an Accident / a Life

A Marc Brew Company and Eastman production

Running time: 82 mins

AUDIENCE NOTES | TRIGGER WARNINGS Loud noises, some flashing lights, haze + smoke effects, lived trauma, sudden drop.

ACCESS | Highly Visual with Integrated Captioning, Audio Described, Q&A BSL Interpreted

You can download a copy of the script here:
an Accident / a Life .

WINNER Sky Arts Award for Dance 2026

★★★★★ 'brutal and tender' The Guardian

★★★★★ "It is simple, direct and devastating in it's honesty" The Stage

★★★★★ 'remarkable' The Herald

★★★★★ 'a dance theatre masterclass' The List

★★★★★ 'Meticulously crafted ... a raw and powerful piece of theatre' A Young(ish) Perspective

★★★★ 'moving and remarkable' The Scotsman

★★★★ 'a startling, unique, powerfully honest work ... remarkable dance theatre' The Telegraph

SHOW CREDITS

A collaboration between Marc Brew and Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui.

A Marc Brew Company and Eastman production. In co-production with: Perpodium; the Hessisches Staatsballett in the frame of Tanzplattform Rhein-Main a collaboration project between the Hessisches Staatsballett in Staatstheater Darmstadt and Hessisches Staatstheater; Wiesbaden and Künstler*innenhaus Mousonturm; Holland Dance Festival and Migros Culture Percentage Dance Festival Steps.

In Association with National Theatre Scotland.

Co-commissioned by Tramway and Sadler's Wells.

Developed in residency at the Théâtre National de Bretagne (TNB), Cumbernauld Theatre, The Work Room and De Warande .

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body. With the support of the Flemish Government and the Belgian Federal Government's Tax Shelter programme and Creative Scotland.

This production is in honour of, and dedicated to Joanne, Simon and Toby, our families and friends.

A collaboration between **Marc Brew** and **Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui**.

an Accident / a Life

CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION TEAM |

Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui – **Director**
Marc Brew – **Performer and co-creator**
Pepijn Van Looy – **Designer**
Veerle Van den Wouwer – **Costume Stylist**
Alexandre Dai Castaing – **Composition and Instrumentation**
Maxime Guislain – **Visual Artist**
Hayley Earlam – **Rehearsal Director**
Pol Van den Broek– **Camera Operator/Stagehand**
Kazutomi Kozuki – **Camera operator/ Stage hand**
Susan Worsfold – **Voice Consultant**
Emma-Jane McHenry – **Audio Describer**
Yvonne Strain **- Access Consultant**
Adam Carrée **– Lighting Consultant**

Susan Hay – **Creative Producer**
Gert Van Overloop – **Producer**
Nils Geernaert **– Stage and Production Manager**
Jessica McIntosh – **Assistant Stage Manager**
Sam Martin-Randerson – **Sound Designer/ Engineer**
Jamie Wardrop – **Video Engineer**
Nia Wood - **Re-lighter**
Imogen Michel – **Rigger**
Andy Pennicuik – **Rigger [Stirling]**
Vicki Brew **- Voice of Mum**
Melanie Wilson **– Marc Brew PA / Stage Hand**
Lars Boot **– Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui PA**

Julia Kent – **Cello**
Floris Van Looy and Robbie Van Nieuwenhove, Tanker - **Art Direction & Production**
Koen Luypaert, Tanker **- Construction**

Jonas Schildermans – **Press and Communications**
Joy Parkinson – **Press and Communications**
Rebecca Doggett – **Marketing**
Sofie Tait **- Marketing and Admin Assistant**

BELGIUM TEAM
Saar Swinters – **Dresser**
Pol Van den Broek – **Camera operator/ Stage hand**
Geoffrey Oelbrandt – **Video, Creative Director, Artfex Studio**
Nils Geernaert – **Technical production**
Pascal Schutijser – **Lighting Programmer**

With thanks to: Ruth Little, David Street, George Bushway, Yvonne Strain, Katy Steele, Ivy Gamboa, Ali Low, James Gardner, Robert Softley Gale, Danni Bastian, The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Scottish Opera, and Grid Iron.

