

# tribale

a visual journey  
2022

concept and choreography **Melissa Ugolini**

performance **Melissa Ugolini, Felicia Ciacci**

music **Paolo Giaro**

video production **Tobe Studio Pesaro**

duration **03:40 min**

a work arisen from the encounter between the artist and the musical heritage of Paolo Giaro, promoted by Hangartfest 2022

**tribale** is the result of a conversation between myself and the choreographer and curator Masako Matsushita over the work of the late Italian composer Paolo Giaro. The work was presented in the context of *Giaro in Luce*, a retrospective dedicated to the composer that the Contemporary Dance Festival Hangartfest produced in this year's Festival edition.

In discovering the work of the Italian composer, there were many elements that resonated both with my artistic practice and with my personal life. Paolo Giaro's musical identity goes beyond cultural differences and geographical borders in a joyful celebration of diversity and inclusivity. Having lived in various geographies and several cultural contexts myself, I find that what shapes my identity both as person and artist is in fact this unique cultural contamination I was exposed to.

The composer's track with which I was invited to establish a creative dialogue was the song **tribale**, a constant raw and rhythmical pulse calling out for a return to our roots, our heritage and lineage. In the context of my hometown I asked myself what that meant for me, where was my **tribale** manifesting. I found it in the precious body of my beloved 99 year-old grandmother, Felicia, whose wrinkled skin and morphed anatomy carry the weight of life and time, with a wisdom that pours out from her with her sole presence in space. Navigating her rough body landscapes was a journey back to **tribale**, back to a time before everything, a time of truth and pulse.

I am teaching myself to let go yet I cry for time to stand still.  
The drums keep beating and life calling  
for its renewal, its death and birth.  
There is presence in the absence  
and a longing for the final return home.

