

***Espelho meu (Mirror, my mirror)***  
*Performance/installation for voice, body and image*

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This presentation explores all the creative process related to the performance *Espelho meu*, premiered in March 2017, in Porto, Portugal. From its assumptions and creative contextualization, we deepen our reflection and explore a possible outcome materialized in this work. It's the materialization of a creative thought, a creative process, into the artistic gesture of the performer. It's to build an "outward image of this inward process [the intangible thought]" (Langer, 1976). We believe that the creation of new performances is the only effective way to develop the contemporary performative scene and that the contributions of a group of artists, performers, researchers or hybrid figures of such a qualitative or praxis research are of central importance in maintaining open the possibilities of the *new*, in the relationship with the world.

In this presentation, we plan to briefly discuss the role of improvisation in the process of creating a vocal gesture that externalizes an inner thought; the role of the body and voice, the materials of performance, as a vehicle of an energy that goes beyond the muscles and the physical limits of the body; the non-imposed but important interaction with the space and the audience; the relevance of the text as semantical and sound object; the choice of the concept *mirror* and its symbolical impact in the creative process; the cross paths between artistic practice; and the technology and artistic exploration of the performance after its physical existence in time, consolidated as the concept of *performative resonance*. This *performative resonance*, a major point in our research, becomes a creative tool to stretch time and to provoke the ephemerality of performance problematizing its linearity and exploring other temporalities, detached from the *chronos*.

This performance is part of an artistic research and is intended to be the contribution of a performer, a researcher who is a participant and a native of its own research, in the exploration of creative tools within contemporary performing practices.

**Key Words:** performance, voice, performative resonance, improvisation, body, multimedia

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## Video excerpt:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zMDUOFfncM8>



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Singer, performer, teacher, researcher, artistic programmer and international coordinator.

He holds degrees in *music production* and *lyrical singing* and post-graduations in *cultural management* and *opera*. Working closely with composers he premiered several new works and, in the last few years, after more than 15 years intensively performing opera, he has been researching and performing within the field of contemporary performance and vocal improvisation. He has been actively performing and teaching in Portugal, Spain, France, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Germany, Czech Republic, Ireland, Turkey, Slovenia, Russia, Lithuania and Brazil.

Former board member of the Portuguese National Association of Cultural Management, member of NIMAE (ESMAE's research centre) and chairman of the International Coordinator's Development Group of the Association of European Conservatoires (AEC). He is teacher and international coordinator at ESMAE-IPP, Porto, Portugal.

He holds a PhD in Arts – contemporary performative practices where he developed a deep research about voice, body and improvisation.