

*multimedia dance piece*

# **"QWERTY"**



**Yuzo Ishiyama / A.P.I.**

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## ***about "QWERTY"***

Multimedia dance piece

Premiered in 2006 (25min. ver.), upgraded (50 min. ver.) in 2007.

The permeation of digital technology has increased our choices.

"QWERTY" is a performance which reflects an insight of confusion/hesitation and the re-recognition of the human body.

This piece clearly embraces Ishiyama's point of view that the human body exists on the same extended line from digital media.

He is also presenting his hypothesis that the importance of the human body as an interface of data transmission is increasing today .

The installation of "QWERTY" is very simple.

For the stage set, only white screens were placed on the wall and the floor.

Dynamic 'Interaction' by the multi-projected visuals, intelligent moving lights and dance occurs on the stage.

The visuals are rendered by their own program in real time and the sequence of the moving lights is programmed closely calculated as if it were 'choreographed'.

**The sound, visual images, lighting and human bodies are equally 'performers' at "QWERTY".**

**Nov. 2008** invited to contemporary dance festival "Festival Panorama de Dança"  
(Rio de Janeiro / Brazil)

**Oct. 2008** invited to SESC SP (Sao Paulo / Brazil)

**Oct. 2008** invited to contemporary dance festival "FID 2008" (Belo Horizonte / Brazil)

**Oct. 2007** invited to digital art festival "Bains Numériques #2" (Enghien-les-Bains / France)

**Sep. 2006** invited to contemporary dance festival "Dance Exhibition 2006"  
at New National Theatre Tokyo (Tokyo / Japan)

**CONCEPTION/DIRECTION** : Yuzo Ishiyama

**SOUND** : Yuta Kumachi

**VISUALS** : sakura(exe+)

**LIGHTING** : RASA Design Production

**COSTUME** : ROCCA WORKS

**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR** : Yutaka Endo(LUFTZUG)

**PERFORMED BY/CO-CHOREOGRAPHED WITH** :

So Ueda, Rieko Watanabe, Akino Miyao, Yuzo Ishiyama

**Special Thanks to** :

Satsumi Fukai, Mitsutake Kasai, Kazutomi Kozuki, Yuji Sekiguchi

premiere : 18 September 2006 at New National Theatre Tokyo

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*"QWERTY" at New National Theatre Tokyo 2006*



*photo : Yohta Kataoka*

***"QWERTY" at New National Theatre Tokyo 2006***



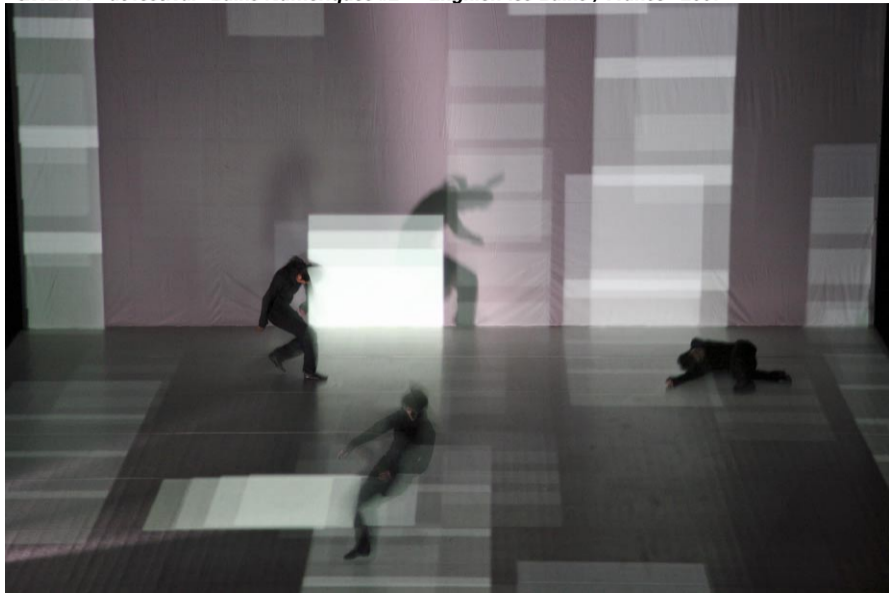
*photo : Yohta Kataoka*

**"QWERTY" at festival "Bains Numériques #2" Enghien-les-Bains / France 2007**



*photo : Yohta Kataoka*

*"QWERTY" at festival "Bains Numériques #2" Enghien-les-Bains / France 2007*



*photo : Yohta Kataoka*

"QWERTY" at festival "Bains Numériques #2" Enghien-les-Bains / France 2007



photo : Yohta Kataoka

**"Danser"** - October 2007

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*Yuzo Ishiyama <un des enfants du groupe pionnier Dumb Type en quelque sorte. Les Japonnais sont moins dans la représentation. Ce n'est pas tant le geste que tout ce qui est autour, le graphisme du projet qui compte. Ils apportent vraiment une nouvelle lecture à travers les matières sonores et visuelles.>*

*interview de Dominique Roland          Par Philippe Noisette*

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**<In English>**

Yuzo Ishiyama <one of the children of the pioneer group : Dumb Type, in a way. The Japanese work not so much in representation. It is not neither the gesture nor all that is around, but the design of project is important. They really bring a new reading through the visual and the sound.>

Dominique Roland interview    by Philippe Noisette

**"La Terrasse" - 3 October 2007**

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*Au Japon, pays porteur d'une culture tournée vers le numérique, la danse ne rime plus forcément avec butô. C'est ce que prouve également le collectif A.P.I. avec Qwerty, performance danse et multumédia qui déploie l'espace au rythme d'une installation spectaculaire.*

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**<In English>**

In Japan, the country having a tendency to turn to a digital culture, the dance is not synonymous of the Butoh. It is what also proves the COLLECTIVE A.P.I. with Qwerty, dance performance and multimedia which explores the space by a spectacular installation.

