

MAELSTROM

ALUD COMPANY



Two men, one encounter, their values clash, intertwine, and turn upside down in a whirlwind of mischief, anger and doubt.

MAELSTROM

Première on 13.04.2025 - MAD Festival ([website](#)) - Anvers (BE)

DISPOSITION:

frontal (theatre) or 280° (circus tent)

AGE:

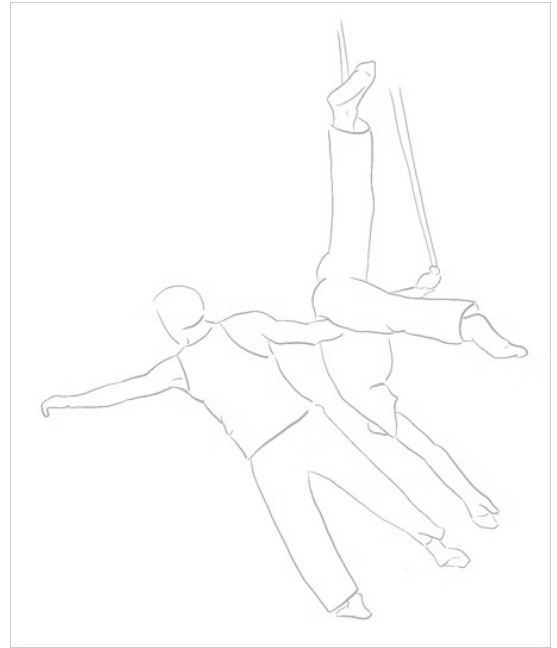
8 years old and older

LENGTH:

8min/50 min (short or full-length version)

TEAM:

2 artists and 1 rigger



TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

FLOOR SPACE:

min 7x7m (ideally 10x10m)

RIGGING:

2 rigging points 7m high and 1 anchor point on the ground: WLL of 500 kg

SOUND SYSTEM:

with subs, suitable for the venue + 2 return wedges

LIGHT:

1 light technician

TECHNICAL SET-UP:

1 technician + 1 light technician

More information in the technical rider.

Contact: aludcompany@gmail.com

THE ARTISTIC PROJECT

MAELSTROM and the *ALUD* Company were born out of a shared passion for straps, our favourite apparatus. They are tinged with a tradition of masculinity, as acts involving straps have long been demonstrations of strength. For our part, we wanted to approach them through dance, partner acrobatics and physical theatre. That's how our joint research began: with a work on movement, the softness and fluidity of our two bodies, and on our characters, too.

When we presented our try-out to an audience, one comment immediately emerged during the feedback, shared by almost

everyone without exception: the two men on stage are in a romantic relationship. This immediately raised questions for us, because it wasn't what we had in mind at all.

From then on, it became clear that masculinity, its representations and its persistent prejudices we all carry within us, had to be at the heart of the show. Why two men who discover each other, get to know each other, tear each other apart and play together are necessarily seen as a couple in love? Why is a touch that lasts two seconds longer, 2 seconds too long, immediately eroticised? Why should emotions and vulnerability only be hidden in men? →





Whether these two men are in love or not is not the point; that's not what's important. We simply stage their journey as they explore themselves and each other, going through moments of playfulness as well as moments charged with emotions. Along the way, they also invent new ways of doing circus.

We want to take the audience with us into this maelstrom, we want them to have fun, to be delighted, to be moved, to relive memories, and to find new perspectives on masculinity. Because this subject doesn't just affect half the population, but ultimately everyone. ■

ALUD COMPANY



Daniel Fernández López was born in Santander, Spain. Always curious, he practised taekwondo, parkour, archery, and water sports, and learned to play the piano, the guitar, and the drums.

At the age of 19, he began teaching himself circus before training professionally at ACAPA and then at ÉSAC, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in aerial straps in July 2022.

From his rich and varied background, he retains an interest in how different disciplines can relate to and feed into each other.

