

POLIANA
LIMA

APPLAUSE TO DANCE

YINKA ESI
GRAVES

SYNOPSIS

A Place to Dance is a dance piece born from the encounter between Brazilian dancer and choreographer Poliana Lima and British flamenco dance artist Yinka Esi Graves. At the heart of this encounter lies the desire to present the body in its collective dimension and to position dance as a powerful agent for creating and transforming spaces.

Graves and Lima, with their multiple cultural heritages, articulate their choreographic discourse through dialogue and rhythmic play, in which the latter is recognised as an ancestral non-hegemonic technology.

A Place to Dance is an opening in space and time that invites us to participate in the potential of dance to transform any place into a place to commune, a place to belong.

A Place to Dance can be thought of as an act in which the audience is invited to participate by both dancing and watching others dance.

Creating a porosity between participation and observation, everything takes place in-the-round. Dancers, audience, musicians and technicians are all in the same space.

Lima and Graves develop their choreography based on a rhythmic dialogue, in which the sound of their bodies is captured live by sound engineer Quino Piñero, edited and manipulated by musician Miguel Marín, thus creating a soundtrack in constant development and mutation. DJ Oumoukala opens and closes the event, which lasts 1 hour and 45 minutes. This presence reiterates the interest of both creators in feeling the body in its collective dimension.



ARTISTIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION

DIRECTION, CREATION AND DANCE:

Poliana Lima and Yinka Esi Graves

ARTISTIC ACCOMPANIMENT:

Juan Carlos Lérída

MUSIC:

Miguel Marín

DJ:

Oumoukala

SOUND DESIGN:

Quino Piñero

LIGHTING AND SPACE DESIGN:

Cube.bz

CLOTHING DESIGN:

Carmen 17 and Stéphanie Coudert

TECHNICAL COORDINATION:

Cristina Bolívar

LIGHTING TECHNICIAN:

Andrés Dwyer

VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHY:

Miguel Ángel Rosales

GRAPHIC DESIGN:

Cintia erre

COMMUNICATION:

Cultproyect

PRODUCTION:

Trans-Forma Producción Cultural
María González Vidal (Yinka Esi Graves Company)

Asociación PCCVL
Isabella Lima (Poliana Lima Company)

COPRODUCTION:

Mercat de Les Flors, Dance Umbrella Festival, Condeduque and the Community of Madrid.

WITH THE SUPPORT OF:

Teatro Central, Escena Patrimonio Festival, Graner Centre de creació de dansa i arts vives, Artistic Residencies Program of the Andalusian Agency for Cultural Institutions, Fuenlabrada 2025 Choreographic Technical Residencies Program of the Maria Pagés Foundation in collaboration with the Fuenlabrada City Council.

DOWNLOADS

OFFICIAL PICTURES

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1l9fojofFSIjPE1mf-YxxTCMCMdgerpwu?usp=drive_link

OFFICIAL TEASER

<https://vimeo.com/1160112505?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci>





BIOGRAPHIES

CREATOR,
DANCER &
CHOREOGRAPHER

Yinka Esi Graves is a British choreographer and dancer based in Spain. Her work explores the links between flamenco and other contemporary forms from a perspective situated in the Afro-diaspora, where the body is a discursive space. It ranges from stage pieces to live composition works, both as a solo artist and as a collaborator.

Graves' first solo work, *The Disappearing Act*, premiered at the Nimes Flamenco Festival (2023) and has been programmed at international festivals such as El Grec, Tanz Im August, and the Avignon Festival, among others. In early 2026, *A Place to Dance*, a collaboration with Poliana Lima, will premiere. This year, Graves is beginning to develop her next stage project, which deals with the concepts of subversion and catharsis, with a premiere scheduled for 2027.

**YINKA ESI
GRAVES**

[www.
yinkaesigraves
.com](http://www.yinkaesigraves.com)

BIOGRAPHIES

CREATOR,
DANCER &
CHOREOGRAPHER

Poliana Lima is a choreographer, dancer and teacher. She studied sociology at UNICAMP (Brazil) and dance at various schools, and grew up in a culture where dance is very present. Poliana synthesises these paths in her body and takes them as the central object of her expression and research. Creatively, she explores the possibilities of creating poetics on stage that are capable of communicating with the audience in a simple and profound way.

Over the last 15 years, Poliana has created eight full-length works and six short works and dance projects. She has been an associate artist at Condeduque-Madrid (2018-20) and has received support from Teatros del Canal, CND - Pantin, Festival Dias da Dança - Porto, Aerowaves, among others.

In March 2026, Poliana will have an expanded programme at the Mercat de les Flors, presenting her latest works.

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