



As a versatile stage performer, Sascha Ley occupies a solid place in the Luxembourg art and cultural scene for years. The five-language actress, singer, composer and poet likes to follow unconventional paths – musically particularly oriented towards Jazz, Free Improvisation, imaginary folklore and contemporary music.

Parallel to music and drama she has devoted herself in recent years increasingly to writing and interdisciplinary performance.

Since the beginning of 2000 she has produced several shows and albums under her label and Food for Thought Office yela music / yela muse.

She has been honored several times with awards and the status of Knight of the Order of Merit of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for her artistic output.

Sascha is based in Luxembourg and works and tours internationally.

"Sascha Ley moves between improvisation, as well as regular singing, chanting or pure sound accompanying intonations, being an artist of a rare profile. She works in the fields of music, theater, film and dance, and all on an exceptional level." Jazzzeitung (D)

"Sascha Ley carries a whole universe of voices. Galaxies full of music." Jazz Podium (D)

"Sascha Ley. ... does raise the vocal bar some artists have been limboing under for years. (...) a new way of looking at vocal jazz." Critical Jazz (USA)

SASCHA LEY | VOCALIST, ACTRESS, COMPOSER-SONG WRITER **BIOGRAPHY**

AWARDS

Haidy Jacobi Award, Germany 2014 | Chevalier de l'Ordre du Mérite du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg 2013 | Audience Choice Award of Festival Tremplin Jazz d'Avignon 2009 | Studio Hamburg European Shooting Star, Berlinale Festival Berlin 2005 | Best interpretation "Songs For Life" 2004

CURRENT PROJECTS

Sascha Ley & Laurent Payfert (voice & acoustic bass)

Sascha Ley Solo In(Ter)ventions (voice & more)

DISCOGRAPHY

The Wee Hours Sascha Ley & Laurent Payfert (2015)

Everything Within Kalima (2013)

Kalima, Kalima (2010)

Travelling Light Sascha Ley (2007)

mutant standards Garlicks feat. Sascha Ley (2001)

heute abend : Lola Blau – live (1999)

CD/GUEST SINGER

Stëbslong, De Läb (2011)

D'Kees op an Klakken eraus, Tribute to Thierry van Werveke (2011)

Jazzperiments Claude Pauly (2002)

Light Years Lingo (2000)

taboola rasa & Thierry van Werveke (1999)

Dei Schnëss – chansons Putty Stein, Guy Schons (1993)

THEATRE – PERFORMANCE MUSIC

Der Gesang der Schneekönigin | Sascha Ley, visuals Mathieu Lebrun 2016/17

Mi Frida | Sascha Ley | Dance Theatre 2014 – 2018/19

Jungala | Lella Iacopini | music: Rajivan Ayyappan & Sascha Ley | Dance theatre 2013

FILM MUSIC

Time For New Heroes | Christian Neumann, short film

Music: Claude Lenner | vocals: Sascha Ley 2008

If Not Why Not | Akram Khan Dance film by Daniel Wiroth | prod: ARTE/Samsa

Music: Serge Tonnar | vocals & contribution: Sascha Ley 2002

Pour le Meilleur et pour le Pire | Rod Prosser | documentary

Music: Sascha Ley, André Dziejuk 2002

Light Years multi-media performance | Armand Strainchamps

Music: Lingo; fairy choir (Dziejuk, Ley, Mergen) 2000

Portraits d'Artistes: Pina Delvaux | Luis Galvao-Teles, Samsa

Music: Jeannot Sanavia | vocals: Sascha Ley 1997

Steichen | Claude Waringo, Samsa

Music: Jeannot Sanavia, vocals: Sascha Ley

Sentimental Journey | Geneviève Mersch, Samsa

Music: Jeannot Sanavia, vocals: Sascha Ley

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TRAINING

Stephan Federkeil | Saarbrücken (D)
Reinette van Zijtveld | DJAM School for Jazz, Amsterdam (NL)
Kenny Seymour | Conservatoire de la Ville de Luxembourg (L)
Dhanashree Pandit-Rai | classical Hindustani vocals |
Mumbai (Jazz India Vocal Institute – scholarship 2003)

WORKSHOPS & MASTERCLASSES Gabriele Hasler | Shelley Hirsch | Meredith Monk / Ellen Fisher | Frank Köllges | Sainkho Namtchylak and Biosintes

TEACHING WORKSHOPS extended techniques and free improvised singing a.o.

