"If thought creates our reality, then let's educate our thought"

# Alexandra David-Néel Output Output

A daring vision

**Mariane Zahar** 

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WebTheatre

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Le MAG

Le Dauphiné

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Republicain

La Vie

One of the biggest explorers of the 20th century was a French woman

3-18 AUGUST 2018 Degrated 14:35 (15:55) www.dna-alexandra-david-neel.com

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Venue 53
Nicolson S



Born next to Paris, she died at the age of 101 in Dignes les bains on September 8, 1969. She is known as an orientalist, tibetologist, opera singer, journalist, freemason, exploratory writer and Buddhist.

She was, in 1924, the first woman of European origin to stay in Lassa, Tibet. She is also the one who imported Buddhism into Europe, and by her extraordinary life has certainly helped to open the way for the liberation of women.

# The Play

It may seem strange and even incongruous to mix a great explorer in search of spirituality with the world's most famous scholars?

And yet what a nice surprise this brought! What a discovery to observe that the footsteps of one through the Tibetan and Indian wilderness are brought to cross,

then to walk next to each other through the prodigious labyrinths of theoretical physics. Alexandra David Néel met Albert Einstein who called her "Madame know it all".

Of course the current has not passed and that is a shame!

They would have had so much to say and exchange, one on the secret doctrine of Buddhism, the other on quantum physics, to finally realize that they had discovered the same secret by taking apparently opposite paths.

# A RELEVANT TOPIC

This creation responded to a need, an obvious necessity for me, first of all, a woman of the 21st century, Western, bathed in a civilization that sees its limits, colliding with the artificiality of each thing and discovering that even humanity is only a concept.

And what is felt so strongly is often shared by the greatest number of people, this affirmation is not a concept but a reality.

This is probably why this creation, which was presented for the first time on July 2014 at the "Le Moulin à Paroles" festival in Orléans, followed by a summer tour in the Hautes-Alpes and Alpes de Hautes Provence, aroused so many emotions.

Against all odds, this show was instantaneously a necessity for the audience who, from representation to representation, was passing the word to attend.

A dice? A knock? Well, maybe. From my point of view, I just felt as if I had listened to the deepest part of myself and looked for an answer, or at least an opening.

I am not Buddhist, I am nothing at all, but like many of us, I feel that this hyper-rationalism and cynicism, so typical in France, reduces my heart and is worth nothing to me! So I dared because I have nothing to lose but everything to gain!

## Meet

Like many people, I was 20 years old when I discovered this extraordinary woman whose adventures nourish all the audacity of women.

Among Westerners 5 senses are recognized, among Buddhists 6.

This sixth sense is often attributed to women whose intuition is legendary, is this the sixth that brings us so close to Alexandra's quest for spirituality?

Still, I recognize myself without a doubt and the journey of helping me is back again, dear Alexandra. With my modest baggage accumulated over the years, I've come a long way with you.

We will unite our teachings, our knowledge and if you want I will borrow some adventures and try to take on your personality.

You won't blame me, I know that, especially since I'm not giving you a gift, it's a good war, isn't it, since you weren't either?

And I know you'll like it if this portrait is uncompromising and uncompromising.

On the other hand, I took a freedom, the freedom that you did not allow yourself, perhaps by refusing to lend the flank to the detractors.

Times haven't changed we still have the same cynical minds to fight and in my own way I'm going to feed myself, but with serious allies Max Planck and Albert Einstein, their discoveries are very useful to me. Then we will see if a century later, your combined efforts with mine will finally bear fruit! For I, like you and many others, in going out to conquer ourselves, believe that we are taking action to create a better world, and we express it in our own way.

Me, it's by doing what I think I know how to do: show business.

# The Actress

Can one really be an artist without deeply wanting to exchange emotions, visions or concepts with the audience that allow us to move forward together towards a better world? Nothing is new in this approach.

But once the artistic creation is offered, whether it is a work or an interpretation, what makes the difference may be our originality if it is authentic and our perception if it shakes the citadel of conformism. In any case, the artist hopes that traces will remain in the other and that evolution will be. It is in this way that he will also feel part of the whole of humanity, bequeathing to him the best, his most intimate authenticity, the embossing of his beauty.

