

Performing Arts Hub Norway and FuturePerfect Productions  
with the support of the Royal Norwegian Consulate General, New York present

# Norway – Performing Arts

# Now from the Northern

# 2015

# Latitudes



New York: January 10, 2015  
Scandinavia House, 58 Park Avenue New York, NY 10016

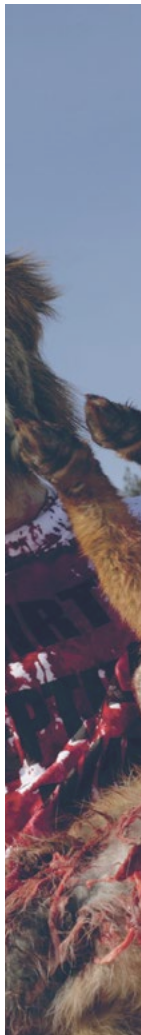
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Since the early 2000s, a new generation of Norwegian artists has been developing and advancing a vital independent performance scene both in Norway and abroad. Norway offers a unique set of political, economic and social circumstances for exploring how independent performing artists research, innovate, develop, and disseminate their work within a dynamic framework of government agencies and cultural institutions, as well as individual and private efforts. During this convening six compelling artists—working in and between dance, theater, visual art, film and music—talk about their artistic strategies, themes, and contexts. This is followed by discussion and networking opportunities for international collaboration, co-production, and presenting.

Tove Bratten  
General Director, Performing Arts Hub Norway

Wayne Ashley  
Founding Artistic Director, FuturePerfect Productions

## summary

**Performing Arts Hub Norway**, with support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Royal Norwegian Consulate General, New York, and organized by **FuturePerfect Productions**, present a special convening in **New York City on Saturday January 10, 2015**, focusing on contemporary Norwegian performing arts. Select artists, presenters and producers from Norway, will meet their US and Canada counterparts to share projects, information, and opportunities for collaboration.

Convening Co-Organizers:

### Performing Arts Hub Norway (PAHN)

PAHN is a national competence center and network organization promoting professional performing arts in Norway and internationally, with an emphasis on independent performing arts. There are currently 106 member companies in the network. The organization manages and allocates travel funding on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and supports exchanges in the performing arts, as well as coordinating international exchange projects. PAHN engages in international performing arts networks, and works closely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Norwegian Arts Council to create high quality conditions for international collaborations and presentation of Norwegian performing arts.

An important part of PAHN's work is *Sceneweb*, a documentation, information and database project about performing arts in Norway.

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danseogteatersentrum.no  
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### FuturePerfect Productions

**FuturePerfect Productions** is a New York-based interdisciplinary production company with a practice that intersects fields of performance, media, visual art, & technology. FuturePerfect charts and generates new directions in performance by commissioning, producing, touring and presenting hybrid performance practices that continue to emerge as computers, communication networks and other non-human systems become increasingly ubiquitous and part of contemporary culture. Since 2012 FuturePerfect has been working with Performing Arts Hub Norway to help strategize, organize, and implement a long-term strategy for intensifying and expanding opportunities for Norwegian performing arts in North America.

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### The Royal Norwegian Consulate General, New York

**The Norwegian Consulate General in New York** was established in 1906. It is the oldest and largest Norwegian Consulate General in the United States. The Consulate promotes Norwegian art and culture in collaboration with some of the city's leading institutions, and aims to foster cultural exchange. The Consulate supports the arts and culture arena in New York through visitor programs for press, curators and presenters within a wide range of cultural fields, in addition to facilitating for and providing financial support to projects taking place in the city.

[norway.org/Embassy/newyork](http://norway.org/Embassy/newyork)

Saturday, January 10, 2015

## 10:00am – 10:15am : Introductions

Royal Norwegian Consulate General, Consul General: Elin Bergithe Rognlie  
Performing Arts Hub Norway, General Director: Tove Bratten  
FuturePerfect Productions, Founding Artistic Director: Wayne Ashley

## 10:15am – 11:05am : Session One

### Choreographies at Limits: Movement, Sensuousness, and the (In)Human Body

Noémie Solomon joins choreographers Mia Habib, Jo Strømngren, and Ingun Bjørnsgaard, all working within and beyond the contemporary Nordic dance scenes, to discuss the material and formal concerns that animate their distinct practices. The conversation will examine how each artist works with questions of sensual expression and techniques of movement to approach physical, emotional, and discursive limits.

Moderated by Noémie Solomon

Panelists: Mia Habib, Jo Strømngren, Ingun Bjørnsgaard

## 11:05am – 11:55am : Session Two

### Installations and Encounters

Findlay and Sandsmark, Lisa Lie/Pony of No Return, and NIE (New International Encounters) three of Norway's cutting-edge companies, share an interest in new platforms and modes of performance. This discussion will look at how these Norwegian innovators work across disciplines to engage audiences in original formats. How do they use space, technology, display, and mobility to offer original and provocative experiences of discovery?

Moderated by Tom Sellar

Panelists: Iver Findlay, Lisa Lie, Guri Glans

11:55am – 12:00pm : Remarks from Iréne Hultman on behalf of the Swedish Arts Council and the Swedish Arts Grants Committee

12:00pm – 1:00pm LUNCH

## moderators

**Tom Sellar**, a writer, editor and curator, is Editor of Yale's international performance journal *Theater* and Professor of Dramaturgy and Dramatic Criticism at Yale University. Under his editorship since 2003, *Theater* has published issues on a wide range of contemporary topics and global artists. Sellar's arts writing and criticism has appeared in national and international publications including the *New York Times* and the *Guardian* (UK). He currently serves as chief theater critic and Obie award judge for the *Village Voice*, where he has covered theater and performance art since 2001. A New York City native, Sellar received his Master of Fine Arts and Doctor of Fine Arts from Yale University, where he was twice awarded the John W. Gassner Memorial Prize for critical writing. He will serve as curator of the 2015 PRELUDE festival.

**Noémie Solomon** works as a writer, teacher, performer, dramaturge, and curator in the field of contemporary choreography. Before joining the TAPS department at Brown University, she was an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral fellow in the Faculty of Arts at McGill University, Montréal, where she researched dance in Québec after 1948 around questions of movement, minority, and belonging. She holds a PhD in Performance Studies from New York University and a MA in Dance Studies from the Université Paris VIII. She edited *DANSE: an anthology* (Les Presses du reel, 2014) and her writing and translations have been published in different journals and anthologies, such as *Dance Research Journal*, *TDR*, *Movement Research*, *Planes of Composition*, and *Perform Repeat Record*. She worked as a choreographer, performer and collaborated on a series of dramaturgical and curatorial initiatives in the dance field internationally, including: *Dance on Time* with Gurur Ertem (iDANS, Istanbul, 2009); *Self-Methodologies* with Sandra Noeth (Tanzquartier, Vienna, 2011); the *Photomusée de la danse* with Tim Etchells (Festival d'Avignon, 2011); *Solos and Solitudes* with Jenn Joy (Danspace Project, NYC, 2012-13); *Dancing is talking / Talking is dancing* with Jenny Schlenzka (MoMA PS1, NYC, 2014).