Vocal Landscapes INECC (L) 2018

The Adventure of Free Singing London (UK) 2017 & INECC (L) 2017 | Hessische Frauenmusikwoche (D) 2011 | INECC/Rockhal (L) 2009/10

EARLIER PROJECTS

Kalima | Sascha vocals - Laia Genc piano - Anne Kaftan soprano sax, bass clarinet
Sascha Ley & her Band | Sascha Ley (voc) - George Letellier (p) - Marc Demuth (b) - Benoît Martiny (dr) - Johannes Müller (ts, ss, cl)/ Joachim Badenhorst
Sascha & Nataša | vocals & other + accordion
Femme Totale | Sascha Ley (voc) - George Letellier (p & g) - Eugène Bozzetti (acc, cl, as, ts, dr) - Jeannot Sanavia/ Laurent Payfert (b)
Le bal nomade contemporain | Ensemble of contemporary music 'United Instruments of Lucilin' | Crossover of contemporary music, folklore and theatre songs
Drumming | Steve Reich 'United Instruments of Lucilin'
Das mit den Männern und den Frau'n | Cabaret & jazz songs Eugène Bozzetti (acc, cl, as, ts, dr) - George Letellier (p)
Jazz meets India | with Music of Benares - Deobrat Mishra (sitar) - Chakkan Lal Mishra (tabla) - Claude Pauly (g) - Roby Glod (ss, as) - Al Lenners (dr) - Marc Demuth (b)
Ley & Lamy Collective | with Greg Lamy (g) - Marc Mangan (p) - Stefan Engelmann (b) - Oliver Strauch (dr)
Lost in the Stars - Kurt Weill Songs | with Frédéric Frenay (voc) - Lisa Berg (vc) - Vania Lecuit (v) - George Letellier (p) - Claude Pauly (g)/ Erik Teuwens (g)
Sascha Ley Bombay Quartet | with Harmeet Manseta (p) - Karl Peters (b) - Adrian D'Souza (dr) | 'Jazz Yatra'- Festival Mumbai 2003
Spire Trio | with Claude Pauly (g) - Marc Demuth (b)
Garlicks | Fusion Jazz | with Georges Urwald (p) - Claude Pauly (g) - Jitz Jeitz (sax, cl), John Schlamme (b) - Al Lenners (dr)
taboola rasa & Thierry van Werveke | Rock-Chanson, with Thierry Kinsch - Serge Tonnar - Jeannot Sanavia - Max Vogel & guests
Muspilli Quintet | Jazz and imaginary folklore with André Dziezuk (sax) - Marc Mergen (g) - Jeannot Sanavia (b) - Guy Frisch (dr)
Frank Köllges Intermission Orchestra | Free conducted improvisation
Adam Noidts Paratransmitorchester | (F. Köllges), Jazz Festival Moers (D) 1994
Paz Patù | Funk with Marc Mergen (g) - Laurent Payfert (b) - Roby Steinmetz (p) - André Dziezuk (sax) Paul Hoffmann (tr) - Ait Naceur (dr)
Duo Ley & André Mergenthaler | cello, electronic music & voc | Musik für einen Engel
Further on performances and sessions with DJs, dancers and visual artists

FILM

Cosmodrama (The biologist) | F 2015 | Philippe Fernandez
Fieber (Marguerite) | L/A/I 2014 | Elfi Mikesch
Hannah Arendt (Lore Jonas) | D/L/IL 2013 | Margarethe von Trotta
Mano de dios (Inspector Schmidt) short film | L 2010 | Adolf El Assal
The Hunters (Teacher) | L 2010 | Etienne Huet
Les lettres de Julia (Sascha) | short film | L 2009 | Isabelle Costantini
House Of Boys (Frank's mother) | L/D 2009 | Jean-Claude Schlim
Räuberinnen (Karla) | CH/L 2009 | Carla Lia Monti
Time for New Heroes (The mother) | L 2008, short film | Christian Neumann
You for Me (Diane) | L 2007 | short film | Syrus Neshvad
Deep Frozen (Shannell) | L 2007 | Andy Bausch
Tatort (Dr Barbara Schreiner) | D 2004 | Hans-Christoph Blumenberg
La revanche (Tessie) | L 2004 | Andy Bausch
De nouvelles vies (Marianne) | L/F 2004 | Stéphane Kurc
Autobahnraser (Driving teacher) | L/D 2003 | Michael Keusch
Hungry like a Wolf (Claire Sonntag) | L 2002 | Leo Folschette
Twin sisters (Woman on the bus) | L 2002 | Ben Sombogaart
C.Q. (Fantasy journalist) | L/USA 2000 | Roman Coppola
Shadow of a Vampire (Drunken woman) | L/USA 1999 | Elias E. Merhige
8 ½ Women (Nun) | L/GB 1998 | Peter Greenaway
Back in Trouble (Juliette) | L/D 1997 | Andy Bausch
Brazil/Letters Unsent (Elisabeth and her twin sister) | L 1995 | Andy Bausch
D'Sandauer (Fränz) | L 1993 | Christian Delcourt