M. Z.

# Her Path

Mariane Zahar belongs to those people who, as child, already know what they want to do and Mariane has always wanted to be an actress. Even if at the age of 12 she wondered for a good time between the possibility of being a none and being a terrorist, fortunately it didn't last! Because it was drama that caught up with her. But didn't this hesitation with the scent of innocence already have a great taste for adventure and a quest for freedom and love?

After completing her studies in biology, which convinced her that life was a miracle and that a force of unheard-of power was certainly at the origin, she pursued her studies of theatre first with "Simon school" a very well known French theatre school in Paris and then with L' Atelier theatre.

But this stretched a little bit in time, as the whole thing was interspersed with several trips to Asia and especially 1 year in India at the age of 20.

From this trip she brought back the first writing of a comedy already on the theme of initiation and the lie of the ego. Then her alternative career between cabarets and poetic recitals, in which the actress had acted as a representative, while playing in various theatre groups until she created her own company "La compagnie des Saïs" where she directed numerous workshops for learning theatre in Essonne. While pursuing her career as an actress, she has since then created numerous creations to her credit, always taking up themes on the quest for authenticity and the poetry of Life.

For her workshops, she counts the staging and creation of about 90 plays by authors of the contemporary and classical repertoire, whose underlying message is always in line with her quest for meaning and philosophy. We will remember Vercors, Pirandello, Brecht and Anouilh among many others... But above all her latest creation "ADN Alexandra David Neel" which marks a real turning point in her artistic stance and meets with great success in the networks parallel to the system.

# Light on her experiences

An actress touching everything, she began under the direction of Vicky Messica before working on various projects. She can be found in the contemporain dramatic repertoire such as Gilles Costaz's pencil as well as in the musical "Des Enchantées from Yolande Posé-Combapopoulos".

She is also at the origin of several theatrical creations J'aime pas la poésie, L'eternel festin, Tendre Cloche. She has 20 years of experience in the amateur and associative fabric and has directed and trained through workshops a population from all walks of life. From an amateur audience, from design including costumes and sets to creation, she has created 100 plays, street theatre, theatre festivals and improvised events in the cities. She regularly participates in ESAT de l' Essonne and CMPR de Bobigny in a process of rehabilitation and awakening through theatrical expression.

# **Press**

### LA VIE Pierre-Michel Robert le 21/01/2018

Mariane Zahar's monologue is not intended for initiates, it is initiation itself.

Or at least, because a show remains a spectacle, the wing of mysteries touches us by Madame Zahar's diction, interior and impudent, immobile and agitated, granite and alive, screams and whisperings. Go listen to Mariane Zahar. When you leave, you may have entered another familiarity with the world and the beings that inhabit it.

### Les écrans de Claire

This show is a very interesting theatrical experience, marked by spirituality and humanity.

The very talented actress shows a remarkable presence, throughout the performance, she looks into our eyes and speaks to us as if we were alone.

The atmosphere is quite disturbing. December 19,2017

### «DNA Alexandra David-Néel» au Théâtre du Gymnase, we where there!

Publié le 10 Décembre 2017 par Steph Musicnation

DNA" is a rare moment in the theatre, it is a very dense show, sometimes complex but very honestly, even the uninitiated will not feel isolated because Mariane Zahar explains very well the terms" technical ". With "DNA", the actress manages to create a brilliant work in which spirituality and love are at the centre. Coming out of the room, the spectator will feel as if he or she has had a strong experience, and he or she will without any doubt also wonder.

### A bride Abattue dimanche 17 décembre 2017

ADN ou la pensée d'Alexandra David Néel décryptée par Mariane Zahar

We really feel like we've met this Alexandra because the game is more than just an evocation.

It's an incarnation. Mariane Zahar slips under the shawl of Alexandra whose principles she takes up again to offer us a portrait without concession nor frills.

She does so with her own personality since she has enriched herself with the work of Max Planck and Albert Einstein to argue and enlighten the comments made by the ethnologist.

At the end of the show, she will have shaken us. Everyone will come out of the room intensely changed.

### **Unification** 21/12/2017 Isabelle Arnaud

Marianne Zahar's performance, all in sobriety, is impressive and the latter really makes her character vibrate.

