



#### INTERVIEW WITH THE “PERSONNAGE”

##### Who are you sir?

Pardon? Yes, I sometimes remember him; i.e., the others, myself. But of no importance now.

##### What is the show about?

At that time, we were often wandering in the air, and unmistakably touching the bottom. What really matters is to keep digging, whatever the price.

##### Why do you smoke?

I like the burnt smell.

##### Okay, let's start again.

##### Who leads these people?

Me. And them, me.

##### To what purpose?

Save him from the void, and if possible, define an objective.

##### What is this big mirror for?

To remind the hero of the person who I owe everything to. It's a question of life and death, don't reveal anything! Ever.

##### Does power intoxicate?

“Ashes”. It could have been the title. But I prefer *Tabac Rouge*.

##### Is this the story of a musician, a creator, a tyrant, an old fool?

No, and Pergolesi is very unhappy to be dead: he doesn't have the opportunity to reply. But I recently understood that one has to keep faith and gather reflective fragments together. It's a thrill for all of us because the moment of coronation keeps coming back, it allows me to renew the ruling class without weakening the people. But my true passion is elsewhere.

##### Where?

Free my devoted fighters, unbeknown to the great command. In other words, behind the back of the main character, the one who rots in the reflection. It's funny, he looks like me sometimes. He's my design.

##### How are you?

Unfortunately everything's falling apart, I don't have long to live.

##### One last word?

A few, by Pier Paolo Pasolini. In his native language.

*Un frut al si vuarda tal speli,*

*Il so vuli al ghi rit neri.*

*No content tal redrous al olma*

*Par jodi s'a è un cuàrp chè Forma.*

*Ma al jot doma che il mur vualif*

*O la sgiarpia du un ràin ciatif.*

*Scur al torna a vuardà tal speli*

*La so Forma, un barlun tal veri.*



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# SYDNEY FESTIVAL 2015

JAMES THIERRÉE

# TABAC ROUGE

COMPAGNIE DU HANNETON  
FRANCE | AUSTRALIAN EXCLUSIVE



JAMES THIERRÉE  
**TABAC ROUGE**  
COMPAGNIE DU HANNETON

SYDNEY THEATRE  
AT WALSH BAY  
7–23 JANUARY  
90MINS NO INTERVAL

**CHOREODRAMA BY**

James Thierrée

**PERFORMERS**

James Thierrée  
Valérie Doucet  
Magnus Jakobsson  
Namkyung Kim  
Matina Kokolaki  
Piergiorgio Milano  
Thi-Mai Nguyen  
Ioulia Plotnikova  
Soa Ratsifandrihana

**DIRECTION, SET DESIGN  
& CHOREOGRAPHY**

James Thierrée

**COSTUMES**

Victoria Thierrée

**ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR**

Sidonie Pigeon

**CONSTRUCTION**

Anthony Nicolas, Fabrice Henches,  
Gerd Walter, Thomas Delot  
and the Ateliers de Construction  
de Vidy Lausanne

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**SOUND**

Thomas Delot

**LIGHTING MANAGER**

Bastien Courthieu

**STAGE MANAGERS**

Anthony Nicolas, Fabrice Henches,  
Gerd Walter

**WARDROBE & ACCESSORIES**

Sabine Schlemmer

**PRODUCTION, TOURING  
& PRESS RELATIONS**

Emmanuelle Taccard, Sidonie Pigeon

**CONFECTIONS & FABRICATIONS**

Monika Schwarzl, Victoria Thierrée,  
Marie Rossetti, Laura Léonard,  
Sabine Schlemmer

**THANKS TO**

Matthieu Chédid, Marion Lévy, Kaori Ito,  
Matthieu Bony, Brigitte Brassard, Brad  
Ackley, Julie Guibert, Nasser Hammadi,  
Gildas Lointier, Frédéric Longbois,  
Quentin Manfroy, le Centre National  
de la Danse (Paris) and l'association  
BML-AMA.

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**

Compagnie du Hanneton – Junebug

**CO-PRODUCERS**

Théâtre Vidy Lausanne, Théâtre  
de la Ville Paris, Le Printemps des  
Comédiens Montpellier, Théâtre Royal  
de Namur, La Coursive Scène Nationale  
de La Rochelle, Sadler's Wells Theatre  
London in collaboration with Crying Out  
Loud, Festival Tchekhov Moscou, Le  
Cado Orléans, Maison de la Culture de  
Nevers, Théâtre André Malraux Rueil  
Malmaison, Théâtre Jacques Prévert  
d'Aulnay-sous-Bois, La Comédie de  
Clermont Ferrand, Le Carré Saint  
Médard en Jalles, L'Arc Scène  
Nationale du Creusot

With the support of the Ministère de  
la Culture et de la Communication –  
D.G.C.A et de l'Adami.

