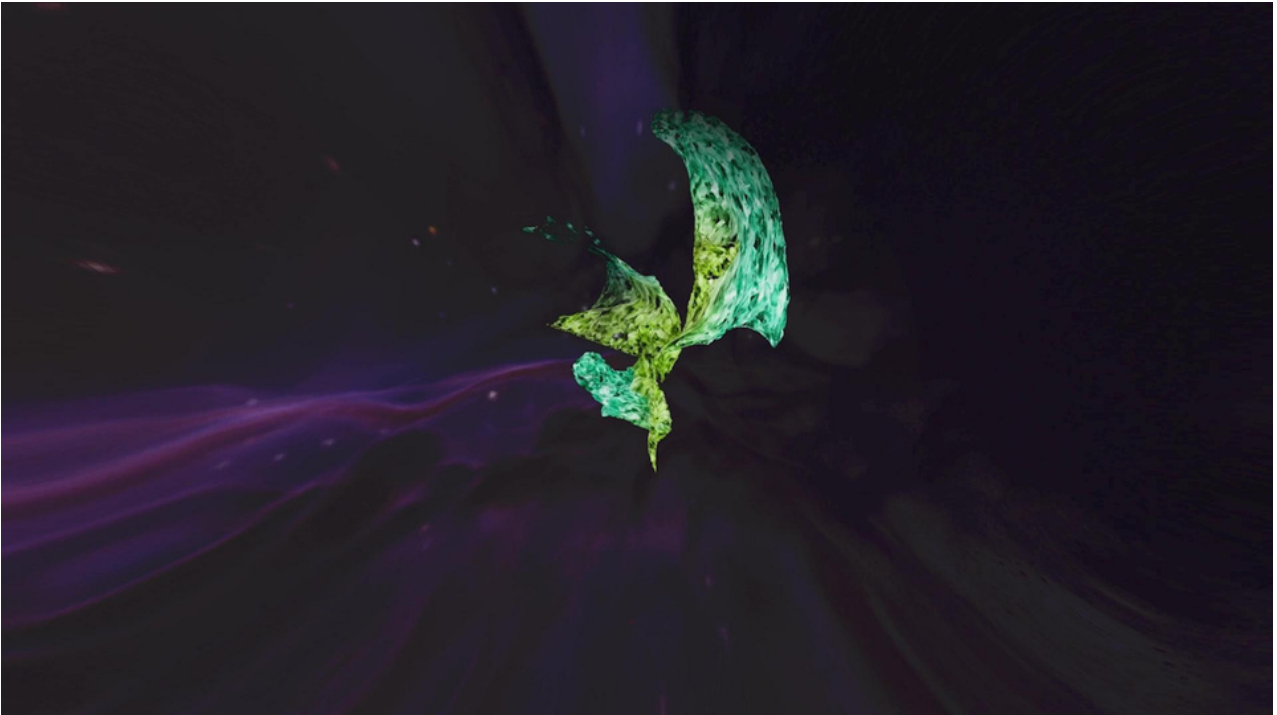


Cecilia Bengolea

Video works



No time for Dance, 2023

Video 3D, color, no sound, 10 min.

video still

Ashamed of being from this planet. No reasons left to dance or celebrate in the escalation of cruelty and darkness. The rare moments of dance I find myself doing it through other bodies in other planets. Speculative multidirectional algorithmical bodies, meteorites, interstellar children with tentacles, butterflyed limbs and bodies of gas integrate this repertory.



Maria's Transformation, 2022

video still

Video, colour, sound

13' 2"

Collection: MUDA

Invoking the sci-fi character of the Metal Woman (from Fritz Lang's 1927 film *Metropolis*), Bengolea seeks to explore the attraction of 'hard manufactured objects and their alchemical secrets and memory, composing a 3D avatar as 'an inventory of functional and bellic steel objects which construct and threaten our history and ecosystem'. Collaging gestures, images and sounds from the past and present, Bengolea reveals 'new synthetic narratives' within a location where the artist says 'the roughness and strength of metal, the hardship of strikes, the mechanical choreography of industrial work and the beauty of dance come together.'



Deary Steel, 2022

Video, colour, sound

13' 15"

Collection: MUDAM

video still

The work explores the genesis of the social and material dimensions of the industrial age. An industrial age that includes connections to early 20th century dance form such as danse libre (Free Dance). Inspired by this moment and its actuality, Bengolea studied the free dance repertoire, instructing dancers from the Jeune Ballet du Conservatoire National Supérieur Musique et Danse (CNSMD, Lyon) for the video Deary Steel. Deary Steel is inspired by Bengolea's fascination with the mineral origins of our planet and the production of steel as a seductive choreography of the elements that reflect these origins. Describing the industrial production of steel as an "alchemical process", Bengolea maintains that "it is not only the orchestration and composition of these elements" that interests her "but also how they influence and manipulate our bodies, natural cycles and lifestyles". Making a collage of gestures, images and sounds from the past and the present, Bengolea reveals "new synthetic narratives" in a space where "the roughness and strength of metal, the hardness of blows, the mechanical choreography of industrial work and the dance come together.



