

Juggling with Reality: a review
by
Barry Edwards

Circus / music

Convergence 1.0
Cie Adrien M
France

A juggler and a cello player. She improvises while he juggles with four white balls. Simple, straightforward. But not quite. They are both performing behind a black gauze suspended in front of the audience. After a while a virtual white ball bounces across the stage (across the gauze screen of-course). To be followed by hundreds more. It is a stunning effect, as they swirl around in patterned clusters.

But what happens next is even better. Adrien Mondot starts to juggle with the six virtual balls, performing virtuoso (and physically impossible) routines which are nevertheless completely believable.

This is a very clever use of software application and projection – all designed by Adrien himself.

As if to restore the human balance, at the end of the piece he comes through the gauze cyc and performs a short physical juggling routine with consummate skill and charm.

The show has been a tremendous box-office hit. *Convergence 1.0* performed at the London International Mime Festival in January 06, at Avignon Theatre Festival in July 06 and is currently on tour internationally.

Link: www.adrienm.net

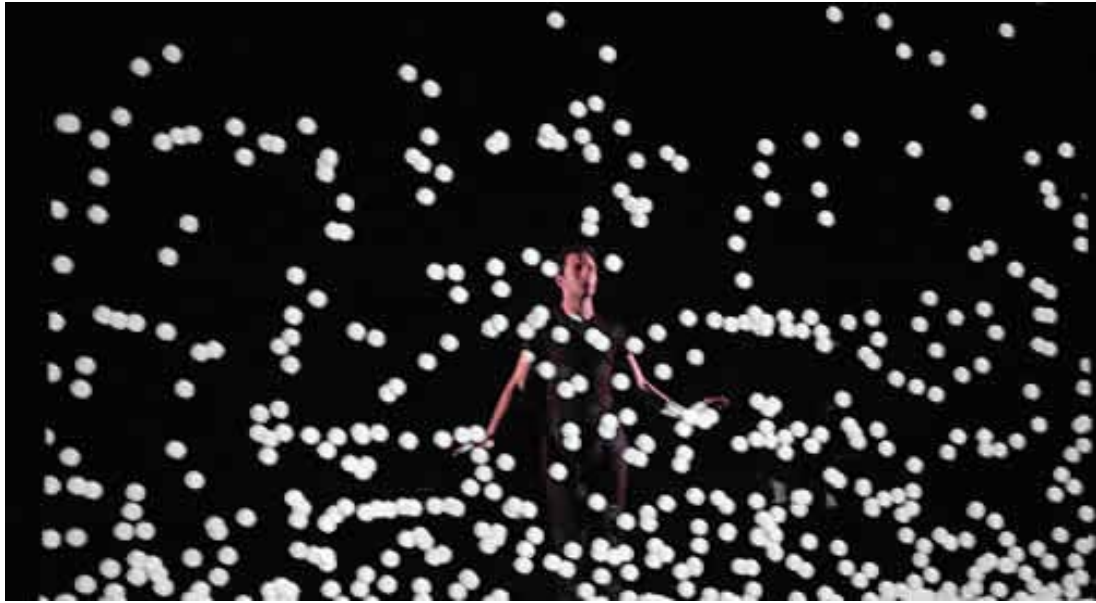


photo : (c) Michel Nicolas / (c) Fabrizio Lazzeretti

Barry Edwards

Barry Edwards is Artistic Director of the performance group Optik and the theatre development agency PI Network. He holds a Readership in the Centre for Contemporary and Digital Performance at Brunel University. Recent live work includes 16.shiver (London 2006), space (London 2004), xstasis (Montreal 2003), stream (London 2002), takingbreath (Belgrade 2001). Films include Dust (2006) and shiver (due for release 2007).