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ABOUT THE SHOW:

An exciting new collaboration between Marc Brew and Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui.
A stunning, highly visual theatrical experience, including music, dance, storytelling, humour, film and a car. A semi/autobiographical piece exploring the moments in our lives when everything changes. For Marc, this was his car accident, where he went from ballet dancer to paraplegic in a split second.

Performed by Marc Brew, this solo marks the first collaboration of the Australian, Scotland based artist, with world-renowned Flemish-Moroccan choreographer Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui.
an Accident/ a Life follows on from Brew's notable solos, *For Now I am...* and *Remember When*, both critically and publicly celebrated.

To learn more visit:
www.marcbrew.com/an-accident-a-life/

"As a choreographer I am interested in how the body moves, and I've always looked and searched for how it copes, survives, thrives and changes with time, circumstances and age. With these areas in mind, It's been extremely rewarding working with Marc because we are from the same generation, he is open and honest about his own unique experiences as a choreographer and dancer. an Accident / a Life is an auto-biographical performance: it's a testimony of a very intense, specific and personal moment in time."

- Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui

"It has been an incredible journey and a dream come true to collaborate with Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui in creating our new show 'an Accident / a Life'. The new work has challenged me creatively and pushed me physically and I am extremely excited to share this ambitious and moving production."

- Marc Brew

CREATIVE TEAMS BIO

Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui (Director)

Winner of two Olivier Awards, the Jacob's Pillow Dance Award, nominated for a Tony Award and named Tanz Magazine Choreographer of the Year three times, choreographer and director Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui's work spans contemporary dance, ballet, opera, theatre, circus, musical, and cinema.

After seven seasons as ballet director at Opera Ballet Vlaanderen, Cherkaoui now helms the Ballet du Grand Théâtre de Genève and his own Antwerp-based contemporary dance company, Eastman.

The thirst to join hands with his counterparts has been a constant in his artistic DNA; well-known examples include *Sutra* (with the Shaolin monks and sculptor Antony Gormley, 2008), *Dunas* (with Maria Pagès, 2009), *zero degrees* (with Akram Khan, 2005), and since the foundation of Eastman, *Play* (with Shantala Shivalingappa, 2010), 生长*genesis*

(with Yabin Wang, 2013), and *Session* (with Colin Dunne, 2019).

Cherkaoui's profile as a ballet choreographer gained attention thanks to collaborations with among others Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo, the Dutch National Ballet, and The Royal Ballet. In 2014 he directed his first of many operas, *Shell Shock* by Nicholas Lens and Nick Cave.

Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui is the choreographer behind several acclaimed films *(Joe Wright's Anna Karenina* and *Cyrano, Lukas Dhont's Girl)*, circus shows *(Cirque du Soleil's Kurios* and *Michael Jackson ONE)*, musicals (*Jagged Little Pill*, to Alanis Morissette's music, and *Starmania*, by Michel Berger and Luc Plamondon), and musical artists (Beyoncé, Woodkid, Madonna).

For more information visit: www.east-man.be

Marc Brew (Performer and co-creator)

Marc Brew is an Australian performer, director and choreographer whose work has been toured to critical acclaim across the world.

In 2015 he created *Exalt* the first integrated work for Independance and Scottish Ballet and *For Now, I am..*, chosen to be part of the first integrated Fringe program, amongst other work. His outdoor work *(i)land* was commissioned for the Glasgow 2014 Cultural programme and Without Walls. Marc has also produced work for a number of high-profile companies such as AXIS Dance Theatre (USA), Candoco Dance Company, Scottish Dance Theatre, Touch Compass (NZ), Amy Seiwert's Imagery (USA), The London Contemporary Dance School and YDance.

In 2024 Marc was named as an Arts & Film Big Lottery 'Game Changer', listed in both the Shaw Trust Disability Power 100 as Performing Arts, Television and Radio winner and The List's Hot 100 - celebrating one hundred of the most influential Scottish cultural contributors; and nominated for two UK National Dance Awards: Outstanding Male Modern Performance and Best Modern Choreography (an Accident / a Life). Marc has been presented with a Centenary Medal for Outstanding Contribution as a dancer and choreographer and in 2014 was nominated for Outstanding Achievement in Performance (Individual) at the prestigious Isadora Duncan Awards for his solo piece *Remember When*.