Dani currently divides his time between working as a circus artist, teaching, and travelling. ■



Seraphim Richter is originally from central Germany. He started circus in high school by joining a youth amateur association. Early on, he felt the desire to share his knowledge. With his coaching diploma in hand, Sera began teaching gymnastics and straps to beginners at his circus school. After graduating from high school, he decided to make circus his profession and enrolled in a one-year training programme at the Circartiveschool. He continued his studies at ACAPA, where he met Dani, and studied circus and performance for four years. At the same time, he performed on stage and gave private lessons in several

places around the world. He currently works as a freelance artist and teacher. ■

The story of ALUD begins with Dani and Sera's reunion after graduating from their respective circus school. Their personal research on the straps resonated with each other, and it was from this artistic connection that the ALUD Company was born in 2023. Together, they developed a new language and style for this aerial apparatus, inspired by theatre, partner acrobatics, and dance. ALUD is a Spanish word that can be translated as 'avalanche'. When pronounced aloud, it also sounds like the English word 'to allude', meaning 'to hint at' or 'to imply something'. These two meanings are eminently present and intertwined in their work: Dani and Sera bring a lot of energy to the stage and fill the space by taking unexpected turns and forms, but these are systematically derived from the moments that preceded them. One movement alludes to the next, the next winks at the previous one, and little by little the rhythm of the show is created. It does not follow a linear form, but emerges as it goes along. ■



CREDITS

SERAPHIM RICHTER, DANIEL FERNANDÉZ
LÓPEZ

Artists and project coordinators

NICK DEROO, BRANDON LAGAERT
Outside-eyes

MARIE PEETERS
Dramaturgist

TAREK RAMMO, BRANDON LAGAERT
Movement coaches

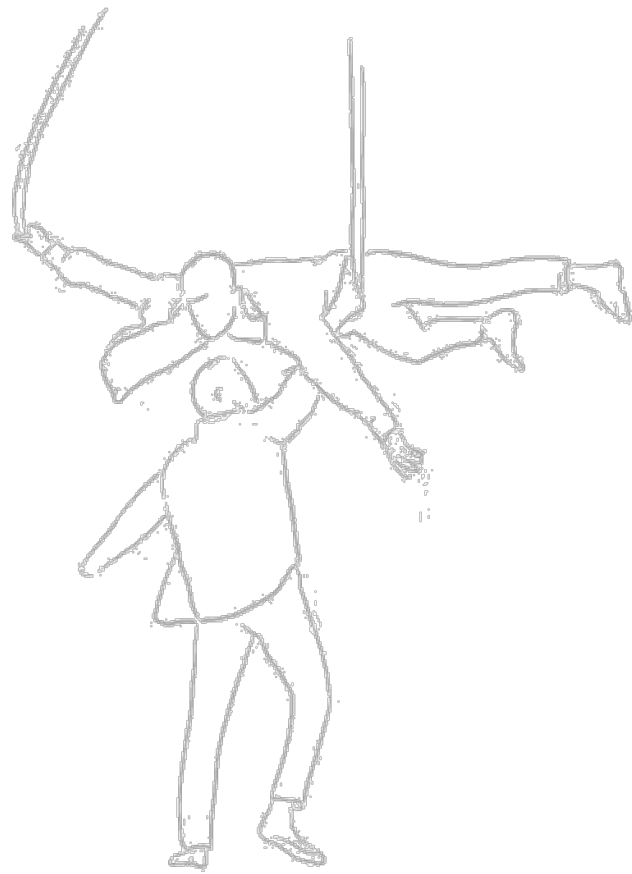
NICK DEROO
End director

LASSE GEUDENS
Light designer

WENKE MAST, LARS SENDERS, ARNO WAUTERS
Production

HENRIKE LECHLER, STEPHAN BIKKER, SANDRA SMITS, ARNO WAUTERS,
TOBIAS DOSOGNE, WENKE MAST, JONA HARNISCHMACHER, JASPER
LEONARD

Special thanks



OUR PARTNERS

PLAN



HOUSE OF PANAMA



CALENDAR

This calendar is only provisional; more dates will be added.

MAELSTROM :

05-07.08.2025 - Theater Aan Zee TAZ ([website](#)) - Oostende (BE)

15.04.2026 - Théâtre Marni ([website](#)) - Brussels (BE)

TANGLED IN TROUBLE :

06.07.2025 - Pause du Cirque ([website](#)) - Try-out - Brussels (BE)

25.07.2025 - Cirque Plus ([website](#)) - Try-out - Bruges (BE)

26.07.2025 - Cirque Plus - Try-out - Bruges (BE)



TRAILER

WEBSITE

INSTAGRAM

