



# LOSING IT

By Samaa Wakim and Samar Haddad King

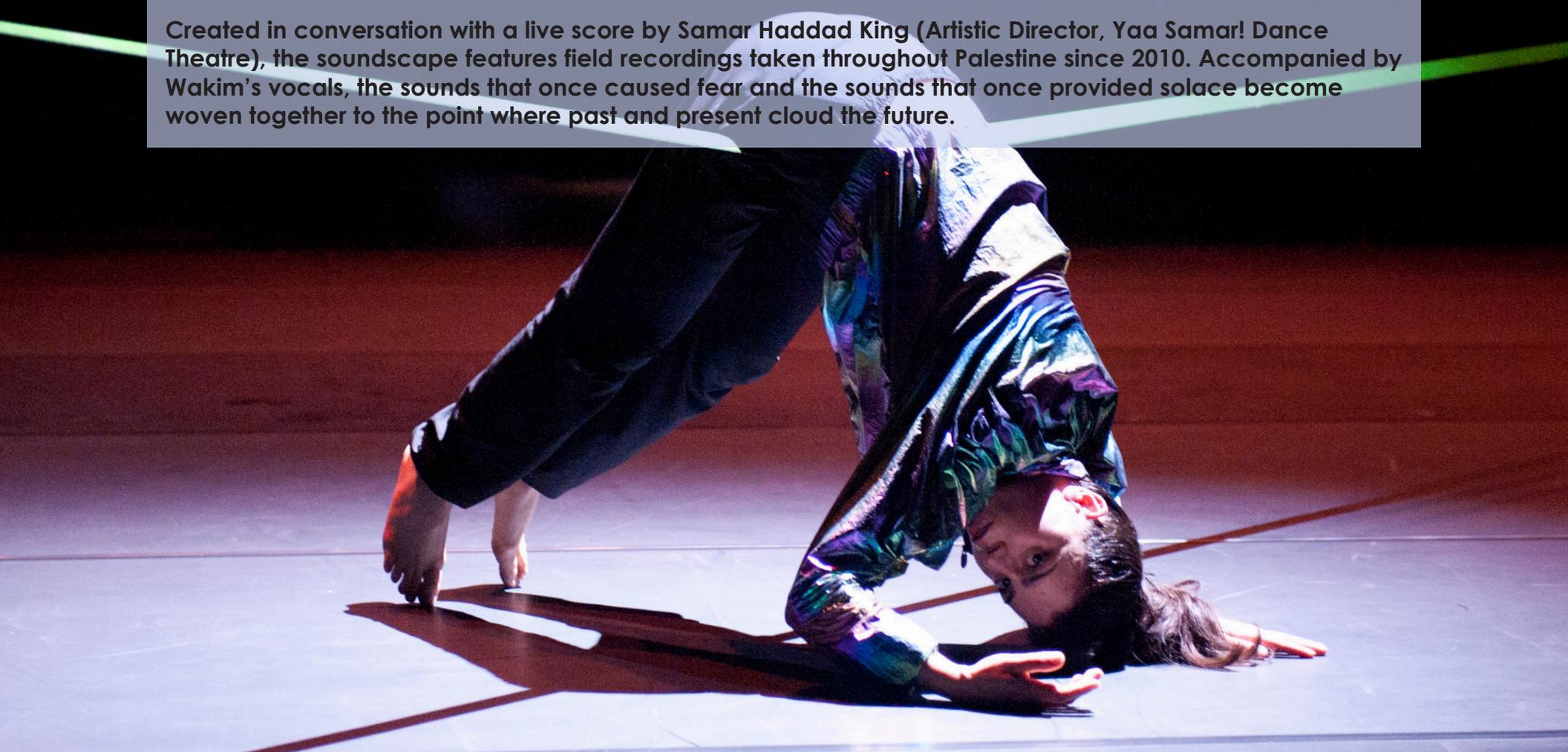


Can you still hear the bombs? I can hear them.

Growing up in a war zone means living and breathing politics. The Palestinian choreographer and performer Samaa Wakim asks herself how these experiences impact her identity in a new solo performance - *Losing It* - which explores how the trauma of previous generations manifests in her own body through movement and sound.

In a journey towards the moment she began to fear for her freedom, the piece dives into her memories of growing up under occupation, exploring the various realities she lives in, and the fantasies she's created out of fear and hope in order to survive. As fear overtakes her, her world begins to disintegrate: the floor becomes unstable, and the sounds begin to warp, creating a world where reality and fantasy blur.

