

**The New York Times, The New York Times. com**  
“For 3 Dutch Troupes, Kinetic Force on a Small Stage”  
September 15, 2009

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/15/arts/dance/15island.html>

**The New York Times**  
“Martha Graham Lives On, in the Passion of Her Fledglings”  
May 30, 2015

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/30/arts/dance/review-young-dancers-of-graham-2-show-palpable-passion-for-the-legend.html? r=0>

**OFFOFFOFF dance.com**  
“Beauty in Small Numbers”  
November 14, 2013

<http://www.offoffoff.com/dance/2013/dancegallery2013.php>

**Codarts. nl**  
“Julia & Sarita in New York”  
2009

<http://archive-nl-2012.com/open-archive/390018/2012-10-08/b8b01b1201f78ce4aca215a6f69567f8>

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As a part of NY400 – the event through which 400 years of friendship between the Netherlands and the United States was celebrated – the New Island Festival took place on Governors Island (near the shore of Manhattan) from 10 to 20 September, with numerous theatre, dance and music performances. Almost 50,000 cultural connoisseurs attended. For this occasion Julia Buschmann (21) and Sarita Apel (17), third-year students at Rotterdam Dance Academy, participated in Dansgroep Amsterdam, which presented three pieces at the New Island Festival. In addition to the above-mentioned Chameleon by Itzik Galili – performed as a duet – there was Go by Massiomo Molinari and Variations on a Theme by Krisztina de Châtel. 'Three short dances by three of the Netherlands' most provocative choreographers, set to music by three of the world's most influential composers,' according to the programme.

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Julia Buschmann and Sarita Apel – both of them born in Germany – had already danced Chameleon earlier, including at the farewell gala of Itzik Galili as artistic director of Galili Dance (in December 2008) and during the RDA-performance Talent On The Move in de Rotterdamse Schouwburg (in May 2009). Those times they performed together with fifteen classmates, but in New York there were just the two of them on stage. 'It's an extraordinary piece, in which mime plays a very important role. The audience can see who you are and how you feel,' relates Julia. 'It makes a lot of difference whether you dance Chameleon with two people or with fifteen more. In the latter

case it is much less personal.' Sarita: 'In New York the piece was really about us. Because we always had various moods, each performance was individual.'

Another big contrast with the performances in the Netherlands was the fact that the performances in New York did not take place in a theatre, but in the open air, subject to the wind and weather. Julia: 'It was quite a nice experience, but I prefer a well-lit stage.' Sarita says that she found it wonderful to perform in the open air. 'Certainly with this piece.'

Before they left for New York, Julia and Sarita rehearsed twice with Itzik Galili, the choreographer of Chameleon. That was very educative, they both reported. Julia: 'Of course he knows what he wants to see.' Sarita: 'But for everyone who dances the piece, it's different. Just like a chameleon, that's why it keeps changing colour.' In addition, there were five rehearsals with a coach from Dansgroep Amsterdam.

In total Julia and Sarita were in New York for two weeks in September. They camped out on Governors Island, together with around two hundred others from the Netherlands who were involved in the New Island Festival. In that period the weather wasn't all that good: a lot of rain and wind, the young dancers relate. They count themselves lucky that thanks to Dansgroep Amsterdam they could stay in a warm hotel for four nights.

During the three free days they had in the Big Apple, Julia and Sarita visited museums and tourist attractions, and on Broadway they followed an open steps lesson. 'New York is busy and noisy, and it stinks there, but it is a wonderful city where you can do everything.'

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In [The New York Times of 15 September](#) there was a review of the dance performances at the New Island Festival (pdf file).



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### Julia & Sarita in New York

Julia Buschmann and Sarita Apel, both third-year students at Rotterdam Dance Academy, performed ten times in New York in September. There they danced Chameleon by choreographer Itzik Galili.

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