Shelly Belly Inna Real life, 2020

Video, colour, sound

Collections : MUDAM, Museo Reina Sofia

video still

Shot in Jamaica between 2015 and 2019, *Shelly Belly inna Real Life* is a Cecilia Bengolea collaboration with the Kingston Dancehall scene and Bog Walk. Explore the influences of culture and nature within the Caribbean island art community. Narrated through movement and music, it follows the language of dancehall from the intricate rhythms of jungle landscapes to the choreography and footsteps of the people whose practice she is passionate about. Cecilia Bengolea's vision allows unprecedented access to the characters whose vitality and influence have shaped a vision of the movement and life that stretches from its Jamaican founders to the entire world.



Synchronized Serpent, 2020
Video, colour, 4K, sound

video still

Shot in Jamaica in collaboration with the national synchronized swimming team of that country while the artist was doing her residency at the TBA21 Academy (Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary), at the Alligator Head Foundation.

In this video, the artist superimposes several layers of choreography, a collage of beings that could come from very deep waters, natural or man-made explosions... All the elements overlap, creating chaos and destruction.



Bestiaire, 2019

Video, colour, 3D animation

7'

video still

Bestiaire takes descriptions found in the Book of Imaginary Beings (1957), by Jorge Luis Borges and the principles of Baruch Spinoza to compose oneself with others to expand our extensive capacities from the book Ethique (1675) as its starting point. Hybridizing herself Bengolea scanned her body in her favorite positions while morphing into a bestiary of imaginary three-dimensional video animations.



***Danse au fond de la mer*, 2019**

Video, colour and sound
12' 52"

video still

Danse au fond de la Mer recovers the repertoire of the utopian dance compositions of François Malkovsky, Paris 1940-1980.

A disciple of Isadora Duncan, François Malkovsky followed in his footsteps to create a movement that responded to the industrial revolution and the disharmony of man and nature. With his repertoire, Malkovsky intends to restore harmony between man and nature. His short choreographies feature and animate the elements of marine nature to the rhythm of sonatas by Schubert, Chopin, Rachmaninov and Debussy.

His repertoire was republished by Cecilia Bengolea, and the dancers Alex Mugler, Suzanne Bodak, François Chaignaud in Vienna in 2012. In 2019, Bengolea made a video collage with images of life at sea to accompany Malkovsky's repertoire.



Lighting dance, 2018

Video B/W HD and sound

6'03"

Collections: TBA21, Tank Shanghai, Kadist

video still

Lightning Dance investigates the influence of electric weather on bodily imagination. It features several young Jamaicans who, in the company of the artist, perform solo and group dance routines while heavy rain falls. When the dancers take center stage, their movements are reminiscent of popular Jamaican Dancehall, a highly sexualized dance style that Cecilia Bengolea sees as infused with magical healing powers. The setting of the work, without concessions, in combination with its illuminating effect -reinforced by the black and white aesthetics- highlights the dynamic gestures of the performers, captivating the viewer's gaze, while the sounds of the electrical storm become the rhythms with which the choreography is synchronized. The only remaining trace of Dancehall music is the low-frequency base background, amplified by the intensity of the choreography. By dissolving the boundaries between nature and human beings, *Lightning Dance* captivates the viewer to the point of channeling life through movement and light.



Favorite Positions, 2018

video still

Video, colour, sound

7' 20"

Favorite Position is a series of animated sculpture videos inspired by the other mind of the octopus, which suggests a limitless body, a totally liquid being, born from a constant state of rehearsal. The spirit and the rhythms that infuse this body move in several directions at once. Sweat and tropical rain further dissolve the boundaries between inside and outside, perhaps reminding us that internal bodily fluid is an electrical conductor that works for the body in a similar way to synapses in the brain, creating new pathways and highways of communication. that redefine sensitivity.

Bengolea scanned his body in his favorite positions and animated a molten body in 3D. The seven-minute video is projected onto a phantom screen that creates the illusion of a holographic body floating in liquid.



Dancehall weather, 2017

Video colour HD, 4K and sound

10' 28"

Collections: CNAP

video still

Dancehall Weather is an infinite mix of various choreographic collaboration shot from 2014 up until nowadays. A program of algorithms mixes live all the videos made in collaboration with Black Eagle, Equinox, Kissy McCoy, Erika Miyauichi. Also the piece Dublove by F. Chaignaud and C. Bengolea performed in Dia Beacon in May 2017 is part of the mix.