# Mia Habib Production

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Mia Habib Productions is an Oslo-based company working at the intersection of performance, exhibitions, publications, lectures, teaching, mentoring and curating. She also engages in labs and research with a variety of specialists including artists, scientists, political activists and others.

Currently Habib is working on her new piece *A song to...* for eighteen dancers, which premieres at Dance House Oslo (September 2015). An ongoing project, *We Insist*, will premiere her work with Jassem Hindi and Rani Nair called *a stranger within* in 2016.

Habib has worked with Julie Nioche, the research project *BrainDance* with Theatre Freiburg and University of Freiburg, MONO for Kompani Haugesund, *Shulamite* with Timo Kreuser and her solo *HEAD(S)*. Others include Jane Jin Kaisen, Ong Keng Sen, Brynjar Bandlien, Joanne Leighton, Guilherme Garrido, Julie Nioche, Tommy Noonan/ PVC Company and Meg Stuart.

She is one of the founders of the global artist network Sweet & Tender Collaborations (2007) and a former member of the board of The Norwegian Opera and Ballet. Her work has been presented internationally and particularly in the context of the Initiatives in Dance through Europe Exchange (IDEE). Habib holds an M.A in conflict resolution and mediation from Tel Aviv University (2011) and a B.A. in choreography and dance pedagogy from the Oslo National Academy of the Arts (2003).

## CONTACT

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# Jo Strømngren

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## Kompani

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*“Physical theatre at its very best: daring, dark, unpredictable and charged with compressed intensity.”*

– The Guardian

*“Expertly straddles the fragile line between humor and horror.”*

– New York Times (US)

Jo Strømngren Kompani was founded in 1998 and has grown to become one of the best known independent groups in Scandinavia. The company presents 150–250 shows in 10–20 countries annually and has so far produced 26 stage performances, one feature film and one short movie. The overall touring list covers more than fifty countries. JSKs home stage in Oslo is the Norwegian Opera House.

Strømngren’s work draws upon an intriguing mix of dance, theatre, puppetry, film, and live music. His often use of nonsensical language adds a distinct humoristic touch. Jo Strømngren also has a successful career as a freelance choreographer, theatre director, and playwright.

For the 2015–2016 season JSK offers twelve productions: *A Dolls House*, *THERE*, *The Border*, *A Dance Tribute to Ping Pong*, *The Origin of Species*, *“40”*, *The Society*, *A Dance Tribute to the Art of Football*, *The Kitchen*, *The Writer*, *The Painter* and *The Hospital*. All productions are prepared for flexible touring

### CONTACT

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Photo: Sakari Vika



# winter guests



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winter guests is an international touring company performing works by Alan Lucien Øyen from Bergen, Norway. winter guests tells stories of the contemporary world with words, video, music and movement. The works are often based on real life experiences, including original text, transcribed recordings and improvisations. The company often inserts its own reality into the subject matter of the piece - resulting in rich, eccentric and entertaining performances in a constantly shifting format.

Described as “sincere and emotive”, the performances have won several awards and engaged audiences and critics alike. In 2014 they won the *HEDDA* award, the most distinguished award for theatre in Norway, in the category best written stage-play, for their epic 5 ½ hour long play *Coelacanth*. The piece also earned them nominations for best play and best director.

winter guests is closely associated with BIT-teatergasjen, and as of January 2013 Alan Lucien Øyen has been Artist in Residence at the new Norwegian Opera House in Oslo, a commitment that extends to winter guests as a company.

The company is currently involved in a series of productions premiering 2015/16, among them *Simulacrum*. The work features 75-year-old Japanese flamenco legend Shoji Kojima in a polyphonic theatrical event that mixes opera, contemporary dance, Flamenco and Kabuki. Alan Lucien Øyen also continues to create commissioned work ranging from dance to film and theatre.

*“A text-theatre that sends shivers of joy down your spine because it’s so elegant, raw and cheeky [...], but also because the experience is so complete and unique.”*

– Aftenposten (NO)

*“Somber but stalwart, winter guests explored the ubiquity of beauty with an appropriately diverse cast. Fiery poetry.”*

– Kat Richter (UK)

*“Elegant, raw and cheeky...”*

– Bergens Tidende (NO)

Funding: The Norwegian Arts Council and  
The City of Bergen

# Ingun Bjørnsgaard Prosjekt



Photo: Erik Berg

## CONTACT

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**Ingun Bjørnsgaard** is one of Norway's leading vanguard choreographers of the past 20 years. Her career spans from the highly profiled inauguration of The Norwegian Opera & Ballet's Scene 2 in 2008, where she often contributes with new works, to a range of choreography commissions for European dance theatres -including *HEDDA* at Ballet-de-Lorraine in Nancy, France (May 2013).

Her own company, Ingun Bjørnsgaard Prosjekt (IBP) was established in 1992. With this company

Bjørnsgaard has created 19 full-length choreographic works which have toured throughout Norway and a variety of European venues. In her work with her own company she has developed a dance-theatre language in a chamber format. The latest production premiered September 2014 at Dansens Hus Norway. In 2010, Ingun Bjørnsgaard received the Norwegian Critic award for *Largo* (Tanztheater Bremen and Tanzcompagnie Oldenburg). Fifteen years after having received this prestigious prize for her work *Sleeping Beauty*, she is the first ever to receive this award twice.

Described as a humanist project, characterized by courage, breadth and elegance IBP's language has consistently moved towards greater abstraction. Her work continues to focus on social, erotic and political dynamics between and within the sexes.



# Ingri Fiksdal



Ingri Midgard Fiksdal (b.1982) is a Norwegian choreographer and performer. Her work deals with perception and affectivity, and several of her pieces take shape as part performance and part live concert. The audience is always integral to the work, which aims to produce temporary collectives between performers and spectators. This notion of collectivity here refers to modes of attention and sensorial transference, rather than to interactivity. An ongoing theme within Fiksdal's work is the ritual and its inherent capacity to transform and to ultimately transcend its partakers. Fiksdal's research has involved exploring how the capacities of ritual can be deployed in her performances. Her work is concerned with the relation between cognition and affectivity and how they shape perception and meaning,

Fiksdal is currently a Research Fellow at The Oslo National Academy of the Arts / Norwegian Artistic Research Fellowship Program. Her work has toured internationally to brut-Wien (AUS), Kampnagel (DE), Nordwind (DE), The Armory Show (US), Baltoscandal (EST), Dampfzentrale (CH), LÓKAL Festival (IS), Inkonst (SE), MDT (SE), Weld (SE), In Between Time (UK), ANTI festival (FI), LIMIT Festival (RS), HIFA (ZIM) and Homo Novus festival (LV). In Norway, Fiksdal collaborates regularly with Black Box Theatre, BIT-teatergarasjen and Teaterhuset Avant Garden. As of January 2014, Ingri Fiksdal is also part of the Advancing Performing Arts Project (apap).

