

## PRESS FILE

Le SOIR, Catherine Makereel,  
August 18, 2021

## At the Rencontres de Huy, something to sink one's (baby) teeth into

“Llum” is the first highlight of the Rencontres de théâtre jeune public de Huy. The Nyash company literally splashes the audience with light.

When light becomes a puppet

The award for the most surprising material and subject matter unquestionably goes to the Nyash company. With Llum (from age 4), choreographer Caroline Cornélis has chosen to create a show using light as its primary material. This intangible yet ubiquitous element becomes most fascinating puppet to animate. Effecting the perfect osmosis between dance, music and text, Llum also resolves one of the oldest paradoxes of stage performance: the obligation that the lighting engineer should remain hidden in the dark. Here, the man who operates the light not only finds his rightful place on stage, in plain view, but provides an equally crucial contribution to the manifold sparks of this miraculous show as the choreographer.

With his projectors of all sizes, Frédéric Vannes magically sculpts the luminous ravings of the choreography.

Taking the form of a rectangle on the floor, diffracted on a mirror ball or on a sequin dress and splashing on the faces of the spectators, staging playful shadow puppetry scenes on the curtains, light becomes the title character, provoking astonishing metamorphoses. Dancing with a lampshade over one's head, playing basketball with a small, bouncing star, emerging from mysterious clouds outlined by skillfully lit plumes of smoke: Caroline Cornélis emerges as a will-o'-the-wisp whirling among visual flashes. We should also mention the bright additions of Claire Goldfarb's musical contribution and Laurence Vielle's poetry: “Listen up, it's sparkling!” mischievously whispers the poet. Sun in our hair, stars in our eyes, and sometimes night in our hearts: Llum speaks to all our senses, acting on the audience the same way the sight of a sunflower warms our skin. A shower of brightness that suddenly alleviates a severely gray summer.

La Libre Belgique, Laurence Bertels,  
August 19, 2021

## “Llum” — a whispered children’s story told with dance

Sometimes, you just get mornings like this. Opening the third day of the Rencontres théâtre jeune public, Llum — close to the Latin for “light” — unexpectedly rose and travelled through the early fog to brighten up the souls and raise the enthusiasm of the spectators. A genuine highlight.

Carried by the words, voice and poetry of Laurence Vielle, and lit up by her life partner Frédéric Vannes, choreographer and dancer Caroline Cornélis moves through the shadow to celebrate all the languages of light.

Immersed in a black and white setting, Cornélis engages with the beam of light with elegance, dexterity and poise, narrating the meeting of the sun and the night, the birth of desire, the creation of the earth, the gifts it provides and the respect it deserves from us. Her choreography translates her fascination for light as a material and as an object, and for its sculpting, revealing, and tactile qualities as it twirls, shifts, disappears, draws or hides outlines and shapes.

With light yet resolved steps, with supple yet precise gestures, the dancer explores those fragments without which life couldn’t emerge, shares her delicateness with that of the poet, and above all that of the children, from age 4 or 5, whispering a danced story in their ears — reminding us how meaningful this medium is for this age group.



Photo : Alice Khol

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