

LUCA SILVESTRINI'S

PROTEIN
PROTEINDANCE.CO.UK

Sarah Trist
Dance Management Agency

Border Tales



Back on tour - autumn 2017

"Border Tales is a big, brave, cacophonous attempt to show what it means to live in multicultural Britain today."

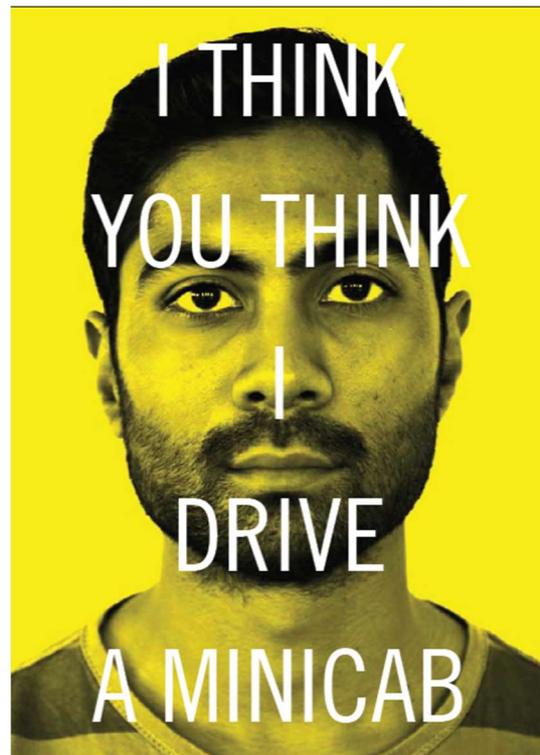
Judith Mackrell, *Guardian*

Border Tales, Protein's satirical look at the messy melting pot of multicultural Britain gets a post-Brexit make-over for 2017.

Connecting people with dance by unpacking the foibles of everyday life, **Luca Silvestrini's Protein** has a national reputation for accessibility without compromising quality. Its 2014 production **Border Tales** focusses on the space between "us" and "them", as seen through the immigrant eyes of six party-goers and their British-born host, performed by an international cast of dancers. With an engaging blend of dance, dialogue and live music, the result is a funny, honest and sometimes discomfiting commentary on stereotypical thinking and casual racism, portraying Britain as a place where the novelty of cultural diversity has worn off, fusion is starting to taste bland and harmonious living has become rather tricky.

Originally conceived in the round, the production is to be re-staged for end-on presentation in 2017. The format builds on the success of the live performance of **Border Tales** filmed by **BBC Worldwide** earlier this year to mark 'Identity Day'.

Audience research conducted for the first tour of **Border Tales** in 2014 revealed a greater than usual proportion of less-engaged audiences attending compared with other dance performances. Given the on-going transformation of cultural politics in Britain post-Brexit, the relevance of **Border Tales** for audiences will be felt as keenly as ever whilst Britain shapes a new cultural identity outside Europe. Protein's marketing for **Border Tales** in 2017 will develop its teaser campaigns on social media that had such impact in 2014, such as *I Think You Think* (see right).



I Think You Think is part of Protein's media campaign for **Border Tales**:

*Do you think Eryck drives a cab? If he thinks that's what you think, does that make him prejudiced? In **Border Tales** he will reveal more about his background and coming face to face with others' assumptions based on his looks.*

Yuyu has lived in the UK for some years, but with her accent and fragile appearance she still comes across a lot of presumptions. People sometimes assume that she is a tourist who takes photos of everything she sees; or at least she thinks that's what people think.

You guessed it, Stephen is Irish. He likes Guinness as much as the next person; but does that make him more or less Irish? Does anyone even care about that anymore? Stephen's story is about assimilation whilst still encountering racial prejudices.

*Andy has friends from many different backgrounds, but his views on immigration, foreigners and what it means to 'be British' have sometimes been controversial. **Border Tales** follows his story as he stumbles upon his prejudices highlighting our own in a witty and inevitable way.*

*Salah does come from Africa, being an Egyptian. He now lives and works in the UK, but faces prejudice and presumptions on a regular basis. In **Border Tales** he challenges the preconceptions of what he thinks you think of him.*

Press comments:



“Through explosions of rumbustious movement and continuous text, compiled from interviews and the dancers’ personal experiences, Protein shares with us stories and scenarios that make us laugh, cringe and reflect.”

Londondance.com

“Performed in the round, the dance was perfectly accessible to the audience, and beautiful to watch thanks to the marriage of choreography and the spoken word.”

everything-theatre.co.uk



“...the whole thing is superbly staged and performed.”

Daily Telegraph

Audience feedback:

“It was stunning, brilliant. I had no idea what to expect. Nearly went to the cinema... glad I didn't.”

“An intimate piece that scratches the surface of what I believe to be much broader tales. The intimate proximity to the stage brings to light just how real these issues are in all our lives. Portrayed with majesty and unabashed humour.”

“Amazing performance tonight! I'm not very 'dance aware' but I thoroughly enjoyed this amazing dance piece with some wonderful music and acting too!”

@proteindance @ThePlaceLondon
Stunning, beautifully crafted choreography & storytelling on stage tonight. #BorderTales

Beautiful dancing & wonderful music tonight in @proteindance #BorderTales, & great to see the performance at close quarters

Just been majorly, mind blowing inspired by the movement, passion and brains, everything behind this @proteindance

@proteindance @ThePlaceLondon
really great performance this eve #bordertales thought-provoking, and visually stunning

Booking Details

Availability:	October/November 2017
Touring Company:	8 performers, 2 technicians and Director
Running time:	90 minutes
Venue specification:	Performing area 10m x 10m, lighting and sound equipment as standard. Protein tours its own grey dance floor.
Other requirements:	Given the success of word of mouth and social media for this show, we like to run it for two nights
Age suitability	12+
Cost (UK only):	£2000 plus VAT per performance (inclusive of travel and accommodation)
Video trailer:	https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=5g5xol1kDo0
Education and access:	An interesting and relevant support package available
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