Fiksdal's work *Night Tripper* will be performed for the first time in the US on the 24th and 25th of April 2015 at Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center. The piece is created in collaboration with Ingvild Langgård and Signe Becker.

## CONTACT

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# Teater Joker



*“With their bodies the actors constantly make new characters and scenes. It’s all done so precisely that it’s easy to follow, and with an enthusiasm in the acting that makes it very funny!”*

– Andreas Wiese, Dagbladet

*“A playful, funny and abundant performance, and a feast for the eye!”*

– Ida Lou Larsen, Klassekampen

*“Extraordinarily dynamic, fun and strong in it’s form.”*

– Mariken Lauvstad, Barnebokkritikk

For over 20 years **Teater Joker** has been creating theatre performances for children and teenagers. They have also made several shows for adults as well.

The company is known for its signature form, *band mime* (French for cartoon mime). This is a very expressive form using only the actors’ bodies and voices with strong elements of techniques used in film. This visual form enables the audience to use their own imagination in creating the images suggested to them. Teater Joker also uses acoustic singing and soundscapes specially composed for the company.

All shows are made in close cooperation between director, actors, composers and designers. The company explores stage-expressions that are easy to tour without compromising artistic qualities. Teater Joker offers the award winning *The Mad Adventures of Baron Von Munchhausen* and *Peer!* for English-speaking audiences.

All of the company’s shows have toured extensively in Norway, China, Iran and Sweden. In February the company will be taking *Peer!* to India.

## CONTACT

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Photo: Mads Nygård

“Ambiguous is my favorite word,” explains Ina Christel Johannessen. Her work is characterized by an energetic physicality with poetic and theatrical elements. In addition to her company **zero visibility corp.**, the sought-after Johannessen works for international companies such as Ballet de Monte Carlo, CCDC Hong Kong, and Cullberg Ballet. In 2008 she received the Critics Award for Ambra made for Iceland Dance Company and Carte Blanche.

zero visibility corp. has thrilled audiences in 18 countries worldwide – including the Sydney Opera House, Harbour Front Centre in Toronto and the Cervantinos Festival in Mexico. Each piece is created in collaboration with committed partners in Norway and abroad, and range from duets to large-scale productions.

Available works: *The Guest* (premiering January 2015), *Terra 0 Motel* and *AGAIN again and a gain come again...and again, it might not happen...*



#### **CONTACT**

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# zero visibility corp./ Ina Christel Johannessen

# Molitrix Scenekunst

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Molitrix Scenekunst (MoS) is a Stavanger-based company working with dance, electronic music and film. The company has produced several critically acclaimed productions and dance films for both indoor and outdoor spaces.

MoS produces works for three different contexts – performance, film and site-specific. They produce visually and physically exuberant works that explore daily life and create work that encounters public space. Molitrix Scenekunst produces both independent productions and commission-based works. MoS is currently working on the new production *In Between*, premiering April 22, 2015 at RAS/Sandnes Art and Kulturhouse. Latest works include *Borders of Behavior – Suddenly Closed* (2012), *This is personal* (2013/2014) and *TIME* (2014).

Their work has been presented nationally at Bit Teatergarasjen in Bergen, Dance House in Oslo, Tou Scene in Stavanger, RAS in Sandnes and internationally at Dansestasjonen in Malmö, Sweden and Danschallerne in Copenhagen. The works have also been part of the national touring system The Cultural Rucksack.

Linda Birkedal, founder of MoS has a B.A. in dance theatre from Trinity-Laban in London and a masters in International Performing Arts Production at Stockholm Academy of Dramatic Arts.

## CONTACT

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# Findlay//Sandsmark



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Findlay//Sandsmark (F//S) is a Norway based performance company working across the disciplines of dance, theater, live music and video art. For the past four years the constellation of Findlay/Sandsmark & Pål Asle Pettersen have created several productions in the borderland between performing arts and installation, bending connections and correlations between disciplines to create live art which resonates from a physical and emotional plane. For each project they invite new collaborators to work with them in an open process based approach, such as: Diane Madden, Eric Dyer, Victor E. Morales, Ruud van den Akker, Young Jean Lee, Claudia La Rocco and Jason Rogenes.

Their work has been presented internationally, including by PS122 and the Performing Garage in NYC, and in regular collaboration with Black Box Teater, Bit Teatergarasjen, Teater Avant Garden in Norway. This past December *'biograph, last year was pretty/shity'* was presented by Abrons Arts Center. Their film collaboration with Young Jean Lee, *'here come the girls'* was part of the Sundance (US), Lacarno (CH) and BAM (US) film festivals. Their current project *'o' death* will premiere in March at Black Box Teater's Oslo Int'l Teater Festival, Bit Teatergarasjen, & Tou Scene in Stavanger.

In 2015, they will also begin work on 2 new projects:

*'(re)remember study'* is a meditation on nostalgia and memory as it relates to place, and will be developed site relational to each locale. Currently partners/locales: Another Space Gallery/Copenhagen, TouScene/Stavanger, La Esquina/Kansas City and 3 different boroughs in NYC: Queens:Chocolate Factory, Brooklyn: The Invisible Dog, and Manhattan.'

*'returner'* is a companion piece to the earlier project *'fractured bones'* that deals with themes of presence and reappearances in technology and synthetic environs, contrasting the simulated or artificial versus perception of the natural and real. Collaborators on the project include filmmaker Bill Morrison (current retrospective at MoMa), Paris based sound artist Gregory Beller (Ircam, Annie Dorsen), and Frankfurt based set/video designer Philip Bussmann (Forsythe, Wooster Group etc.).

Since meeting each other in 1991 during their studies at the Norwegian College of Dance, Siri Jøntvedt and Snelle Hall have been collaborating on new forms of dance and performance fueled by their shared belief in true artistic freedom.

Drawing upon both high and popular culture, as well as the completely uncultured, **Siri & Snelle** highlight numerous social undercurrents in their work. They often reference subjects that are uncomfortable, claustrophobic, or unacceptable. As social norms are often the strongest limitation to creative expression, the duo often intimately dissect their own personal spheres in order to collapse cultural divides and eliminate shame.

For nearly 25 years Siri & Snelle's work has placed improvisation at the heart of their process and performances. They have developed a personal style unrestrained by conventional genres. They playfully incorporate elements from a variety of dance techniques, as well as narrative theatre, talk-shows and live music, blending them with humor and self-irony.