STAGE PERFORMANCE/ THEATRE (selection)

End Of The Rainbow (Judy Garland) | Peter Quilter | Marion Poppenborg 2018
Le Bruit des Capitales | Laboratory | Festival Zones Théâtrales Ottawa 2017
Canto d'Amore | Silvia Costa | musical performance | Silvia Costa 2017
La Putain de l'Ohio (Kokotska) | Hanokh Levin | Frédéric Frenay 2017/19
Blind Date (Katia) | Theo van Gogh | Myriam Muller
Totentanz (Alice) | August Strindberg | Natalie Ortner
Anatol (Bianca) | Arthur Schnitzler | Marion Rothhaar
Zerbrochen (Die Frau) | Marja Repo | Carole Lorang
Bombsong (Monologue/performance) | Thea Dorn | Fred Frenay (Ruhrfestspiele Recklinghausen 2010)
Professor Unrat (Blue Angel) (Rosa) | J. von Düffel/Mann | Claude Mangan
The Three Penny Opera (Jenny) | Brecht/Weill | Claude Mangan
The Women (Mary) | Clare Booth Luce | Claude Mangan
La Ronde & Blue Room (The Actress) | Schnitzler & Hare | Marion Poppenborg
Divans / What remains ... (The Woman) | Sybille Berg | Michel Didym
Push Up 1-3 (Patricia) | R. Schimmelpfennig | F. Heumannskämper
Maria Stuart (Elisabeth) | Schiller | Marion Poppenborg
L'Homme Qui... (various) | Sacks/Brook/Estienne | Frédéric Frenay
Knives in Hens (The Woman) | D. Harrower, Claude Mangan
King Kongs Daughters (Berta) | T. Walser | A. Baesler
Season's Greetings (Rachel) | A. Ayckbourn | Kade Köhler
Indignant speeches ... (solo) | Ch. Brückner | Dieter Peust
Katzelmacher (Helga), R. W. Fassbinder | Barbara Herold
Yvonne, princess of Burgundy (Isa) | W. Gombrowicz | G. Jost/J. Posing
A Midsummer night's Dream (Helena) | Shakespeare | M.-L. Junker
Macbeth (Witch) | Shakespeare | Claude Mangan
Stella (Lucie) | Goethe | J. Lorenzen
Antigone (Antigone) | Sophokles | J.-P. Maes
The Underpants (Luise) | C. Sternheim | Eva Paulin
The Glass Menagerie (Laura) | Tennessee Williams | J.-P. Maes
Herzstück/Heartplay (She) | Heiner Müller | Paul Kieffer

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DIRECTING/ DRAMATURGY

Gesang der Schneekönigin | Sascha Ley

Mi Frida | Sascha Ley

Merry X-mas, soldier | short dance | Gianfranco Celestino 2009

Dramaturgy, musical dramaturgy: Sascha Ley

Le cygne est mort, vive le cygne | short dance solo by Gianfranco Celestino 2008

Dramaturgy, musical dramaturgy: Sascha Ley

Solo con Piano | dance solo by Gianfranco Celestino 2005-09

Dramaturgy & stage setting: Sascha Ley

The Carnival of the Animals | Camille Saint-Saëns/Mario Glod 2005

Direction: Sascha Ley; Choreography: Gianfranco Celestino Festival Wiltz (L)

Ich bin so wild nach deinem Erdbeermund | inspired by Klaus Kinski

Choreography, direction, milk shake: Baumgarten, Celestino, Ley, Mangen; L, Linz (A)

Personal notes | musical lecture; music/direction: Sascha Ley

MULTIMEDIA PERFORMANCE

Gesang der Schneekönigin | Sascha Ley/Mathieu Lebrun 2016/17

Die Redner/ Brandt De Gaulle | Oliver Strauch/Wittmann/Willeke/Flo pee 2009

Voice and vocals: Sascha Ley

Visions d'Elles | Elvire Bastendorff 2007

Composition: Emre Sevindik/Sascha Ley

Light Years | Armand Strainchamps 2000

Music: Lingo; composition: Chœur des Fées (Dziezuk, Ley, Mergen) 2000

MUSICAL THEATRE

Alice under Ground (Miss Prickett) | /Tonnar (music), upon Lewis Carroll | Mangen

