

Lime Rickey International's *Future Faith*

Future Faith is a conceptual operetta (composed, choreographed and performed by transdisciplinary artist Leyya Mona Tawil) made of 11 interwoven statements which are transmitted – via bilingual lyrics, animated choreographies, fictional folk dances, and a noise score generated by voice, microphones and effects – to a future nation, a homeland yet to exist.

Future Faith is the culmination of a multi-year investigation into Arab Experimentalism – a field that narrates regional and diasporic realities through transgressive arts practices (its most recent iteration, *Unstoppable*, was presented at The Invisible Dog in November 2018).

Lime Rickey International is the “alter ego” of Leyya Mona Tawil – it is her container for narrating current realities in the global Arab diaspora via ‘future folkdances’ built with elements of contemporary dance, Arabic folk forms (specifically dabke and tarab), sound art and conceptual art practices. Tawil’s work as Lime Rickey International challenges identity ‘legibility’ and champions ways to question culture, sound and movement across public space and time.

Future Faith is Lime’s first full-scale commissioned work; collaborators include Emese Csornai (lights), Scott Tallenger (costume) and Tim Clifford (scenic material).

Lime Rickey International has appeared at venues and festivals throughout the U.S. and Europe including Dock11 (Berlin), AUNTS at NYU Skirball Theater (NYC), Active Music Series (Oakland), Der Bloede Dritte Mittwoch (Vienna), MD301 (Amsterdam), Love Supreme Festival (Barcelona), YallaPunk (Philadelphia), Sonic Circuits Festival (Washington DC) and The Invisible Dog (NYC).

Leyya Mona Tawil has a 23-year record of choreographies and performance scores that have been presented throughout the US, Europe and the Arab world; highlights include Irtijal18 (Beirut), After the Last Sky Festival (Berlin), New York Live Arts: Live Ideas (NYC), The Lab (San Francisco), Bimhuis (Amsterdam) and Soap Factory (Minneapolis). She was a 2018 Saari Fellow (Finland) and an AIRSpace Artist at Abrons Art Center (NYC). Tawil is the director of DANCE ELIXIR and ArabAMP, a nomadic platform for the work of Arab Experimentalists.

Past Press of Tawil’s Work:

“This brainchild of Leyya Mona Tawil, a Syrian-Palestinian-American artist working in dance, sound and performance, unveils the New York premiere of “Unstoppable,” which takes inspiration from many sources in politics and culture to create a world of Arab experimentalism. The piece features Tawil performing fictional folk dances and singing about a homeland that doesn’t yet exist.”

8 Dance Performances to See in N.Y.C. This Weekend – Gia Kourlas, *New York Times*, November 2018.

Lime Rickey International’s “Unstoppable”, [Interview with Trina Mannino](#) for *The Dance Enthusiast*, November 2018.

“The propulsion of the hand and heel was connected to arcs throughout the body. You could liken the rolls to waves and tides of the sea. You could also feel them as helpless searches for a point of rest..the plight “Atlas” expressed became larger than that of one individual.” – [Alastair Macaulay on Atlas](#) in the *New York Times*, March 2016

“It was disturbing, uncompromising, and awe-inspiring.” – [Lizzie Simon on Atlas](#), *American Theatre*, March 2016