

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

Grupo de Rua dance performance

“Inoah”

September 1, 19:00; September 2, 15:00 (doors open 30 minutes prior to each performance)

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Studio A

Brazilian state-of-the-art street dancers return to Yamaguchi for the first show of their new piece in Asia!

The internationally renowned Brazilian dance company Grupo de Rua present their new piece “Inoah” at the Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM].

The company has built a growing world-side reputation for disintegrating and translating the rules and style of “street dance,” which is becoming increasingly popular also here in Japan, into thrilling stage performances. Their pieces are primarily characterized by a mixture of choreographer Bruno Beltrão’s unique sensibility, and exquisite movements that demonstrate the dancers’ highly advanced technical skills. This is the group’s first appearance in Japan since 2009, when they showed their piece “H3” at YCAM.

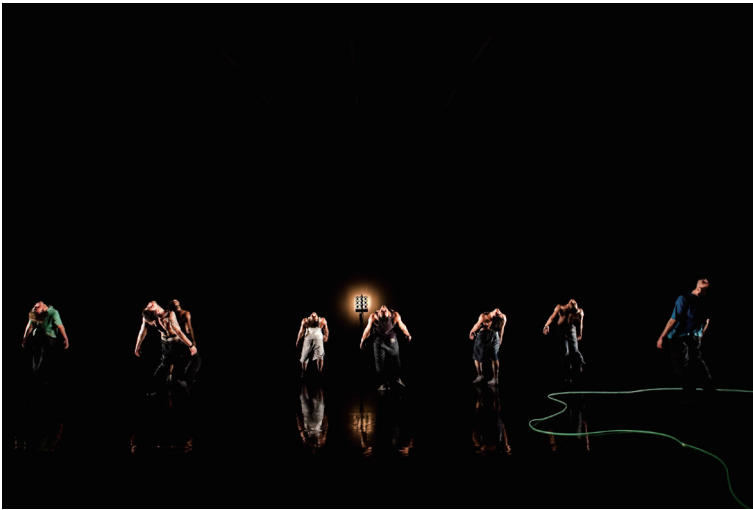
“Inoah” is the latest work by the company that has been addressing social topics such as issues of division and confrontation in cities around the globe, by way of dance moves on an overwhelmingly high technical level. Grupo de Rua continue to push the boundaries of dance with their disintegration and reorganization of street dance, through new challenges that highlight at once the explosive energy of dance, and the critical approach to interpreting what “street dance” is all about. Look forward to this first performance of their newest piece in Asia!



Grupo de Rua "Inoah" (2017)

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From the street into the theater: Grupo de Rua continue to break new ground in dance



Grupo de Rua "H3" (2009/YCAM)

Having emerged at the American east and west coasts in the 1970s, street dance has produced new dance styles known as "rocking" and "popping," the influences of which can today be observed in the local dance scenes at places around the world. The street dance style was gradually introduced to Japan in the late 1970s, and following the revision of education guidelines in 2011, it was even incorporated in physical education in Japanese elementary and high schools. It is said that the number of street dancers in Japan amounts to more than six million today.

Grupo de Rua is a dance company based in Brazil, whose members share a background in street dance. Leader Bruno Beltrão familiarized with street dance as a teenager, and by either ignoring or proactively applying its rules when he was in his twenties, he transformed street dance into a form of performing arts for the theater stage. Usually created over long periods of rehearsals in which combinations of the individual dancers' movements are fine-tuned to the utmost, the Grupo de Rua's pieces achieved great international success as a totally unique art form. One of their most well-known works, "H3" (premiered in 2008) has been performed more than 170 times in 30 countries around the world, including a well-received show at YCAM in 2009.

Nine years have passed since, and after a temporary breakup, the group returns with new members selected from among more than 100 street dancers, to present their newest piece, "Inoah" in Yamaguchi.

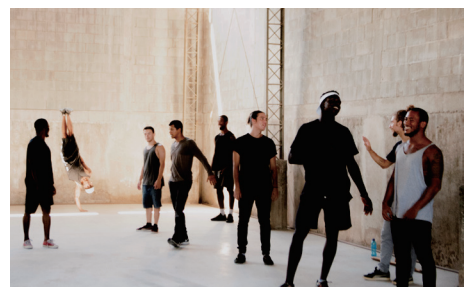
Bruno Beltrão



(c) TELMO KEIM

Born 1979 in Niterói, a town in the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro. After encountering hip hop at the age of 13, in 1996 he founded the Grupo de Rua (de Niterói) together with Rodrigo Bernardi. Initially active mainly at festivals and TV competitions, in 2001 they ventured into the realm of contemporary dance with the duo piece "From Popping to Pop." It marked at once a turning point for them as choreographers, as they liberated street dance from the technical supremacism, and the patterned and mimicked structures of dance. Their growing international reputation is reflected in the reception of the ballet-tanz magazine's "Upcoming Choreographer of the Year" award in 2005, and a Bessie Award in 2010.