Siri & Snelle have presented their work in Norway, Europe and USA (Bryant-Lake Bowl, Minneapolis 2010 and WoW Festival/La Jolla Playhouse, San Diego 2013). Their latest performance *GRUMS/Far Away From the Buzz of Business* premiered in fall 2014. Future activities include a commissioned work for Carte Blanche-The Norwegian National Company of Contemporary Dance in 2015 and a new work at The House of Dance in Oslo early 2016.

#### CONTACT

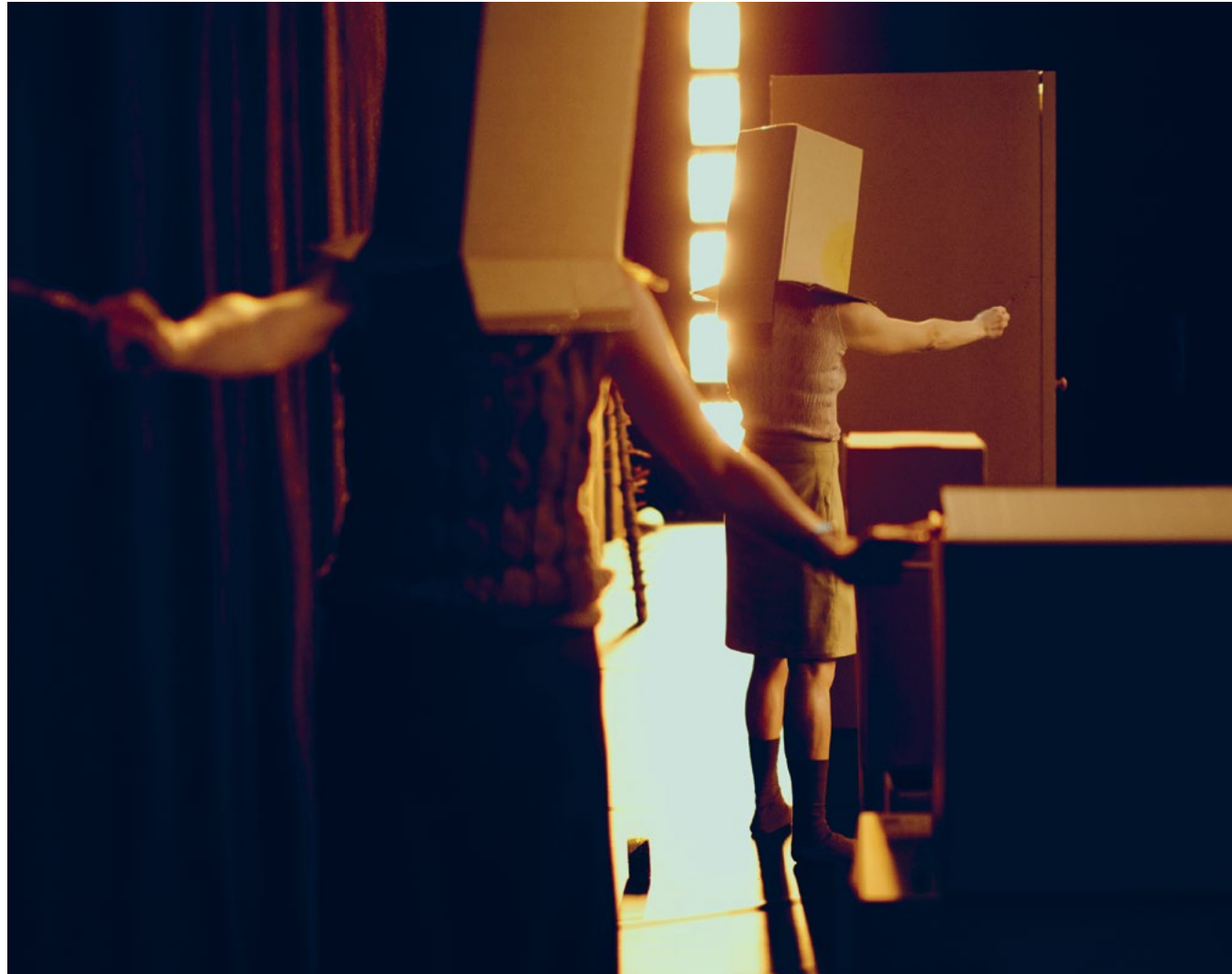
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# NONcompany



NONcompany is a project-based, multi-disciplinary performing arts group founded in 2002. They produce original stage performances from a conceptual approach.

Over the years NONcompany has developed a collective aesthetic often described as “technological romanticism.” The company members are mostly performers as well as creators.

Their current project KAZAK is a trilogy created over many years with production residences and performances in multiple countries including Sweden, Finland, Russia, Canada, Poland and Lithuania.

NONcompany has also created a variety of smaller projects in the form of video art, recitals, happenings and concerts. Their text-based productions can be performed in English.

## CONTACT

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Photo: David Zadig

# TOYBOYS



Choreographers and dancers Terje Tjøme Mossige and Ulf Nilseng founded the dance company TOYBOYS in 2002. This free-speaking male duo addresses themes concerning difference and deviance. They aim to dismantle the notion of a singular identity and confront the narrowly constructed frameworks of gender.

Their performances mix humor and gravity and challenge the limits of normative behavior. Their work attempts to broaden ones understanding of identity and the multiplicity of gender. These themes are focal points of all TOYBOYS' works.

Since 2002 they have created ten performances: *While we are sleeping* (2002), *Boyroom* (2004), *Unshaved Conversations* (2006), *Non Stop - Soundless* (2007), *The Man at the Tramstop* (2008), *To be natural is such a very difficult pose to keep up* (2009), *There's nothing new under the sun* (2010), *Love and moving moments* (2011), *Moment of Limitations* (2012), *Hanged Puff* (2013).

In their work, TOYBOYS asserts that all people are born equal, have equal rights to life, choice of gender identity, freedom and the quest for happiness. TOYBOYS is supported by Arts Council Norway.

## CONTACT

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*"The exceptional ensemble combines exquisite, highly physical acting and wonderfully integrated live music...deeply moving and genuinely memorable"*

– The Daily Telegraph  
(on *The End of Everything Ever*).

**New International Encounter (NIE)** is an ensemble company that makes performances through a mix of physical theatre, multiple languages, live music, and storytelling. Established in 2001, NIE rehearsed its first three shows in the old Sokol gymnastic hall in Mseno, a small town in the north of the Czech Republic. Those three shows – *My Long Journey Home*, *Past Half Remembered* and *The End of Everything Ever* – won numerous awards and performed in Norway, Mexico City, Edinburgh, New York, London, Okinawa, Seoul and others. Since 2001 NIE has created new shows in co-production with venues and theatre companies from across Europe, including site-specific work and theatre for younger audiences.