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supported by the Ministère de la  
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BNP Paribas.

JAMES THIERRÉE  
Director & Performer

Born in 1974 in Lausanne, Switzerland,  
James made his theatrical debut  
with Le Cirque Bonjour, followed by  
appearances with Le Cirque Imaginaire,  
with whom he toured worldwide,  
and Le Cirque Invisible. In 1998,  
he established his own company  
choosing his childhood nickname  
Hanneton (Junebug) as the title for  
the informal ensemble La Symphonie  
du Hanneton. In the same year he  
created his first work, *The Junebug  
Symphony*, which was awarded the  
esteemed Molière Prize in 2006 and  
toured the world, including runs at  
the Lyric Hammersmith and Queen  
Elizabeth Hall. In 2003, he directed  
and performed in his second work  
*Bright Abyss*, which toured the United  
Kingdom, Mexico, USA and Australia.  
In 2007, he directed and performed  
in his third stage work *Au Revoir  
Parapluie*, which toured the world  
and received a 2007 Molière Prize.  
In 2009, he premiered his one-man  
show *Raoul* in Belgium followed by  
a world tour. His most recent work  
*Tabac Rouge* premiered in 2013 at  
Théâtre Vidy, Switzerland. This year it  
was also awarded a Molière Prize for  
Visual Creation. James also has film  
credits: in the years 1994–2012,  
he has worked with the directors  
Peter Greenaway, Robert Wilson,  
Carlos Santos, Beno Besson, Coline  
Serreau, Agnieszka Holland, Jacques  
Baratier, Tony Gatif, Claude Miller and  
Jacques Doillon.

**VALÉRIE DOUCET**

**Contortionist**

**Study:** National Circus School of  
Montreal, graduated a handstand  
specialist in 2010.

**Performance credits:** *Cabaret les  
7 doigts* (2007), *Les 7 doigts de la  
main*; *Rain, Comme une pluie dans*



*tes yeux*, (2010–2012), directed by  
Daniele Finzi Pasca, Cirque Éloize;  
special events with Cirque du Soleil  
in Buenos Aires (2011); *Circa* (2012)  
and *Wunderkammer* (2012), directed  
by Yaron Lifschitz, Circa; *Cirkopolis*  
(2014), directed by Dave St-Pierre and  
Jeannot Painchaud, Cirque Éloize; *Le  
Poivre Rose* (2014), Compagnie du  
Poivre Rose (Valerie's own company);  
*Tabac Rouge* (2013–2014), Compagnie  
du Hanneton.

**MAGNUS JAKOBSSON**

**Actor/Acrobat**

**Study:** Circus school of Gävle,  
Sweden, specialised in acrobatics.  
**Performance Credits:** *Au Revoir  
Parapluie* (2001 for 7 years) and  
*Tabac Rouge* (2014), Compagnie du  
Hanneton; *Murmures des murs* (2014),  
Victoria Chaplin. He has also performed  
as part of a comedic acrobatic  
duo in circuses and variety shows  
around Europe.

Pictured: James Thierrée and cast member,  
photo Vincent Pontet.

NAMKYUNG KIM  
Dancer

**Study:** Seoul National University of  
the Dance and Arts in South Korea.  
**Performance Credits:** *Human  
Conditions* (2006), *Sade, The Theatre  
of Madmen* (2007), *Marco Polo* (2008),  
Théâtre du Corps Pietragalla-Derouault;  
*Boulevard Seksou* (2010), Compagnie  
PH7; *Solingen* (2011), Compagnie Pour  
un Soir; *ARTillerie* (2011), Compagnie  
ADN dialect; *Théâtre des Opérations*,  
Compagnie de L'alambic. *Identité Bleus*  
(2005), Christiane Blaise Company;  
*Flowers Of Romance* (2005), Ester  
Aumatell; *X- Tout en Douceur* (2005),  
Compagnie Jacky Auvray; *The Tale  
of Two Cities* (2000), Madame NAM;  
*Jungho*, Munye Theatre Séoul; *Yahoei*  
(2000), Madame KIM, *Samjin* (2000),  
Jayoo Theatre Séoul; *We Cannot Stop  
Talking*, Madame AN; *Aesoon* (1999),  
Towel Theatre Seoul; *The Model Millionaire*, Troupe Knois,  
Palais Kyungbok, Seoul; *Waiting  
for Godot*, Madame NAM; *Au bout  
d'Escarpement*, Madame NAM ;  
Jungho à la Galerie Total Séoul,  
Madame NAM; Inside Edition en  
souvenir de Fondation Troupe Knois,  
(1997), Mina Yu, Towol Theatre Seoul.