West Side Story (Anita) | Bernstein/Sondheim | Claude Mangen

Tonight: Lola Blau (Lola) | Georg Kreisler | Claude Mangen

Tenebrae (narrator) | Carlo Hommel

Wenn die Nacht hereinbricht (narrator) | music: Camille Kerger

Brecht (Brecht's wives) | Dieter Peust

Tschirkolorado (mother) | Camille Kerger/Rewenig, J. Posing

Die dumme Liebe | Cabaret | Ley, Mangen, Schuster

DANCE THEATRE

Mi Frida | Sascha Ley

Jungala | Emanuela Iacopini, Rajivan Ayyappan

Drown Desdemona (Desdemona) | based on Shakespeare's 'Othello', Philippe Talard

Dancing ('The Beauty') | based on "Le Bal", Penchenat/Scola, Paul Kieffer

Choreography: H. van den Kerchove

Pseudo : Krupp (Mother) | Choreography : Bernard Baumgarten

VOICE DUBBING (in Luxembourgish)

Léif Kleng Déiercher (Huguette) | Arnaud Bouron (F/L) 2017

Peter & Wendy (Mrs Darling) | feature film | Diamuid Lawrence (GB) 2015

Léif Lëtzebuenger (narrator) | documentary | Ray Tostevin (GB)

A Grace Productions (GB) and CNA (L) Co production 2008

Kirikou and the wild animals (the witch Karaba) | Michel Ocelot (L) 2006

Electric Theatre (narrator) | documentary | Andy Bausch (L) 2000

FESTIVALS & INTERNATIONAL TOURS

Athens Jazz Festival | Avrupa International Jazz Festival Izmir (TR) | Berlin Music Week (D) | Crest Jazz Vocal (F) | Copenhagen Jazz Festival (DK) | Festival de la Francophonie Washington DC (USA) | Female Voice Festival Altrimenti (L), Festival des Cultures (L), Jazz en Sol Mineur Longwy (F), Bruxelles Jazz (B), Festival Echternach | Fête de la Musique Bruxelles | Fête de l'Europe Bruxelles, Fête de l'Europe Genève (CH) | Galway Film Fleadh (IRL) | Gateshead International Jazz Festival (UK) | Jazz de Luxe Newcastle (UK) | Heritage Jazz Panjim (IND) | Huttenjazz Völklingen (D) | Istanbul Film Festival (TR) | Jazz en Sol Mineur Longwy (F) | Jazz im Brunnenhof Trier (D) | Jazz Festival Preveza (GR) | Jazz Festival Trifolion (L) | Jazzfestival Viersen (D) | Jazz Rallye Luxemburg (L) | Jazz Transfer Saarbrücken (D) | Jazz Utsav Mumbai (IND) | Jazz Utsav New Delhi (IND) | Jazz Yatra Mumbai (IND) | Kollafestival Luxembourg | Kölner Musiknacht (D) | Kulturtage Sibiù (RO) | Luxembourg Jazz Meeting (L) | Moers Festival (D) | Musek am Syrdall (L) | Musik des 20. Jahrhunderts Saarbrücken (D) | Nancy Jazz Pulsations (F), Nuit de la Culture Esch (L), Nuit des Musées (L) | Piano Plus Luxembourg | Ruhrfestspiele Recklinghausen (D) | Sommermusik Saarbrücken (D) | Radio SR Saarbrücken | Steinjazz Festival Steinfort (L) | Tanec Praha (CZ) | Tremplin JAZZ d'Avignon (F), Völklinger Hüttenjazz (D) | Altxerri San Sebastián (E) | Altes Pfandhaus Köln (D) | B-flat Berlin | Champs des Lumières Gaâs (F) | Les Dominicains de l'Haute-Alsace (F) | Eglise Notre Dame De La Chapelle Bruxelles | Europahuset Copenhagen (DK) | Fondation Biermann-Lapôtre Paris (F) | Forsans, Gaâs (F) | Funkhaus Berlin | Hayal Kahvesi Ankara (TR) | Hinterhofsalon, Köln (D) | Jacques Pelzer's Jazz Club, Liège (B) | L'Inoui Redange (L) | Jazzkomm Berlin | Jazzdock Prague (CZ) | Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz (A) | Loft Köln, LVR Museum Bonn | MAD New York (USA) | On Thursdays It Must Be Jazz Mumbai (IND) | Pałac Kultury Warsaw (PL) | Philharmonie Luxembourg | Rock Café Prague (CZ) | Salon de Jazz Köln (D) | Stollwerk Köln | St. Peter's Church London (UK) | Rudolfinum Court Prague (CZ) | Vortex London (UK) | Skwer Warsaw (PL) | Walhalla Wiesbaden (D) | Triangel St Vith (B) | Les Trinitaires Metz (F) | Trinitatiskirche Bonn | Villa Fuchs Mertzig (D) | Wabe Berlin | Zeltpalast Mertzig (D) | Ruhrfestspiele Recklinghausen | Theater am Kornmarkt Bregenz |

ACTOR'S AGENCY

Pegasus Agency (Ulrich Meinhard) schauspiel@pegasus-agency.de

LANGUAGES

German | English | French | Italian and Luxembourgish