Over the past 14 years, NIE has created 21 shows and performed more than 2800 times in over 1000 places across four continents.

In 2016, NIE returns to New York at the New Victory Theatre with their installation performance *Museum of Memories*, a movable museum, in which five people reconstruct a life that has ended. With warmth, humor and music, they tell stories about the one they have lost. After the performance the intimate environment, resembling an archive, opens to reveal a small exhibition room inviting the audience to have a sensory experience and reflect on their own memories.

#### CONTACT

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Photo: Jiri N. Jelinek

# Haugen Productions

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Norwegian sisters Liv Hanne and Anne Katrine Haugen founded **Haugen Productions** in 2003 in Tromsø in connection with their first joint performance *Sisters*. Over a period of three years they performed *Sisters* 180 times. Since then, they have worked both alone and in collaboration with each other creating dances that border documentary and fiction and are strongly shaped by their North-Norwegian identity and background. Their aim is to bring everyday life into theatre, and theatre into everyday life - while lifting it up to humorous and surprising new heights. Working in close collaboration with different artistic forms ensures dynamic and fresh outcomes.

They both studied at the London Contemporary Dance School. From 1991 – 2009 they worked extensively in Belgium and the Netherlands, with dance companies such as *Ultima Vez / Wim Vandekeybus* and *Angelika Oei*. They present work in traditional black-box settings as well as site-specific locations. In performances such as *YOIK*, (2009) and *Jesus said; go Maria, I'm too tired...* (2008), they have addressed issues surrounding Norway's minority and ethnic group, the Sami people.

Recent works include: *HomeMade* (2013), a site-specific performance using different artists homes in Tromsø, *Chew It!* (2013), a work about chewing set in a restaurant and *Sisters 11 years later* (2014), a piece addressing existential questions of sisterhood and the challenges and blessings of close family ties.

## CONTACT

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Photo: Nicholas Tourrenc



# Lisa Lie/ Pony of No Return



## CONTACT

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Photo: Vigdis Haugero

*"A humorous and cruel insight into a completely different reality."*

– Klassekampen (NO)

Lisa Lie is a Norwegian director, performance artist, actress, playwright and author. Her pieces exist at the intersection of performance art and text-based theater. Previously she toured internationally with the award winning performance duo Sons of Liberty, which influenced the Norwegian performance scene through a mixture of pop-culture, trash and misanthropic honesty.

Lie has earned great success producing work with Pony of No Return (PONR), an artistic platform where she engages different artists according to the needs of each project. In 2004 Lie made the solo performance *Armløs slår tilbake* (*Armlless strikes back*) - a spoken-word performance based on her novel involving a mix of performance and text. Together with visual artist Erik Tidemann, Lie created the *Skogsunderholdning- Talk Softly But Carry A Big Stick*, which toured Norway in 2007 and again in 2014. It will tour both Norway and Denmark in 2015.

Lie draws upon choreographic and musical approaches to composition. Her works are dramatically multilayered, with different narrative threads working simultaneously. The compositions can be considered temporary sculptures or bodies where the audience becomes part of its cycle.

Lisa Lie / PONR's most recent work *Blue Motell*, a crossover between a shamanic initiation and an European educational journey, was nominated for the National Ibsen Award 2014. The performance examines escapism as a positive strategy and as a collective movement.

Lie studied acting at the Norwegian Theatre Academy and directing at the Stockholm Academy of Dramatic Arts. She now holds a position as house playwright at Dramatikkens hus in Oslo, 2014-16.

Lisa Lie / PONR has received funding for three upcoming projects *ICLONI*, *FØNIX* and *BLUE BORDELL*, production will start in late 2015.

# Participating organizations, presenters & producers

## PS 122 / New York, NY

Artistic Director: Vallejo Gantner  
vallejo@ps122.org

PS122 has been a hub for contemporary performance and an active member of the East Village, as well as the wider cultural community in N.Y.C. and across the globe for the past 30 years. In just the past 4 years, under the curatorial vision of Artistic Director Vallejo Gantner, P.S. 122 has opened the curtain on more than 2,100 performances, welcomed more than 100,000 visitors, and supported the work of more than 1,800 artists, performers, choreographers, playwrights, directors and designers. P.S. 122 is dedicated to supporting and presenting artists whose work explores innovative form and content and challenges the traditional boundaries of dance, theatre, music, and performance. In the coming years, P.S. 122 will continue its steadfast search for pioneering artists from a diversity of cultures, nations and beliefs.

ps122.org

## Baryshnikov Arts Center / New York, NY

Program Manager: Eleanor Wallace  
ewallace@bacnyc.org

BAC is the realization of a long-held vision by artistic director Mikhail Baryshnikov, who sought to build an arts center in New York City that would serve as a gathering place for artists from all disciplines. BAC's opening in 2005 heralded the launch of this mission, establishing a thriving creative space for artists from around the world. Located in the Hudson Yards neighborhood of Manhattan, BAC comprises a total of 20,000 square feet, including the 238-seat Jerome Robbins Theater, which opened in 2010; the Howard Gilman Performance Space, a black box performance space seating 136 people; four column-free studios; and office space. BAC serves approximately 500 artists and more than 22,000 audience members annually through presentations and artist residencies.

bacnyc.org

## EMPAC / Troy, NY

Curator for Dance & Theater: Ash Bulayev  
bulaya@rpi.edu

EMPAC—The Curtis R. Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center—is where the arts, sciences, and technology interact with and influence each other by using the same facilities, technologies, and by breathing the same air. EMPAC is dedicated to building bridges between our human senses, to modes of perception and experience, to creating meaning in a physical environment, and to the intangible world of digital technology. Four discrete venues are designed with unique technical infrastructure to enable our audience, to see, hear, and move in space in endlessly different ways. We host artists and researchers to create new work and present events which ask you to join the quest for new perspectives.

empac.rpi.edu

## FringeArts / Philadelphia, PA

Producing Director: Nick Stuccio  
nick.stuccio@gmail.com

The Philadelphia Fringe Arts Festival supports artists, and brings the world's newest and most cutting-edge cultural experiences to its city, amplifying the vibrancy of Philadelphia as a renowned cultural center and an unparalleled place to live, work, and visit. Founded in 1997, FringeArts serves local, national, and international artists of all disciplines and levels of achievement through the platforms of the Philadelphia Live Arts Festival, the Philly Fringe, and the LAB program.

livearts-fringe.org

## Kennedy Center / Washington D.C.

Vice President, International Programming and Dance: Alicia Adams  
ABAAdams@kennedy-center.org

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, in Washington, D.C., is America's living memorial to President Kennedy. Under the guidance of Chairman David M. Rubenstein, President Deborah F. Rutter, and Music Director Christoph Eschenbach, the nine theaters and stages of the nation's busiest performing arts facility attract audiences totaling two million; Center-related touring productions, television, and radio broadcasts welcome 40 million more. Opening its doors on September 8, 1971, the Center produces and presents performances of music, dance, and theater; supports artists in the creation of new work; and serves the nation as a leader in arts education. With

its artistic affiliates, the Washington National Opera, the National Symphony Orchestra, and VSA, the Center's achievements as a commissioner, producer, and nurturer of developing artists have resulted in more than 300 theatrical productions, dozens of new ballets, operas, and musical works. Each year, more than 11 million people nationwide take part in innovative and effective education programs initiated by the Center. As part of the Performing Arts for Everyone program, the Center stages more than 400 free performances of music, dance, and theater by artists from throughout the world each year on the Center's main stages, and every evening at 6 p.m. on the Millennium Stage.