**CDA web site** ([http://www.cda95.fr/newsletter/07\\_12\\_03/Journal24.pdf](http://www.cda95.fr/newsletter/07_12_03/Journal24.pdf))

**by Andrea Davidson (Choreographer, multimedia artist)**

**||**

*"Qwerty" de Yuzo Ishiyama se déroule lui aussi dans une esthétique dénudée aux tons noir et blanc mais ici, un décor infographique savamment allié à la régie lumière et à la bande son, crée des ambiances aux échos technologiques. Quatre danseurs vêtus de noir occupent le plateau. Le gestuel privilégie la verticalité et respecte une rigueur de la forme chorégraphique.*

*Nous sommes cependant loin des spectacles encore plus tendance multimédia d'autres compagnies japonais telles Dumb Type.*

*Malgré une lecture possible de la mise en scène comme faisant allusion au monde technologique, la danse prime et une certaine poésie règne ; notamment dans le long et étrange solo du chorégraphe qui incarne une sorte de fou errant contemporain. L'image du chorégraphe, le bras gauche tendu devant lui pendant ses déambulations et piloté par quel mystérieux impératif intérieur on ne sait pas, restera gravée dans l'esprit après le spectacle.*

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**CDA web site** ([http://www.cda95.fr/newsletter/07\\_12\\_03/Journal24.pdf](http://www.cda95.fr/newsletter/07_12_03/Journal24.pdf))

**by Andrea Davidson (Choreographer, multimedia artist)**

**<In English>**

"Qwerty" of Yuzo Ishiyama also takes place in an aesthetics denuded in black and white tones, but here, a infographic decor ingeniously alloyed with light control and the background music, create ambiances in technological echoes.

Four dancers dressed in black are in the stage. The gestural favours verticality and respects a preciseness of the choreographic form. We are however far from shows even more multimedia tendency of other Japanese companies such as Dumb Type.

In spite of a possibility of interpretation of the production as making allusion to the technological world, dance dominates and a certain poem reigns ; notably in the long and strange solo of the choreographer which represents a kind of contemporary wandering madman. The image of the choreographer, the left arm tightened in front of him during its wanderings and piloted by the mysterious inside imperative what we cannot understand, will be engraved in mind of public after the show.

**"Jornal do Brasil" - October 2008**

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*O que a gente normalmente observa são os clichês de dança de cada país....*

*O Yuzo traz uma proposta diferente. Em vez de trabalhar com um Japão do passado, pensa em um Japão do futuro.*

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**<In English>**

What we usually observe is the cliché of dance of each country....

Yuzo brings a different proposal. Instead of working with a Japan of the past, he thinks about a Japan of the future...

## ***Yuzo Ishiyama Profile***



Performance media artist and choreographer.

Ishiyama is presenting many performance works integrating sound, installation, visual images and dance.

He has collaborated with overseas artists as a choreographer/director or a performer.

With his dynamic works being highly evaluated, he has been invited to many performance festivals and art centers such as "dance" (Munich), KIASMA (Helsinki), "Julidans" (Amsterdam).

Ishiyama founded artist collective 'Yuzo Ishiyama / A.P.I.' in 2006.

'Yuzo Ishiyama / A.P.I.' has kept on developing new 'body movement language/expression' which fits today since its foundation. They focus on creation of live art work which doesn't end on (small)computer monitors in the age of "Post Internet".

Mixing with visuals, installation, computing and dance etc. is no longer special thing any more for them. ---- It is a "default setting".

## *Yuzo Ishiyama Works*

### **- nest "Circulation Module" - 1998~ (Multimedia Performance Piece)**

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- invited to "PARK TOWER NEXT DANCE FESTIVAL 97"/ Tokyo
- invited to "dance 2000" festival / Munich
- Invited to "ARS01" festival / Helsinki

### **- "LinkAge" - 2000~ (Multimedia Dance Piece -collaboration with Dutch company)**

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- invited to "Julidans" festival / Amsterdam
- invited to "New Zealand Festival 2002" / Wellington



Mar. 2000  
**"Circulation Module"**  
(at Muffathalle / Munich)

## *Yuzo Ishiyama Works*

### - "QWERTY" - 2006~ (Multimedia Dance Piece)

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- invited to "Dance Exhibition 2006" / New National Theatre Tokyo
- invited to digital art festival "Bains numeriques #2" / France
- invited to contemporary dance festival "FID 2008" / Brazil
- invited to contemporary dance festival "Panorama Festival" / Brazil

### - "radi-" - 2009~ (Multimedia Dance Piece)

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- (prototype) invited to art festival "gene" 2008 - Roppongi Hills Arena / Japan
- premiered at Kawasaki Art Center / Japan



Jul. 2000  
**"LinkAge"**  
(at Paradiso / Amsterdam)