TRAMWAY CREATIVE TEAM

Pepijn Van Looy (Designer)

For over a decade, Pepijn. Van Looy has been dealing with set design, art direction, and production design for creative projects the world over, always true to its core values: impeccable taste, a strong work ethic and a clear sense of getting things done in time. Founder of Tanker, which offers prêt-a-porter solutions with a tailored edge, dresses or styles existing locations or will create whole universes from scratch.

Veerle Van den Wouwer (Costume Stylist)

Based in Antwerp, Belgium, Veerle Van den Wouwer is an independent freelance costume designer and stylist working under the name V-Costumes. She graduated with distinction from the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Antwerp in 1996, specialising in stage costume and textile design.

Earlier in her career, she assisted Dries Van Noten with costume creations for dance and theatre. She also gained extensive experience as a costume supervisor at Opera Ballet Vlaanderen. Her design work spans theatre, dance, music theatre, musicals, music videos, dance films and opera, both in Belgium and internationally. She has collaborated with artists including Hans Op de Beeck, Iris van Herpen, Shawn Fitzgerald Ahern and Ivo van Hove. She also designed and created costumes for Tamino and Angèle's music video *Sunflower*.

Since 2020, she has collaborated regularly with Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui and Eastman on various projects, including an Accident / a Life with Marc Brew Company.

Alexandre Dai Castaing (Composition and Instrumentation)

Alexandre Dai Castaing is a Franco-Vietnamese composer born in Paris. He studied classical piano in Paris, and contemporary music and jazz drumming in Geneva. His artistic approach is defined by interdisciplinarity, respect for cultures and the blending of genres. He has composed for cinema, opera, theatre, advertising, video games, circus, animation and television, as well as for fashion events such as the Louboutin shows and for François Hollande's presidential campaign. It is in dance, however, that he particularly stands out: working with renowned choreographers in contemporary, ballet and hip-hop dance, including Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, he has created music for numerous choreographic works.

Recent projects include *HAS BEEN* (composer and performer, on tour since 2026), *Galactic Railroad* (Japan, 2026), *Romeo & Juliet* (2024), *Peter Pan* (HUNG Dance / National Taichung Theater, Taiwan, 2024), *Evangelion Beyond* (Tokyo, 2023), *The Loubi Show IV* (Paris Fashion Week, 2023), Marc Brew Company's *an Accident / a Life* (2023) and *Ukiyo-e* (Grand Théâtre de Genève, 2022), co-composed with Szymon Brzoska.

His musical universe is inspired by Ryuichi Sakamoto, Björk, Claude Debussy and KODO, with whose members he regularly collaborates. In 2024, Greenpeace Japan invited him to create an artistic event raising awareness about excessive plastic use.

Maxime Guislane (Visual Artist)

Maxime studied computer graphics in Namur (BE) and started working on the musical *"Peter Pan: The neverending story"* as an intern for Dirty Monitor in 2012. He then moved on to work full time with Dirty Monitor.

Maxime won the 1 minute projection mapping contest in Japan in 2014 and, thanks to that, started working solo by the end of 2015.

Since then, Maxime has been working on various projects for different clients from Tokyo to Las Vegas. In 2022, he started Epixels, a studio aimed at creating more immersive and more impressive content.

Hayley Earlam (Rehearsal Director)

Hayley is an award-winning Dance Artist working across performance, facilitation, and creation based in Glasgow, Scotland. She trained at Northern School of Contemporary Dance and works as a choreographer, performer, facilitator, movement direction, rehearsal director, and artist for dance and theatre companies on national and international stages. She holds a Masters in Education from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (MEd – Learning & Teaching in the Arts) with research focussed on sensory performance practice for young audiences with complex needs.

Hayley's interests lie within the body's drive to move and our need to connect with others. She is driven to offer a safe space for everyone to thrive in movement and dance with a practice rooted in inclusivity and accessibility.

As a choreographer, Hayley creates sensory-based theatre for the most extraordinary audiences including babies, early years, and disabled audiences with complex needs. Hayley's work explores putting the audience at the heart of the performance through intensive interactions, creative consultation, and cultivating joy and curiosity.