[kennedy-center.org](http://kennedy-center.org)

## PuSh International Performing Arts Festival / Vancouver, B.C.

Artistic & Executive Director: Norman Armour  
[norman@pushfestival.ca](mailto:norman@pushfestival.ca)

The PuSh International Performing Arts Festival is one of Vancouver's signature events. Produced over three weeks each January, the PuSh Festival presents groundbreaking work in the live performing arts. The PuSh Festival expands the horizons of Vancouver artists and audiences with work that is visionary, genre-bending, multi-disciplined, startling and original. The Festival showcases acclaimed international, Canadian and local artists and mixes them together with an alchemy that inspires audiences, rejuvenates artists, stimulates the industry and forges productive relationships around the globe. The Festival is a broker of international partnerships, a meeting place for creative minds, a showcase of Canada's best and an incubator of brilliant new work.

[pushfestival.ca](http://pushfestival.ca)

## New York Theater Workshop / New York, NY

Associate Artistic Director: Linda Chapman  
[LindaC@nytw.org](mailto:LindaC@nytw.org)

Founded in 1979 by Stephen Graham, New York Theatre Workshop (NYTW) is dedicated to ensuring the robust and compelling presence of the artist in our society. This mission is manifested in two distinct but equally important focuses of activity: first through producing an annual season of productions in our 199-seat theater in Manhattan's East Village and second, by inviting theatre-makers at all stages of their careers, to participate in activities that allow them to gain support for both themselves and their projects. This dual programming, on our stage and in our "workshop" allows NYTW to develop and produce theatrical experiences that reflect and respond to the world around us and re-invigorate the artists and audiences we connect with each year. As both a laboratory for theatrical exploration and a producer

of plays that expand the boundaries of theatrical form and address the critical issues of our times, NYTW has been able to support projects that are aesthetically, thematically, and methodologically diverse. Over the course of almost thirty seasons, NYTW has evolved to become a significant force in New York City's vibrant cultural landscape and is recognized as one of the leading producing theatres of original work in the United States.

[nytw.org](http://nytw.org)

## Contemporary Arts Center of New Orleans / New Orleans, LA

Associate Curator of Performing Arts: Raelle Myrick-Hodges  
[rmyrick-hodges@cacno.org](mailto:rmyrick-hodges@cacno.org)

Now in its 40th year, the CAC of New Orleans is a visual art museum dedicated to the work of live performance as an art form. In our current season, we have presented Kronos Quartet, Kyle Abraham and actor Julian Sands among others. We presented theater, dance and music striving to pursue excellence in all arts disciplines. CAC is dedicated to sharing visual and performance work internationally and creating relationships with local artists to the international performance community.

[cacno.org](http://cacno.org)

## New York Live Arts / New York, NY

Director of Programs: Thomas O. Kriegsmann  
[tommy@newyorklivearts.org](mailto:tommy@newyorklivearts.org)

New York Live Arts is an internationally recognized destination for innovative movement-based artistry offering audiences access to art and artists notable for their conceptual rigor, formal experimentation and active engagement with the social, political and cultural currents of our times. At the center of this identity is Bill T. Jones, Executive Artistic Director, a world-renowned choreographer, dancer, theater director and writer. New York Live Arts commissions, produces and presents performances in a 20,000 square foot home, which includes a 184-seat theater and two 1,200 square foot studios that can be combined into one large studio. New York Live Arts serves as home base for the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, provides an extensive range of participatory programs for adults and young people and supports the continuing professional development of artists. New York Live Arts influence extends beyond NYC through an international cultural exchange program that currently places artists in Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

[newyorklivearts.org](http://newyorklivearts.org)

## Lincoln Center Education / New York, NY

Director, Programming and Production: Peg Schuler-Armstrong  
pschuler@lincolncenter.org

Lincoln Center Education is a global leader in arts education and advocacy and the education cornerstone of Lincoln Center, the world's largest performing arts complex. LCE is committed to enriching the lives of students, educators, and lifelong learners by providing opportunities for engagement with the highest-quality arts on the stage, in the classroom, digitally, and within the community. Founded in 1975 as the Lincoln Center Institute, LCE has nearly four decades of unparalleled school and community partnerships, professional development workshops, consulting services, and its very own repertory. LCE has reached more than 20 million students, teachers, school administrators, parents, community members, teaching artists, pre-service teachers, university professors, and artists in New York City, across the nation and around the world.

lcinstitute.org

## The Chocolate Factory Theater / Long Island City, NY

Artistic Director: Brian Rogers  
brian@chocolatefactorytheater.org

Since its founding in 2005, The Chocolate Factory theater has supported the development and presentation of new work by a community of local, national and international artists working in dance, theater, performance, and multimedia. The Chocolate Factory's programs have drawn many thousands of new visitors to its 5,000 square foot industrial facility in Long Island City, Queens. The organization is currently planning for the purchase and renovation of a permanent facility in the neighborhood. The Chocolate Factory is artist-founded and artist-led. Its Artistic Director, Brian Rogers, continues to create and present his own work at The Chocolate Factory while providing support to a close-knit community of forward-thinking visiting artists working at all stages of their careers. The Chocolate Factory received an Obie grant in 2009. Its works have received Bessie and Obie Awards and have toured nationally and internationally.

chocolatefactorytheater.org

## Watermill Center / Watermill, NY

Director of Watermill Center: Ellen Dennis  
ellen.dennis@watermillcenter.org

Watermill is a laboratory for performance founded by Robert Wilson as a unique environment for young and emerging artists from around the world to explore new ideas. In 1992, Wilson founded the Watermill Center on the Long Island site of a former Western Union Communication research facility as a continuation of his earlier downtown living, research, and rehearsal space that brought together artists and scholars from all disciplines to collaborate on new artistic and theatrical forms. Wilson was drawn to the site of watermill both as a hub of scientific and artistic exploration and because of the natural beauty of the surrounding area. Watermill's programming includes year-round residencies, education, outreach, and humanities.

