up in an artistic environment. Passionate about the visual arts, he started working at 17 in show techniques. His training focused heavily on lighting and stage machinery techniques. He accumulated experience in live shows, television, and events. In 1998, he focused his activities on theatre, music, and dance, favoring creation work, with many artists of the Toulouse region. In 2004, he met Aurélien Bory and joined the Cie 111, to which he fully committed and became its stage manager for 10 years. He developed his knowledge in stage

design, machinery, human flights, and robotics, driving the industrial robot of *No Object*. In 2011, he met Raphaëlle Boitel. He now collaborates with her in the conception, stage design, lighting, and technical management on all her artistic projects.

Arthur Bison – Sound Designer

Bison started working at 19 as a studio assistant for Dan Levy, composer for film and dance and founding member of the band The Do. Between 2006 and 2013, he notably participated in the recordings of the score of the movie *Darling* and on award-winning albums *A mouthful* and *Both Ways Open Jaws*. He also accompanied the band on tour on backline and as tour manager. Alongside this work, he started working with choreographer Johanna Levy in 2008, composing and recording the music for her shows *Hotel Mind* (2008), *After* (2014), and *Twist* (2016). He met Raphaëlle Boitel in 2011 and has since written and recorded the music for her shows *The Forgotten* (2014), *5es Hurlants* (2015), and now *When Angels Fall* (2018).

Lilou Hérin – Costumer Designer & Artist

Since 1998, Hérin has mainly worked as a costume designer and accessories manager. In 2006, she and her collaborator Victoria Chaplin won the Molière award for the costumes of *The Junebug Symphony*. Until 2012, she participated in the creation of all of James Thierrée's shows, before leaving to work with Raphaëlle Boitel on her creations. Alongside her work on costumes, she has joined the cast as a performer ever since *The Forgotten*.

Alba Faiyre – Artist

Faiyre is an accomplished aerial artist, specializing in Chinese pole, aerial rope, and trapeze. In 2009, she joined the National Circus School of Montreal where she graduated in 2012, moved by her encounter with the choreographer Johanne Madore. Since then, her work has combined circus and dance, focusing on research around emotion. In France and abroad, she has practiced traditional and contemporary circus, cabaret, opera, dance, street theater... This wide range of forms is unified by a constant personal search: that of the danced circus motion. In 2016, she met Raphaëlle Boitel on the opera *Alcione*, and she continues to work with her in *When Angels Fall*.

Loïc Leviel – Artist

Leviel was born in Lille in 1993, and started in the circus at 6 years old, before getting into theatre, dance and improvisation. He began specializing in tight wire at the Piste d'Azur school, and developed his clown skills. In 2013, he joined the Académie Fratellini as a tight wire artist, continued street theatre, and joined the Cie El Teatro Del Silencio. As part of his curriculum, he also worked with Pierre Meunier, Stuart Seide, Philippe Fenwick. A graduate of the National School of Circus Arts, he continues his work with Raphaëlle Boitel in *5es Hurlants* and *When Angels Fall*.

Nicolas Lourdelle – Artist

Lourdelle graduated from the 12th National Circus Arts Center promotion in 2000, performing *The Iota Tribe*, directed by Francesca Lattuada, with the specialties of Chinese pole and wire. The same year, he participated in the creation of the company Baro d'Evel Cirk and performed in three of their works. In 2006, he met David Bobée, Cie Rictus and worked on three of his creations. Following that, he performed roles in various creations of Aurélien Bory, Cie 111, where he met Raphaëlle Boitel and Tristan Baudoin. From 2009, alongside his career as an artist, he trained and perfected his techniques in rigging and as fly crew. Since then, he has worked at the Pôle national des arts du cirque d'Amiens, as a referent Zénith d'Amiens, helping artists, directors and choreographers with rigging and safety issues. In 2017, he joined Raphaëlle Boitel on the opera *Alcione* and now works with her in all the Company's work, in a role mixing his artistic and technical abilities.

Clara Henry – Artist

Henry, a dancer and actress, studied at the Conservatoire Régional de Nancy where she won in 2009 the gold medal in classical and contemporary dance. In 2014, she joined the Ecole

Internationale Jacques Lecoq and in 2015 studied the Art de la performance et sculpture course at the Académie royale des Beaux-Arts de Bruxelles. She continued her formation with Ana Rodriguez (Maguy Marin Cie). Between 2004 and 2016, she performed in shows from Julien Ficely, Christian Bourigault, Brice Kapel, Richard Siegel...with the companies Bud Blumenthal, Micantis, Silex, Good Dog, T&T and the flying circus (Brussels), Encounter, Les Butineurs, 104 (Australia), and Cie Maria-Clara Villa Lobos. In 2017, she founded her own company GingerCandy and created the show *Appel d'air*. The same year, she joined the Cie L'Oubliée and performed in *5es Hurlants* and *When Angels Fall*.

Emily Zuckerman – Artist

Zuckerman is an artist and performer, specializing in acrobatics, dance, and aerial rope. A passion for creative practice and a desire to understand the invisible brought her to study visual arts and cognitive science at the University of California-Berkeley. Interested in further exploring the limits and nuances of human experience, Emily moved to Paris in 2012 to study at Académie Fratellini. In 2016 Emily joined Raphaëlle Boitel in the opera *Alcione*, after which Boitel proposed they continue their work together in *When Angels Fall*.

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