Created in conversation with a live score by Samar Haddad King (Artistic Director, Yaa Samar! Dance Theatre), the soundscape features field recordings taken throughout Palestine since 2010. Accompanied by Wakim's vocals, the sounds that once caused fear and the sounds that once provided solace become woven together to the point where past and present cloud the future.





**Samaa Wakim (Co-Creator/Performer)**, is a performer, choreographer and cultural manager based in Palestine. Graduated from the acting department of Haifa University. Performance credits include: *I am Yusuf and This is My Brother* (Shibir Hur and Young Vic Theater, London 2009); *The Beloved*, (Shibir Hur and Bush Theater, London, 2012); *Exit & Ble Ble Bel* (Khashabi Theatre, Palestine, 2011); *Badke* (A.M. Qattan foundation, KVS Theater, and Les ballets C de la B, Brussels 2012-2017); *bound* (Yaa Samar! Dance Theatre and Sareyyet Ramallah, Ramallah, 2014); *Against a Hard Surface* (Yaa Samar! Dance Theater Hamburg 2017); *Modern Curses*, co-directed and choreographed by Bashar Murkus and Wakim (Khashabi Theater, Haifa 2018); *Last Ward* (Yaa Samar! Dance Theatre, Paris, 2018); *The Cabaret* (Khashabi Theatre, Haifa, 2018); *The Father* (Al Jawal Theater, Haifa, 2021); *Losing It*, co-created with Samar Haddad King (Festival Theaterformen, Yaa Samar! Dance Theatre, Khashabi Theatre, Hannover, 2021). She is a production manager of Haifa Independent Film Festival 2019 & 2023 and member of Yaa Samar! Dance Theater (since 2014) and Khashabi Theatre (since 2008).

**Samar Haddad King (Co-Creator/Composer)**, is a writer, choreographer, and composer and Artistic/Founding Director of Yaa Samar! Dance Theatre (YSDT); King graduated from the Ailey/Fordham BFA program (NYC). King's work has been performed in 17 countries on 4 continents, with commissions throughout the US and abroad including *The Shed* (NYC); *Hubbard Street 2* (Chicago); *Ramallah Contemporary Dance Festival* (Ramallah); *The Walk with Little Amal: Good Chance Theatre* (Marseille) and *St. Ann's Warehouse/The Walk Productions* (NYC); */si:n/ Festival* (Ramallah), among others. Awards/Fellowships include: 2023/24 Creative Capital Wild Futures Award, Prix des Jeunes Créateurs Palestiniens pour la Diversité des Expressions Artistiques (Palest'In & Out Festival, Paris); La Fabrique Chaillot Residency (Chaillot - théâtre national de la Danse, Paris); The Center for Ballet and the Arts at NYU and Toulmin Creator (CBA/ National Sawdust, NYC). Theater and musical theater credits include *Dead Are My People* (Noor Theatre, NYC), *Hoota* (Sard Theatre, Haifa) and *We Live in Cairo* (American Repertory Theater, Boston).





*Losing It* was developed as part of the Goethe Institute project "Un | Controlled Gestures?" (2019-2020).

#### ARTISTIC TEAM

Co-Created by: Samaa Wakim & Samar Haddad King  
Choreography and performance by: Samaa Wakim  
Music and performance by: Samar Haddad King  
Lighting by: Cord Haldun

#### ADDITIONAL CREDITS

Song by: Turathy (Album: Autostrad)  
Prayer by: Mounira Wakim  
Produced by: Yaa Samar! Dance Theatre,  
Khashabi Theatre, and Theaterformen Festival

#### TOURING INFORMATION

Cast: 2  
Touring Company: 3-4  
Duration of work: 40 minutes (no intermission)

#### TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- 🔗 Lighting Plot
- 🔗 Sound
- 🔗 Slackline

#### VIDEOS & IMAGES \*available up request

- Trailer 🔗
- Full length\*
- Additional images\*

World Premiere  
Ballhof Eins Theatre Festival Theaterformen  
(Hannover, Germany), July 2021

## PRODUCED

BY

Yaa Samar! Dance Theatre (YSDT) creates invigorating performance and education programs that expand access to - and promote understanding through - the arts. Founded in 2005 in New York City, YSDT has a repertoire of 30+ original works performed across NYC at venues such as Downtown Dance Festival, Gibney, Harlem Stage, Joyce SoHo, LaGuardia Performing Arts Center, Tribeca Performing Arts Center, Queens Museum and more; regionally; and abroad in 13 countries across four continents, including festivals such as Downtown Contemporary Arts Festival (Egypt), Nuit Blanche (Belgium), Ramallah Contemporary Dance Festival (Palestine), SIDance (South Korea), Spring Festival (Tunisia), Theater der Welt, Theaterformen (Germany) and Theater Spektakel (Switzerland). Since 2011, the company has worked transnationally between NYC and Palestine, and is committed to uniting diverse artists and audiences in the creative process, rooted in the belief that art should be liberating, transformative, and accessible to all. For more information, visit: [www.ysdt.org](http://www.ysdt.org).