watermillcenter.org

## Battery Dance Company / New York, NY

Downtown Dance Festival Coordinator: Gabriella Cipolla  
gabriella@batterydance.org

Battery Dance Company is an anchor in the cultural life of New York City, widely recognized as a creative engine, imaginative and community-spirited presenter, and dedicated arts educator. BDC has also become one of America's foremost cultural ambassadors, representing the U.S. in international festivals, conferences and symposia (many of which the Company has initiated) and bringing exceptional dancers from many regions of the world to the U.S. The Company has performed in over 60 countries on five continents across the globe. The Company has gained widespread recognition for its artistry and public service, receiving awards and tributes from public and private institutions and accolades in the media at home and abroad. Battery Dance Company builds new audiences by presenting New York City's longest-running public dance festival, The Downtown Dance Festival, providing lecture-demonstrations and instructional programs for school children; and touring domestically and internationally, bringing American contemporary dance for the first time to many regions of the world. Within its Lower Manhattan studios, Battery Dance Company has created a creative haven for over 400 dance companies and community groups who participate in a subsidized rehearsal space program.

batterydance.org

## Times Square Arts / New York, NY

Director of Public Art: Sherry Dobbin  
sdobbin@timessquarenyc.org

Times Square Arts, the public art program of the Times Square Alliance, collaborates with contemporary artists to experiment and engage with one of the world's most iconic urban places. Times Square Arts is a laboratory for contemporary art in the public realm - a place where ideas are tested and new possibilities explored. We work with artists and cultural institutions to create dialogues with Times Square and all of its physical and mythological manifestations. Through the Square's electronic billboards, public plazas, vacant areas and popular venues, and the Alliance's own online landscape, Times Square Arts invites leading contemporary creators to help the public see Times Square in new ways. Times Square has always been a place of risk, innovation and creativity, and the Arts Program ensures these qualities remain central to the district's unique identity.

timessquarenyc.org

## Performa / New York, NY

Producing Director and International Affairs: Esa Nickle  
esa@performa-arts.org

Performa is the leading international organization dedicated to exploring the critical role of live performance in the history of 20th century art and to generating new directions for the 21st century, engaging artists and audiences through experimentation, innovation, and collaboration. Performa's unique year-round commissioning, touring, and education programs, involving all disciplines, culminate in the internationally acclaimed Performa biennial, which together forge a new course for contemporary art and culture. Performa 15 will run from November 1–22.

performa-arts.org

## The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Center for the Arts / Houston, TX

Executive Director: Karen Farber  
KLFarber@uh.edu

The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Center for the Arts is dedicated to interdisciplinary collaboration across the performing, visual, and literary arts. Based at the University of Houston, in Houston, Texas, the Mitchell Center commissions and produces new works, presents public performances and exhibitions, offers curriculum and scholarships,

and hosts residencies with renowned visiting artists from throughout the world. The Center is home to the Mitchell Artist Lecture, an annual event featuring a pioneer in contemporary art-making, as well as Countercurrent, an annual spring festival of new performance. The Mitchell Center forms an alliance among five departments at UH: the School of Art, Moores School of Music, School of Theatre & Dance, Creative Writing Program, and Blaffer Art Museum.

mitchellcenterforarts.org

## Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (MCA) / Chicago, IL

Associate Director of Performance Programs: Yolanda Cursach  
ycursach@mcachicago.org

MCA offers exhibitions of the most thought-provoking art created since 1945. The MCA documents contemporary visual culture through painting, sculpture, photography, video and film, and performance. Located in the heart of downtown Chicago, the Museum boldly interweaves exhibitions, performances, collections, and educational programs to excite, challenge, and illuminate our visitors and to provide insight into the creative process.

mcachicago.org

## Streaming Museum / New York, NY

Founder and Creative Director: Nina Colosi  
nina.colosi@gmail.com

Streaming Museum, founded by Nina Colosi in 2008, produces and presents contemporary-themed exhibitions and programs that have reached millions of people on 7 continents in public space, partnering cultural centers and StreamingMuseum.org. Among other projects, Nina initiated and directed The Project Room for New Media and Performing Arts at Chelsea Art Museum (2003-10) and produced exhibitions and public programs for Google headquarters in NYC.

streamingmuseum.org

## The Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events/ Chicago, IL

Director of Performing Arts: Shoshona Currier  
shoshona.Currier@cityofchicago.org

The Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) is dedicated to enriching Chicago's artistic vitality and cultural vibrancy.

This includes fostering the development of Chicago's non-profit arts sector, independent working artists and for-profit arts businesses; providing a framework to guide the City's future cultural and economic growth, via the 2012 Chicago Cultural Plan; marketing the City's cultural assets to a worldwide audience; and presenting high-quality, free and affordable cultural programs for residents and visitors. The Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) presents an ongoing performing arts series that showcases both emerging and established theater, dance and multi-disciplinary artists at the Chicago Cultural Center and other venues around the city.

[cityofchicago.org/dcse](http://cityofchicago.org/dcse)

## Contemporary Arts Center / Cincinnati, OH

Performance Curator: Drew Klein

[dklein@contemporaryartscenter.org](mailto:dklein@contemporaryartscenter.org)

The Contemporary Arts Center impacts regional and global communities by providing changing arts experiences that challenge, entertain and educate. With more than 16,000 sq. ft. of exhibition space, a dedicated black box performance space and the Sara M. and Patrica A. Vance UnMuseum, a 6,600 sq. ft. multi-generational exhibition and education space, the center remains one of the nation's largest and most dynamic contemporary arts presenter.

[contemporaryartscenter.org](http://contemporaryartscenter.org)

## Mass Live Arts / Great Barrington, MA

Artistic Director: Ilan Bacharach: [i.bachrach@gmail.com](mailto:i.bachrach@gmail.com)

Mass Live Arts (MLA) is a festival of experimental theater and performance at the Daniel Arts Center [Bard College at Simon's Rock] in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. The festival presents large-scale bold new works of contemporary performance in the Berkshires and is committed to fostering the creation of new American works through development residencies culminating in work-in-progress showings. This residency is for highly talented companies or performing artists in need of space and time to create new work.

