

## SOMETHING SIMILAR



PERFORMANCE

### SMALL NARRATION

Wojtek Ziemilski

A lecture-performance that uses contemporary choreography, historical documents, and intimate storytelling to explore issues of identity and memory.

NOVEMBER 16 7PM

## A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT



PERFORMANCE

### MANUELLA BLACKBURN

Sounds in the dark, surrounded by loudspeakers.

NOVEMBER 22 8PM

EMPAC

 Rensselaer



PERFORMANCE

## THE ANGOLA PROJECT

Jeremy Xido / CABULA6

SATURDAY OCTOBER 19 2013 | 4PM 5:30PM 8PM



TEXT: NADER

PERFORMANCE

# THE ANGOLA PROJECT

## Jeremy Xido / CABULA6

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SATURDAY OCTOBER 19 2013 | 4PM 5:30PM 8PM

*The Angola Project* is a series of multimedia performance lectures dedicated to investigating the tangled and convoluted nature of storytelling, global travel, colonial history, and shifting notions of home in our age of radical polycultural mash-up identities. The lecture series plays with and tears apart the tradition of travel lectures that emerged in the 19th century with figures such as Burton Holmes, which eventually led to the practice of contemporary documentary filmmaking—and slippery notions of “authenticity” and “truth.” Like the 19th century travelogue, the trilogy of performances straddle the art forms of performance, screenplay, sound design, dance, filmmaking, and flat out lying as the lectures follow the real life travels of Jeremy Xido from Europe to Africa to Asia as he tries to get a feature film financed. The film is constructed and falls apart before the audience’s eyes again and again, as different versions of truth clash and collide depending on different vested interests.

PART 1 | 4PM

“LISBON” follows Xido’s captivation by the city of Lisbon’s sunset-timed gas lamps and growing idea for a feature film. He finds himself collecting historical tidbits and horticultural facts, twisting random encounters into fanciful story lines as he conducts a slew of interviews with the people he meets there. The stories begin to derail and travel from Europe to Africa to a mulberry tree in Detroit.

Created by Igor Dobricic, Claudia Heu, and Jeremy Xido  
Performed by Jeremy Xido

PART 2 | 5:30PM

“ANGOLA” delves deeper into Xido’s quest to construct a feature film script as he travels to Angola along the Benguela railway, currently being rebuilt by Chinese construction companies. Xido, the sole onstage performer in the entire series, must carefully navigate the minefield of international film financing, constantly reconfiguring his script and feature film pitch accordingly.

Created by Igor Dobricic, Claudia Heu, and Jeremy Xido  
Performed by Jeremy Xido

PART 3 | 8PM

“XIN” is the improbable yet inevitable third part of *The Angola Project*, where personal effort to make sense of the world is reaching its limit—a moment of death that brings us to the heart of the matter; a place where imagery crumbles and flies out of control; where a narrative plot of past/future becomes an excuse for the difficult practice of being here and now.

Created by Igor Dobricic and Jeremy Xido  
Programming and Interactive Design: Ryan Hoppscoole  
Performed by Jeremy Xido

BIOS

**CABULA6**, voted Company of the Year 2009 by Europe’s prestigious cultural magazine, *Ballettanz* and awarded Outstanding Artist 2010 by the Austrian Ministry of Culture, is an internationally acclaimed performance and film company led by artistic co-directors Claudia Heu and Jeremy Xido. The company has presented work around Europe, the United States, South America, Asia, and Africa. Their work overwhelmingly focuses on the border between reality and fiction and the uneasy dialogue between a person’s private sense of identity and its dynamic reception in a broader social context. They search out non-traditional performance spaces that make it possible to walk the line between what is “real” and what is constructed and which can bring audience members face to face with their assumptions and expectations about who they are and with whom they live. CABULA6’s work ranges from stage pieces, to site-specific works, to films, to projects of social intervention. The feature documentary detailed in *The Angola Project Trilogy* is in process.

**Jeremy Xido** is originally from Detroit. He graduated cum laude in painting and comparative literature from Columbia University and trained at the Actor’s Studio. Since 2003, he has been the artistic co-director of CABULA6. In addition to several critically acclaimed short fiction films, Xido recently completed the feature documentary *Death Metal Angola*. He also directed the six-part documentary series *Crime Europe*. He is known in Europe as a performance artist with a unique artistic voice and approach to stage and film, blending emotionally gripping personal stories with the larger social contexts within which they emerge. Working as a dancer, actor, and filmmaker, Xido has performed and presented work around the world on stage, TV, and in cinema.

**Igor Dobricic** studied dramaturgy at the Belgrade Academy of Dramatic Arts, and between 1995 and 1999, he worked as a dramaturge for the Belgrade International Theatre Festival. From 2000 and 2004, he was a student of DasArts. He was an arts program officer at the European Cultural Foundation until 2008, and in that role he initiated the AlmostReal project platform. Dobricic is a dramaturge for a number of choreographers including Nicole Beutler, Diego Gil, Keren Levi, and Katrina Brown. He teaches concept development at the Amsterdam School for New Dance, and since 2009, he has served as a research fellow with the Amsterdam School of the Arts, working on a long-term research project, *Table Talks*. His interests include the exploration of parameters of performative action between different fixed production contexts (theater and visual arts, professional and non-professional status, individual and group work, and aesthetics and ethics).

## CO-PRODUCTIONS

*The Angola Project* was created in part during residencies at Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (New York City), Transforma (Portugal), Tanzfabrik (Berlin), Work-space Brussels, Maria Matos Theater (Portugal), ImPulsTanz (Vienna), and Dance New Amsterdam (New York City).

This project was made possible in part through generous support of Cinereach and the Jerome Foundation.

“XIN” is a co-commission by Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute’s Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center (EMPAC), Dance New Amsterdam (DNA), and Performance Space 122 (PS122).

## THANKS

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## **STAFF LIST**

Johannes Goebel / Director

Geoff Abbas / Director for Stage Technologies

Eric Ameres / Senior Research Engineer

S. Argeo Ascani / Associate Curator, Music

David Bebb / Senior System Administrator

Peter Bellamy / Senior Systems Programmer

Michael Bello / Video Engineer

Victoria Brooks / Curator, Time-Based Visual Arts

Eric Brucker / Lead Video Engineer

Ash Bulayev / Curator, Dance + Theater

Michele Cassaro / Guest Services Coordinator

John Cook / Box Office Manager

David DeLaRosa / Production Technician

Zhenelle Falk / Artist Services Coordinator

William Fritz / Master Carpenter

Kimberly Gardner / Manager, Administrative Operations

Laura Gypson / Production Administrative Coordinator

Ian Hamelin / Project Manager

Ryan Jenkins / Event Technician

Shannon Johnson / Design Director

Pamela Keenan / Production Technician

CathyJo Kile / Business Manager

Carl Lewandowski / Production Technician

Eric Chi-Yeh Lin / Lead Stage Technician

Stephen McLaughlin / Event Technician

Candice Sherman / Business Coordinator

Avery Stempel / Front of House Manager

Jeffrey Svatek / Audio Engineer

Dan Swalec / Master Electrician

Todd Vos / Lead Audio Engineer

Pete Wargo / Manager, Information Systems

Michael Wells / Production Technician

Emily Zimmerman / Assistant Curator



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