She was awarded the Scottish Culture Award for Best Dance Performer in 2018. Hayley is Co-Founder and Co-Director of Overdrive Dance Company who were awarded the Creative Lives Award for Scotland in 2021 and Young Scot Awards in 2023 for their work engaging with male-identifying young people through dance.

Kazutomi Kozuki (Camera operator/ Stage hand)

Kazutomi 'Tsuki' Kozuki was born in Japan in 1980. He is a performer, singer and composer of electronic music. He started working in 2004 as a dancer for Baby-Q Dance Company in Japan and moved to Tokyo in 2005. Feeling a connection with the European dance scene, Kazutomi auditioned for Belgian director and theatre-maker Jan Fabre, and danced in his *Requiem for a Metamorphosis* (2007). In 2008 Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui invited him to join *Origine*, an intimate project at Toneelhuis in co-production with De Bijloke. Both projects led to Kazutomi being nominated in Tanz magazine in the category of Best Dancer.

Kazutomi then stayed in Antwerp to work with Cherkaoui at his company Eastman as a dancer and creator on a long-term basis. He dances in *Babel*(words) (2010), *TeZukA* (2011), *Puz/zle* (2012), *4D* (2013), 生长*genesis* (2013) and *Shell Shock* (2014). In 2015 he performed in the theatre production *Pluto* based on the award-winning manga series by Naoki Urasawa and Takashi Nagasaki at

Bunkamura in Tokyo. He danced in Cherkaoui's opera directions of *Les Indes galantes* (2016) and *Alceste* (2019) at Bayerische Staatsoper, *Satyagraha* (2017) at Theater Basel, and *Idomeneo* (2024) at the Grand Théâtre de Genève. He was a guest dancer at *Opera Ballet Vlaanderen* (Fall, 2015), GöteborgsOperans *Danskompani* (Icon, 2016, and Stoic, 2018), and Ballet du Grand Théâtre de Genève (Ukiyo-e, 2022). Recently, Kazutomi tours with *Nomad* (2019), *Vlaemsch (chez moi)* (2022) and performs one of the three solos in *3S* (2020).

His work for other artists include *Sinbad the Sailor* with Vladimir Ivanoff's Sarband music ensemble, *Noctiluque* with Japanese choreographer Kaori Ito, *UMBRA* with contemporary Flamenco artist Fabian Thomé, and the video clip *No Light, No Light* by Florence + The Machine with choreographer Damien Jalet. Kazutomi also modeled for The Boatman by Belgian visual artist Hans Op de Beeck.

Pol Van den Broek (Camera operator/ Stage hand)

Pol Van den Broek, born in Belgium, started to train in rock 'n' roll acrobatics at the age of seventeen, and developed his interest in contemporary dance shortly after. He received his education as a contemporary dancer at the Royal Conservatoire in Antwerp, and worked simultaneously with the Leuven based production house fABULEUS as a performer in *Everland*. After graduating from the Conservatoire of Antwerp, he took part in a year-long research cycle at P.A.R.T.S. in Brussels. He got involved in many different projects with companies and artists such as Theater Tol, Tuur Marinus, Dimitri Leue, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Iris Bouche and with Ann Van den Broek at her company WArd/waRD.

Thank you for joining us for *an Accident / a Life* .

If you have been affected by any of the issues explored in tonight's performance please find links below to charities who can provide support:

Back up Trust – provides support, mentoring, and wheelchair skills training to build confidence after an SCI.
Spinal Injuries Association (SIA) – a national, user-led organization providing a free advice line (0800 980 0501) and practical support.
Spinal Injuries Scotland – a charity that supports individuals with spinal cord injuries in Scotland including peer support.
Aspire – a national charity focusing on practical help for people paralyzed by SCI.
Brain and Spine Foundation offers various support groups for those with spinal cord injuries and their carers across the UK.
Horatio's Garden nurtures the wellbeing of people after spinal injury in beautiful, vibrant sanctuaries within the heart of NHS spinal injury centres.
The Good Grief Trust – providing vital resources for people experiencing bereavement including links to charities and helplines across the UK.
Samaritans is available for anyone struggling to cope and provide a safe place to talk 24 hours a day. Phone:116123

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