[masslivearts.org](http://masslivearts.org)

## Abrons Art Center / New York, NY

Director: Jay Wegman:

[jwegman@henrystreet.org](mailto:jwegman@henrystreet.org)

The Abrons Arts Center is the performing and visual arts program of Henry Street Settlement. The Abrons supports the presentation of innovative, multi-disciplinary work; cultivates artists in all stages of their creative development through educational programs, commissions, and residencies; and serves as an intersection of cultural engagement for local, national, and international audiences and arts workers. Each year the Abrons offers over 250 performances, 12 gallery exhibitions, 20 residencies for performing and studio artists and 100 different classes in dance, music, theater, and visual art. The Abrons also provides New York City public schools with teaching artists, introducing more than 3,000 students to the arts. [www.abronsartscenter.org](http://www.abronsartscenter.org)

## ArtsEmerson / Boston, Massachusetts

Founder and Executive Director: Rob Orchard

[Rob\\_Orchard@emerson.edu](mailto:Rob_Orchard@emerson.edu)

ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage fills Emerson College's magnificent historic and modern theaters with the best in theater from all over the world. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, ArtsEmerson brings extraordinary artists and unique productions, created by highly regarded cultural legends and a new generation of visionary pioneers, to perform in Boston and to enrich New England's cultural life.

[artsemerson.org](http://artsemerson.org)

## American Dance Abroad

Co-Director: Carolelinda Dickey

[carolelinda@americandanceabroad.org](mailto:carolelinda@americandanceabroad.org)

American Dance Abroad is a national organization that connects U.S. choreographers and dance companies with international presenters and dance professionals on every continent. Its mission is to strengthen the export of American dance artists and companies by helping them to build international relationships. It is also a financial and information resource for professionals in the U.S. dance community who wish to work internationally.

[americandanceabroad.org](http://americandanceabroad.org)



## Under the Radar Festival / New York, NY

Director, Devised Theater Initiative/  
Co-Director, Under the Radar Festival: Meiyin Wang  
mwang@publictheater.org

Over the last 11 years, The Public's UNDER THE RADAR FESTIVAL has presented over 181 companies from 39 countries. It has grown into a landmark of the New York City theater season and is a vital part of The Public's mission, providing a high-visibility platform to support artists from diverse backgrounds who are redefining the act of making theater. Widely recognized as a premier launching pad for new and cutting-edge performance from the U.S. and abroad, UTR has presented works by such respected artists as Elevator Repair Service, Nature Theater of Oklahoma, Gob Squad, Belarus Free Theatre, and Young Jean Lee. These artists provide a snapshot of theater today: richly distinct in terms of perspectives, aesthetics, and social practice, and pointing to the future of the art form.

underthefestival.com

# artists

## Irène Hultman

Choreographer/Dancer / New York, NY  
irenehultman@gmail.com

Irène Hultman is a native of Sweden and a New York based choreographer, dancer and teacher. Between 1983-1988 she was a member of the Trisha Brown Dance Company and served as the rehearsal director from 2006 to 2009. From 1988 to 2001, Hultman was the Artistic Director of Irène Hultman Dance that toured nationally and internationally. She is co-founder of Firework and Järna-Brooklyn, a Swedish-American cultural entity. She is a recipient of grants and awards including a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Foundation for Contemporary Performance Arts Award. Ms. Hultman has taught internationally at various universities and institutions and is currently an advocate for dance interested in the global discourse. Ms. Hultman serves on the Bessie committee and the Danspace Projects Artist Advisory Board.

## Time Aspasmo

Shirley G. Johnson / New York & Bergen, Norway  
timeaspasmo@gmail.com

Time Aspasmo is a multidisciplinary performance project that explores the intersection of time and space. The project is a collaboration between artists from various disciplines, including theater, dance, and visual arts. The project is a response to the question of how time is experienced and how it is represented in art. The project is a series of performances that explore the relationship between time and space in a variety of ways. The project is a series of performances that explore the relationship between time and space in a variety of ways. The project is a series of performances that explore the relationship between time and space in a variety of ways.

tineaspas.com  
gorotransmo.com

## Kirjan Waage

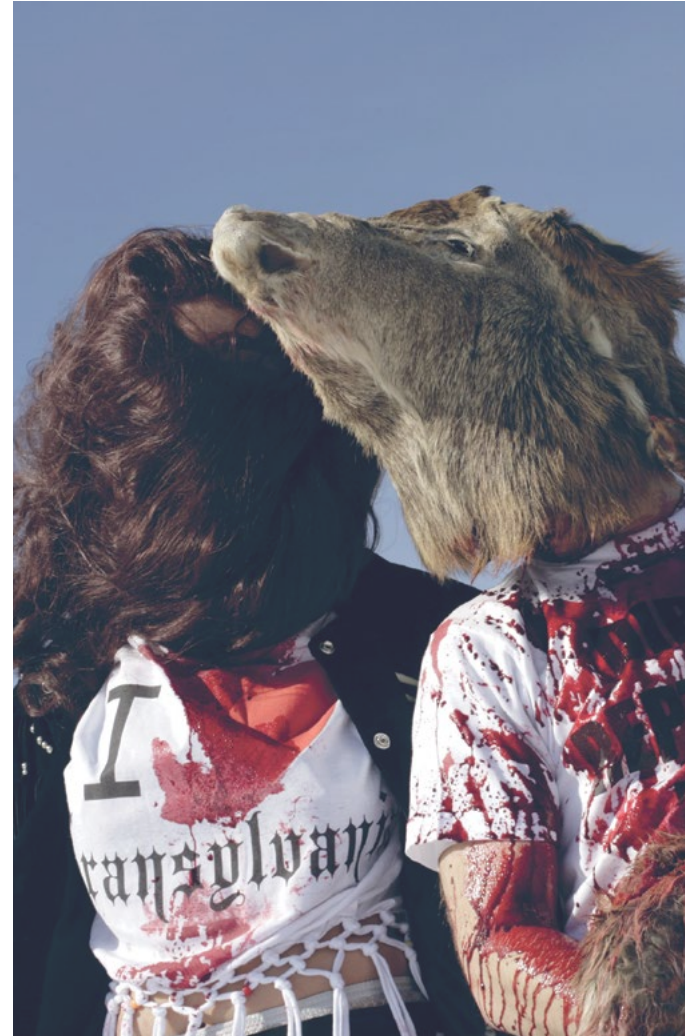
### Hooman Sharifi

Director / Wakka Wakka Productions / New York, NY  
Artistic Director / Carle Blanche / Bergen, Norway  
hooman@online.no

Wakka Wakka Productions, Inc. is an innovative, award-winning visual performance company. The company is a collaboration between artists from various disciplines, including theater, dance, and visual arts. The company is a response to the question of how time is experienced and how it is represented in art. The company is a series of performances that explore the relationship between time and space in a variety of ways. The company is a series of performances that explore the relationship between time and space in a variety of ways. The company is a series of performances that explore the relationship between time and space in a variety of ways.

wakkawakka.org

# Guest



Cover photo (from artist Lisa Lie works): **Thomas Sørgård**  
Design and layout by **Eirik Seu Stokkmo**, [metricdesign.no](http://metricdesign.no)



**Performing Arts  
Hub—Norway**  
Danse- og teatersentrum



**NORWEGIAN CONSULATE GENERAL**  
New York

**FUTURE PERFECT**  
PRODUCTIONS