

# A BODY AND OTHER OBJECTS

- a hybrid contemporary circus and dance performance fusing hair-hanging, partnering, object manipulation, and illusion -

by Ana Jordão - creation 2022 / 2026

## TEAM

direction: Ana Jordão | performance: Ana Jordão, Vincent Kollar | choreographic assistance: Yotam Peled | music: Fabian Laute | dramaturgical assistance: Marta Alstadsæter | illusion effects: Aleš Hrdlička & Kalle Nio | research facilitators: Geordie Brookman, Benjamin Richter, Pia Meuthen | light design: David Scholz | costume design: Brownen Pattison | project management: Ehrliche Arbeit

## FULL-LENGTH FORMAT

60+ min. | frontal stage | indoor | status: in creation (premiere 2026)

## VIDEOS

Teaser | Full-Length Format | <https://vimeo.com/1045997705>

Cirqueon Teaser | <https://vimeo.com/908319032>

Full-Length w.i.p. | Dynamic Camera | <https://vimeo.com/1049594766/cdda914e8c>

Full-Length w.i.p. | Static Camera | <https://vimeo.com/1045998558/268841bee7>

How we work | <https://vimeo.com/900719815>

## SYNOPSIS

A BODY AND OTHER OBJECTS is an entrancing exploration of the human body as both matter and object. Exploring the spectrum between gravity and weightlessness, corporeality and objecthood, reality and illusion, the work challenges perceptions, encouraging viewers to marvel at the boundless new possibilities that emerge when we set aside preconceived notions of what a body is capable of.

Through deep trust and intricate collaboration, Ana and Vincent invite viewers into an intimate and tender space where the mechanics of connection are laid bare - sometimes through touch sometimes through the use of strings, the bodies and objects are eternally connected and intertwined.

Exploring the concept of "performative rigging" (unveiling the craft and performativity of rigging) ropes, carabiners and slicing needles become the protagonists of the story, alongside Ana & Vincent.

Structured as interconnected chapters, the work constantly shifts between illusion and revelation, urging us to suspend disbelief before exposing the underlying reality.

Fabian Laute's rich musical composition intricately weaves through the performance, at times propelling movement, at times offering a space of stillness – suspending the audience in the mesmerizing fantasy of flight. The performance is an invitation to rediscover the magic of the everyday, celebrating the beauty of radical care, symbiosis, and the interconnectedness of all things, animate and inanimate alike.

## A CONTEMPORARY APPROACH TO HAIR-HANGING

Hair-hanging has gained popularity in contemporary circus, typically performed as a solo act focused on flexibility, height, and speed. Our approach connects hair-hanging with dance by partnering with a non-suspended body, a concept not yet explored. We combine the suspension of hair-hanging with techniques from contemporary dance, contact improvisation, hand-to-hand and martial arts. This exploration transforms the language of partnering, introducing a new dimension through aspects allowed by suspension. Our research integrates the philosophy and techniques of circus, dance, and martial arts and creates a hybrid language that blurs the lines between these genres, creating a seamless fusion of disciplines.

## ILLUSION / MAGIE NOUVELLE

To explore suspension, levitation, and floating, we incorporate illusion / new magic techniques. The piece showcases two scenes where the rigging apparatus (ropes, carabiners, head ring, etc.) is concealed, drawing the audience's attention to the effect of levitation of the body. This is achieved using specialized equipment, thin Dyneema ropes and special light design.

## OBJECT ORIENTED ONTOLOGY & PERFORMATIVE RIGGING

Inspired by Object-Oriented Ontology and New Materialism, the piece explores innovative object manipulation - not just of the human body, but also ropes, carabiners, and a reimagined "meteor." It also delves into "performative rigging", exploring the performative potential of rigging and how it can shape space, atmosphere, and gesture, and proposing rigging as a circus discipline in it's own right.

## FEMINISM AND RADICAL CARE

In line with contemporary feminist discourse, I acknowledge the powerful emotions surrounding the theme of "objectification". As both the creator and a committed feminist, the piece explores radical inter-species care - championing interconnectedness, empathy, and respect across all forms of life, human and non-human alike. This work challenges conventional dynamics, offering a more compassionate, inclusive vision of care, relationality and empowerment.

## QUOTES

*"A BODY AND OTHER OBJECTS is both deceptively simple and defiantly complex. It utilises delicate partner work to explore how extraordinary strength can be built through the creation of a multitude of connections. Ana Jordao, Vincent Kollar and Fabian Laute have constructed a world that asks us to look beneath the surface of things and into the strands of muscle, fibre and feeling that make us function."*

Geordie Brookman, Chamäleon Theater Berlin (DE)

*"With a minimal approach to scenography, the work stages an interesting proposal and reflections on relationality: the poetics, aesthetics, as well as the rather human elements of relation are all present, treated with care and a generosity of art that prefers to inquire rather than postulate.*

*The performance offers an array of in-between moments, located in the spaces from rest to suspension, from grounded togetherness to aerial exploration and negotiation. Technical rigging is present, almost engaging in reflections on itself - ropes, knots, carabiners - they enter and exit scenes with precision and intention, articulating a fascinating dynamic between their aesthetics and functionality.*

*A BODY AND OTHER OBJECTS is a relevant, timely, and important piece, with high stakes in what concerns circus creation, as well as a thought-provoking piece which our audience found deeply moving."*

Elena Stanciu, Dynamo Workspace (DK)