Bombom's dream, 2016

video still

In collaboration with Jeremy Deller

Video, colour, HD and sound

12' 48"

Collections: TBA21 and The Vinyl Factory

Bom Bom's Dream (2017) is a video piece made for The Infinite Mix exhibition that took place at the Hayward Gallery in London. Created in collaboration with The Vinyl Factory, this work follows the fantastic adventures of a Japanese dancer, Bom Bom, who travels to Jamaica to compete in a local dancehall competition. A children's book illustrator by trade, Bom Bom lives a fantasy life when she's in Jamaica. "Our character, Bom Bom, goes out, even during the day, in her dance outfit. It's a character created by her, so every day she celebrates her own invention," says Bengolea. The video shows footage of Bom Bom and her dancehall opponents of her dancing in a dusty mall courtyard. Finally, Bom Bom, with her gymnastic moves, surpasses her opponents to emerge victorious. And her prize? An electric fan.

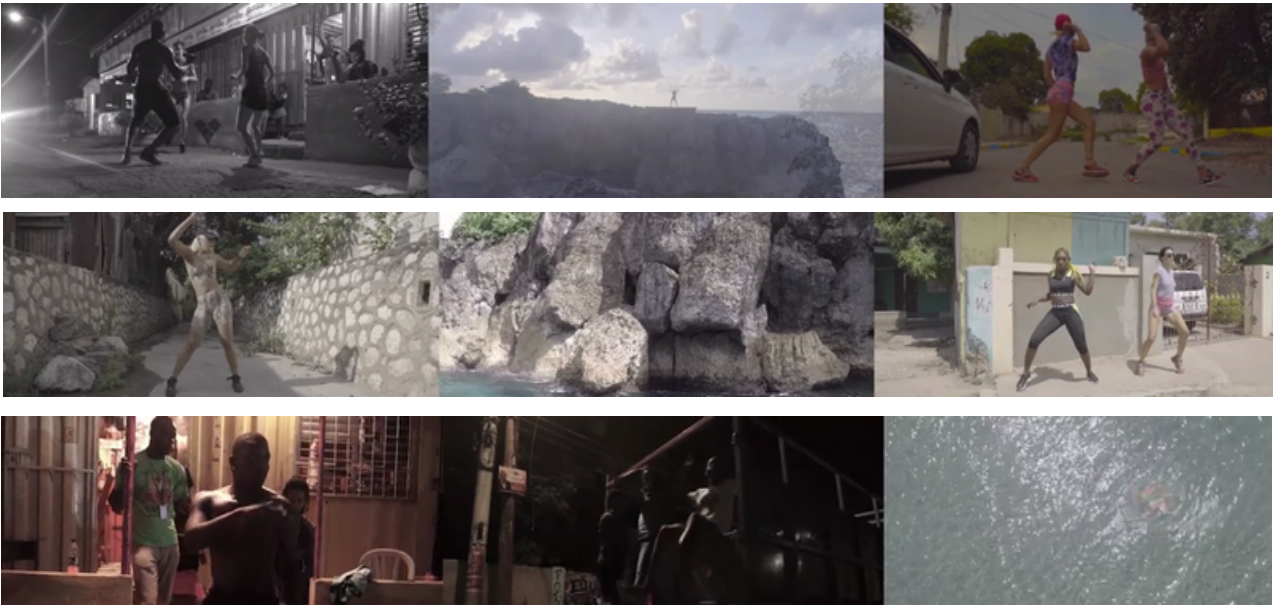


Rythmasspoetry, 2015

video still

In collaboration with Jeremy Deller
Video, colour, HD and sound
6'29"

For this work, Jeremy Deller and Cecilia Bengolea explored Greater Lyon – the districts, the differences and also the connections. When Deller met Denis Trouxe, former cultural councillor for Lyon, in his cosy villa at Champagneau- Mont-d'Or (a rich suburb to the west of Lyon), Bengolea and Trouxe wrote a song – a rap with markedly ironic words – that the two artists got him to perform, along with Domy Caramel, Latys Shye and Sarah, three Dancehall dancers from Vaulx-en-Velin, in the east of the Greater Lyon area. The result is a strange video clip, both disturbing and at the same time charming, that, for the space of a few moments, brings together two sections of the same urban zone that seldom meet or speak to each other.



***Tryptique - Oeness*, 2020**

Colour and black & white 4K video with sound

Six hours mixed randomly with a software of algorithms

Collections: Consortium Dijon, The Vinyl Factory, Mire Fond Cantonal de la ville de Geneve, MONA,

The video installation *Tryptich - Oeness* is a multifaceted work, sharing the practice of global dancehall, while juxtaposing images of a choreography created with the Jamaican national synchronized swimming team. This installation combines 15 meter wide panoramic views, weather conditions, fauna and flora, land and water, with images created in collaboration with the urban dancehall community. The choreographies of various authors, the vibrations of the sound systems and the natural sound environment, perceptible both on land and in the water, give rise to forms and rituals that lead to deep states of consciousness that build and empower community dancehall.