Khashabi Theatre is an independent Palestinian theater in the city of Haifa. It was founded in 2011 as the artists' collective Khashabi Ensemble. In 2015 the group secured a physical space in the Wadi Salib neighborhood that was emptied from the majority of its original inhabitants in 1948. Khashabi works towards a Palestinian society that freely practices art and creativity as a natural right, and strives to renew its cultural identity by placing independent culture front and center. Khashabi provides a space for artists to freely experiment, create, research and perform alternative forms of theater and art, and space where social, political and artistic taboos can be challenged, creating an invigorating creative environment based on cooperation and mutual support. [www.khashabi.org](http://www.khashabi.org)

Festival Theaterformen is an annual international theater festival that presents 15-20 plays over 11 days every summer. The plays often deal with social themes and have generally not been produced in Germany, but in different countries and on different continents. The Artistic Director, Martine Dennewald, invites plays and artists to Lower Saxony. The festival wants to provide the visiting artists and the audience with an environment where no one is disadvantaged. The festival team wants to take critical action against discrimination.

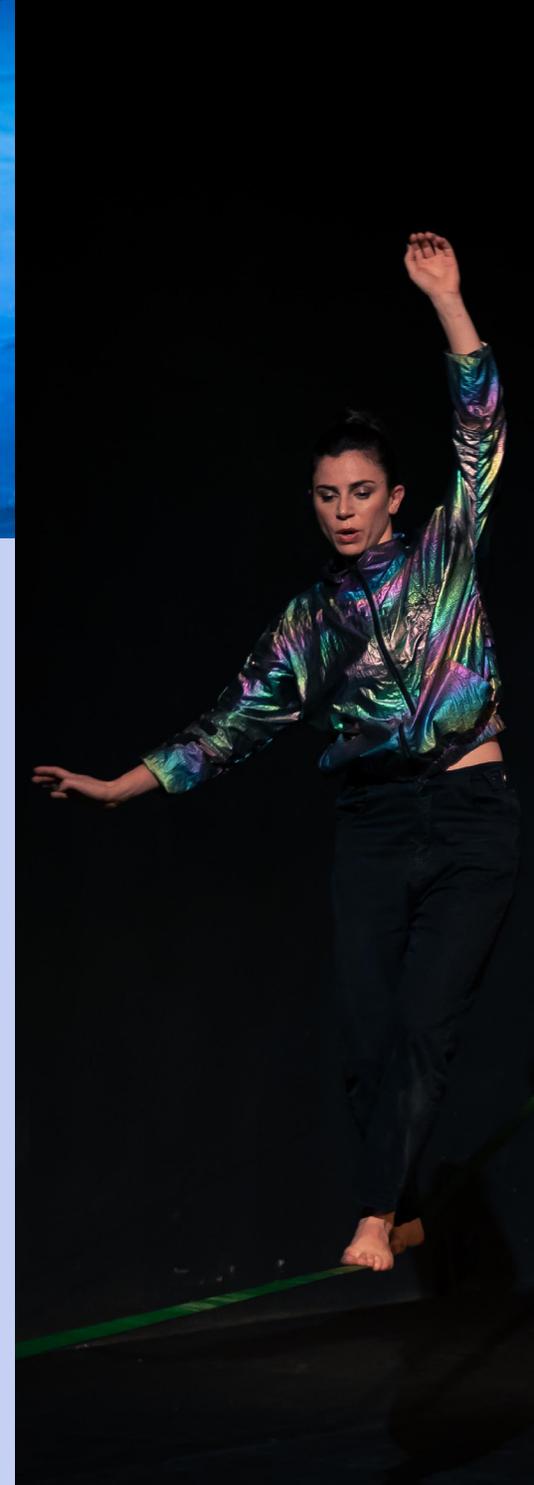
[www.theaterformen.de](http://www.theaterformen.de)



*"She keeps falling but doesn't give up... you could watch her for hours."*

*"The performance is a string of states of tension. The soundscape, by Samar Haddad King makes a decisive contribution in the background and is correspondingly diverse."*

**JÖRG WORAT,**  
*Neue Presse*



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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# THANK YOU



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Yaa Samar!  
DANCE THEATRE