# Webthea Critiques / ADN de Mariane Zahar par Gilles Costaz 15/04/2015

Half-thinker half-shaman. Mariane Zahar knows how to give the heroine an intense presence, a complexity that combines the character of a daily yet exceptional woman, the audacity of an adventurous thought and the fulgurance of a shaman... the actress passes surprisingly from pensive immobility to impassioned mobility. Such a moment, which could and perhaps will be discussed by philosophers of all kinds, aims to be a breach in the materialism that surrounds or conditions us.

Mariane Zahar's reaction is very good, for her text is as strong as a stone thrown against certainties and, thanks to her interpretation, takes on a beautiful theatrical form.

### Paris 14 Info le 4/05/2015 Agnès Figueras-Lenattier

Marianne Zahar, who skillfully plays with her voice and body, guides us towards the path of absolute love without the existence of good or evil. The vibration of love resonates on stage, and you are deeply touched. This actress and director also felt this creation as a necessity."I just felt as if I had listened to the deepest part of myself, looking for an answer, or at least an opening." And it can be said that this search for an inner quest is contagious. One only wants to immerse oneself in the mysteries of thought.

### Provence ADN Alexandra David Néel (On est envouté) Frédéric Jullien 16/07/2017

Alone on the set, the actress Mariane Zahar plays Alexandra David Néel.

With her penetrating and powerful voice, she first reveals the main episodes of this extraordinary woman's life to us. A show with an edifying and brilliant interpretation that leaves the spectator enthusiastic and meditative.

# Le Dauphiné juillet 2015

"What a wonderful show!

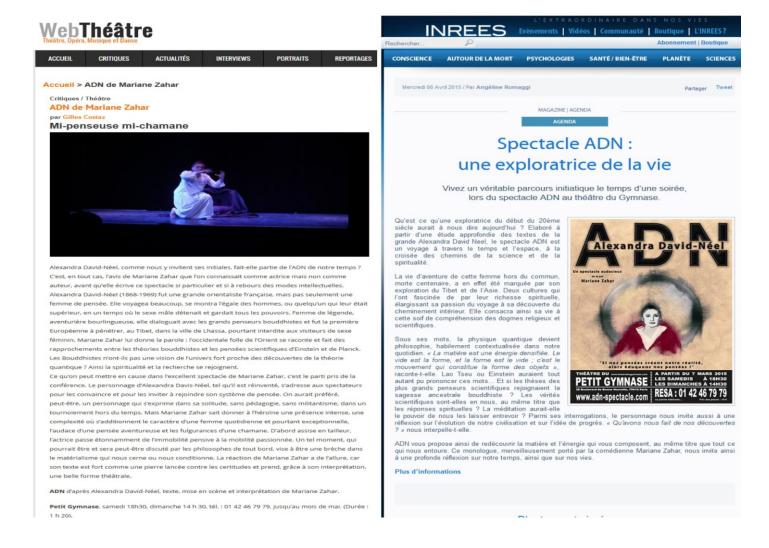
Curious to see how this immense explorer was going to be presented,

we were at the rendezvous, and it was a shocking surprise!

We would never have imagined being swept into such extreme universes and finally immersed so close to ourselves.

While we thought we were attending a traditional show about the life of this great character, the actress by her play, on a text skilfully written, takes us out of this illusory world in which we believe we live to reveal that the only reality is love!

Just like us the spectators came out moved and different!"





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# Dans le cœur d'Alexandra David-Néel

Les strates rocheuses de la "demeure des neiges" sont douces à l'âme d'Alexandra David-Néel qui y a reçu, en 1916, l'initiation d'un lama. C'est par cette porte que l'actrice Mariane Zahar a traversé le temps pour se glisser dans la peau de cette incroyable femme à la fois tibétologue, chanteuse d'opéra, journaliste, écrivaine et introductrice du bouddhisme en Europe. Présenté au théâtre du Gymnase de Paris pour une reprise à partir du 14 octobre, son spectacle ADN nous livre les mystères de la quête spirituelle d'Alexandra David-Néel, ainsi que ses questionnements palpitants liant physique quantique, éléments biographiques et bouddhisme tibétain. Plus encore, le jeu puissamment incarné de Mariane Zahar nous délivre pour un temps des tristes illusions d'un monde que nous pensions authentique et qui, en réalité, éclipsait un univers essentiellement fait d'amour.

Pour en savoir plus sur cette production de la Compagnie des Saïs : www.adn-spectacle.com ou www.compagnie-sais.com