**MATINA KOKOLAKI**

**Dancer**

**Study:** Cerasella Dorobantsu  
Grigorakis Dance School, graduated  
2007; Athens Dance School, graduated  
2011. **Performance Credits:** *Parson's  
Khashoggi*, Anemomilos. **Prizes:** Third  
prize, International Dance Competition,  
Athens, ensemble (2003); first prize,  
solo (2004); second and third prize,  
ensemble (2006). **Other Work:** solo,  
New Creator Festival; solo, *Black Box*,  
National Dance School.

PIERGIORGIO MILANO  
Dancer/Acrobat

**Study:** FLIC Circus School, Italy;  
Le Lido Centre for Circus Arts,  
Toulouse; School For The New Dance  
Development (SNDO). **Performance  
Credits:** *Ai Migranti*, Equilibrio Festival;  
*Ballett Teatro Torino*, Claudio Stellato  
and Nicanor D'elia Tati. Piergiorgio  
has worked with the following  
choreographers: Branko Potocan  
(FourKlore); Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui;  
David Zambrano; Rodrigo Pardo;  
Roberto Olivan; Raffaella Giordano and  
Arnaud Michniak. He also established,  
with four Italian performers, the circus-  
dance company 320CHILI.

**THI-MAI NGUYEN**

**Dancer**

**Study:** Conservatoire National  
Supérieur de Musique et de Danse,  
Paris, 1995–1999; P.A.R.T.S., Belgium,  
2000, **Performance Credits:** a  
project by Nadia Bekani (2000);  
*Shiver* (created by Johan Thelander  
and Thi-Mai Nguyen) (2001), Festival  
d'Automne; *Blush* (2002), *PUUR*  
(2005), *Sonic Boom* (co-creator;  
2005), *Spiegel* (co-creator; 2007),  
*Radical Wrong* (2010) and *Oedipe*  
(2011), Ulitma Vez dance company;  
*Sinfonia Eroica* (2009), choreographed  
by Michèle Anne De May, Charleroi  
Dances; *Guest* (2010), choreographed  
by Walter Verdin.

**IOULIA PLOTNIKOVA**

**Dancer**

**Performance Credits:** *The Rite of  
Spring* (2011), Faizal Zeghouni;  
projects with MATERIA PRIMA  
(2008/2011); projects with Karine  
Sporta (2009/2011); solo works,  
Armstrong Jazz Ballet; *The Rite of  
Spring* (2006/2011), G.Momboy; *Suède*  
(2010), Lena Josefsson,

Raande-Vo; *Le Festin and Folie*,  
C.Brumachon; projects with DO-  
THEATRE (2008/2010); *Le Festin &  
Folie*, C.Brumachon; projects with  
M.SEO (2003/2009); *Songs of the  
Disinherited* (2008), Donald Mckayle;  
projects with Blanca Li (2004/2005);  
projects with Terpsy Danse Modern  
(2002); Projects with Cannon-Danse  
(1999), N.Kosparova; projects with  
Jean-Paul Goude (2012). Assistant  
for the Impulstanz Festival in Vienna.  
**Choreographer Credits:** solo *N.D.E*  
(2006), Groupe Tribu7; *Rictus* (2008),  
Cie Im-Posture; *Bred* (2008); *Sadness  
of Power* (2009), *Experience An  
Intimate Journey* (2011); *La Perfection*;  
*En attendant Didier/Compagnie A.N.I*  
(2010); *La Saga parisienne Vladimir  
Vyssotsky*, *Doroga* (third prize of  
choreography and audience prize  
at the International competitive Solo  
Tanz Teather festival), *Shadowrama*  
(2012), with Yourik Golovine, Cie Les  
Eponymes. CINEMA: choreographer  
and performer *Rêver c'est possible* and  
*Aurore* (2007), Nils Tavernier; *Toi, moi  
et les autres* (2009), Audrey Estrougo;  
*Heart in a Cage* (2001), Thibaut  
Charlut.

**SOA RATSIFANDRIHANA**

**Dancer**

**Study:** Diploma of Choreography in  
Ballet from Regional Conservatory  
of Toulouse. **Performance Credits:**  
performances with le Collectif  
Warning (2012); *Le Baiser* (2014),  
Thomas Lebrun (CNSMDP); *Madeleine*  
(2014), Nathalie Pubellier (CNSMDP);  
*Fated Shade* (2014), Jarek Cemerek  
(CNSMDP); *Sacred Spring* (2013),  
Cristiana Morganti (Pina Bausch),  
(CNSMDP); *Three To Tango* (2013), Ben  
Aïm. Soa Ratsifandrihana joined *Tabac  
Rouge* in September 2014.