

# XO-DOS (Exodus)

**Written and directed by Martin Sierra**

This work was inspired on Martin's personal journey that started with some dramatic events in his life which - in a way - became what he called his 'Own Personal Exodus'. In his journey to recovery, Martin had to struggle with painful injuries, disillusion, frustrations and anger. This journey led him to find a connection between his life and the story of Exodus in the bible.

'XO-DOS' is a choreography conceived to be appreciated as a kaleidoscope of memories. It is a traveling gallery and each room contains different works of art of movement and relationships. Alluding to the book of Exodus, 'XO-DOS' explores the journey of an enslaved Israel towards the theocratic nation established under God's alliance with Moses on Mount Sinai. Similarly, going through the unknown and hoping to reach an uncertain destination, 'XO-DOS' aims to engage the audience to appreciate that in the end, what counts is the way we pass the trial and not the destination.

Featuring music by David Byrne, Laurie Anderson, Brian Eno, Kronos Quartet and Planet Boom, all sections of this production aim to help audiences enjoy and reflect on how their own journey is going so far.

**Choreography: Martin Sierra and dancers of Victorian State Ballet**

**Choreographer Assistant: Hannah Leong**

**Costume design: Martin Sierra & Renee Ayres**

**Characters:**

<b>New Eve</b>	Elise Jacques		
<b>Moses</b>	Benjamin Harris	<b>Scroll of Life</b>	Renee Ayres
<b>Aron</b>	Charlie Keegan-Bull	<b>Elisheba</b>	Yena Yoon
<b>Joshua</b>	Daniel Sierra	<b>Rahab</b>	Charlotte Jones
<b>The Grace</b>	Grace Kefford	<b>Holly Spirit</b>	Tatyana Carr

**People of Israel:**

Lucia Costanzo, Jasmine Goldie, Ayva Kennedy, Grace Richardson, Ava Rory, Kyra Saliba, Tiana Vella, Lara Wingfield, Akane Ogawa, Stephanie Little-Hales, Felix Milewski, Katie Little-Hales, Claire Kaines, Charlie Keegan-Bull, Annabel Kent

**ROOMS:**

**I. And the people of Israel asked...**

- They asked, "Are we there yet?". He said, "...No".  
(dancers stop)
- They asked, "Are we there yet?". He said, "...No".
- They asked, "Are we there yet?". He said, "Yes!". They asked, "...Really!?", he said "...No".

- They asked, “Are we there yet?”. He said very calmly, “Yes”.

## **II. Snakes in the Camp**

Mmm...there are lots of serpents in this place.

## **III. Still Alive – Breath of Life**

Can you hear the sound of Silence...? (pause)

Can you hear the sound of Silence...? (pause)

Can you hear the sound of Silence...? (almost whispering) (pause)

## **IV. Before War there is Love**

Can you hear my heart pumping? (pause) I can feel the flow of fate running in my veins. It is the gentle touch of destiny that keeps us together. Is this love? Maybe not but it is the only way I know I am alive.

My heart beats faster when I feel the softness of your touch. Is love the source of life? My heart beats, therefore, I am.

## **V. Meanwhile during War (waiting for you)**

The Lord said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.”

## **VI. Aron & Elisheba – “My Compass”**

Lost in the wilderness of my thoughts, I found myself asking the same question at more less the same time, “What is behind my back?”

## **VII. “Mea Culpa” – The Golden Calf**

(Get the Golden Calf from the front after just messing with Aaron) start almost immediately heading to Aaron. Slow first section

## **VIII. Rahab the Unclean**

(Can you hear the sound of Silence...?)

Siren megaphone to Charlotte

## **IX. Rahab Prophecy – Joshua & Rahab**

(Can you hear the sound of Silence...?)

## **X. Almost There, The Writing on the Wall– Scroll words of wisdom**

Adagio solo improvisation

**XI. What can I do...?**

As the book Character, using quirky moves to resemble what they could do to transform the dancers' expectations

**XII. Why don't you call on Me..?**

All we need to do is call.

**XIII. Holy Spirit in the Room!**

... And the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

**XIV. Redemption – the “New Eve”**

The woman of redemption is the New Eve.

**XV. Arrival Passing Grace**

Pass the grace for those who never measure up...!