Grupo de Rua



Founded in 1996 by Bruno Beltrão and Rodrigo Bernardi. Beltrão has been leading the company since Bernardi's departure in 2001. Their pieces "Too Legit to Quit" (2002), "Telesquat" (2003), "H2" (2005) and "H3" (2008) have been performed to great acclaim in more than thirty countries around the world. After unveiling "Crackz" in 2013, the group took a temporary hiatus, but returned into the focus of public attention with new members and a new piece, "Inoah."

A piece that addresses division, confrontation, oppression, and other contemporary social issues



Grupo de Rua "Inoah" (2017)

Grupo de Rua's latest work "Inoah" that will be performed this time is a dance piece that illustrates the daily routine of cities around the world today.

Installed on a stage with gradually changing illumination – representing the changing light conditions of a day between dawn and dusk – are screens showing footage of trees under a blue sky at noon, and a starry sky at night. These screens look like windows, and together with the various other mechanisms, they evoke in the audience a sensation as if being taken out of the theater and into the street. The dancers appear out of the darkness on the stage, and perform precise combinations of all sorts of quick movements, so close to each other that one expects them to bump into one another any time. Their actions tell thrilling stories that remind the viewer of the various encounters, collisions, attacks, and feelings of solidarity and anxiety that occur within our daily lives.

Having avoided dealing with explicit social topics in his previous works, in this latest piece, named after the city where it was created, Beltrão addresses such fundamental themes as "things happening in our towns right now." The performance is in fact interspersed with elements that highlight all sorts of problems and dangers lurking in contemporary society. Like in the previous "H3," the stage is divided into differently illuminated sections, between which the dancers operate like immigrants or fugitives crossing national borders, and thereby evoke issues that concern not only Brazil but numerous other countries as well.

Nine years after "H3," which has been described as "state-of-the-art street dance," Grupo de Rua return with a new performance charged with greater tension and punch than ever.

General Information

Grupo de Rua dance performance "Inoah"

September 1, 19:00; September 2, 15:00

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM], Studio A

Doors open 30 minutes prior to each performance

Duration: ca. 50 minutes

Presented by Yamaguchi City Foundation for Cultural Promotion

In association with Yamaguchi City, Yamaguchi City Board of Education, and
Embassy of Brazil

Supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, Japan Arts Council

Technical support by YCAM InterLab

Produced by Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

Related Event

Grupo de Rua "Dance Battle in Korogaru Koen Park Commons"

September 2, 13:00-13:30

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM], Studio B

Admission free (no reservation required)

[Regarding participation in the Dance Battle (admission free)
please read the information on the right.]

The Dance Battle, an open competition of dance skills to music,
will take place at the "Korogaru Koen Commons" during the regular
opening hours of this children's playground.

[Please note that the operations of the Korogaru Koen may be
restricted on this day.]

Next dance performance

Israel Galvan + YCAM

New piece

February 2 & 3, 2019

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM], Studio A

Unveiled in this performance will be a new dance piece realized in
collaboration between YCAM and the Spanish flamenco dancer Israel
Galvan. Details will be announced around September.

Ticket information

Ticket sales start on July 8.

Advanced tickets for "any" members are available
from July 1.

Ticket Prices (all seated):

Advanced: 2,500 yen (general)

"any" and other discounts: 2,000 yen

Age 25 and under : 1,500 yen

At the door: 3,000 yen

・ Special discounts (on advanced tickets only)
are available for seniors (age 65 and above) and
handicapped persons w/ one accompanying care
person.

・ No admission for preschool children

・ For childcare service (charged) during the
performance, please apply to the Ticket Information
by August 25.

Reservation & Inquiries

**Yamaguchi City Foundation for Cultural
Promotion, Ticket Information**

083-920-6111

10:00-19:00 (closed on Tuesdays, or on Wednesday
if Tuesday is a national holiday)

Online Ticket Reservation

www.ycfcp.or.jp

24-hour service [user registration required]

Seven Ticket

Seven code: 066-170

Dance Battle Application

Please fill in the application form on the
website below, or apply directly at the
office on the ground floor of the YCAM
building.

www.ycam.jp

Limited to five participants, applications accepted
until August 19. [Participants will be chose by
lottery if there are more than five applications]