Rojla & Chutt

Compagnie Sybel Ballet Théâtre
(Tunisia)

5 September - 19:30
Wits Theatre, cnr Jorissen & Station Streets
Free Entrance

Rojla

Choreography: Imed Jemâa
Artistic direction: Syhem Belkhodja

‘Rojla’ is a contemporary creation produced by Hip Hop dancers. It is set in the Maghrebian streets. Everything takes place outdoors; on the square where people interact. The piece reflects the reality on these streets where men take centre stage and women are discreet shadows and idle onlookers whose only presence is marked by the dream-like perfumes they leave behind.

Chutt

Choreography: Syhem Belkhodja

‘Chutt’ stands for silence and gag. The choreographer cleverly uses dance to reveal an image of Islam and its relationship to women. Gestures are modest and muffled. With fewer movements, a very light scenography, the sense of propriety represents an essential element of the thematic.
By Philippe Faucon, with Lynda Banahouda, Mohamed Chaouch
France – 2001 – 1h13 – English subtitles

Samia is a 15 yr old girl living in the suburbs of Marseille. One of the youngest children in a very traditionalist family of Algerian origin. Her life is inhibited by heavy morals influenced by beliefs and prohibitions she respects but no longer adheres to.

Yacine, her unemployed older brother, finds legitimacy as the guardian of family and religious traditions. The eldest sister, Amel, excludes herself from the family by pursing a relationship with a young man from a different culture. The other sisters put all their energy into their studies. Samia struggles at school, with little interest in the technical education she has to pursue. She is forced to keep her first love secret. Samia becomes very aware of the absolute necessity for independence.