

**La République du Centre,
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“*Fidèle à l'éclair* and *Havran* : Two jewels by Karine Ponties close the “Traverses” festival.

On Friday and Saturday, two creations by the Dame de Pic dance company made hearts race at the choreography centre in Orléans.

The first piece, lasting only twenty minutes, was a wonderful display of dazzling delicacy. Alone on stage, accompanied by the original music and sound track of David Monceau, one dancer, Jaro Vinarsky, carrying a long bamboo stick across his shoulders suggestive of the curved horizon, was a scarecrow of the fields put to dance by Karine Ponties. Tossed by the wind, thrown to the ground like a rag or rising like a flame, this funambulist performed a mad pantomime that amazed and elicited admiration.

Still on the theme of the scarecrow and choreographed by the director of the Dame de Pic dance company, it was then the turn of Claudio Stellato in a solo performance entitled *Fidèle à l'éclair*. This twenty-minute performance to music from “God speed You! Black Emperor”, was of a pure and increasingly poignant beauty. Here, the scarecrow tried to escape from his wooden cross. Having done so, this being attempted to speak, stammer, he gambled and stumbled, collapsed sighing and got up again. Like all human beings carried away on a sea of emotions. A moving performance by a truly great dancer.”

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