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**NOFOD NEWSLETTER NR: 40 – FEBRUARY 2015**

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Editor of the current newsletter: Camilla Damkjaer, [camilla.damkjaer@uniarts.se](mailto:camilla.damkjaer@uniarts.se)

*News from the chair to the members*

The 12th Nofod conference is rapidly approaching, and we are now working on the homepage, schedule, book of abstracts and much more. So I'll use this space to make two important announcements:

The conference homepage is now open and registration is possible at:  
<http://nofodrvk2015.akademia.is>

The Nofod General Assembly will be held Friday the 29th of May 2015 at 18.00.

The General Assembly will be held at the conference in Reykjavík. If you would like to raise a question at the General Assembly please announce this to me ([camilla.damkjaer@uniarts.se](mailto:camilla.damkjaer@uniarts.se)) at the latest six weeks before this date. The agenda for the meeting will be announced no later than 3 weeks before the meeting.

We in the board look forward to seeing everyone at the conference!

Best wishes,

Camilla Damkjaer

Chair of the Nofod board, SE

## *News from the countries:*

### *News from Denmark*

The Department of Dance Studies at The University of Copenhagen celebrated their first 25 years in September with an open one-day seminar. A new book is on its way, by Inger Damsholt, Associate Professor at The Department of Dance Studies, titled *Viden om dans – en grundbog* (accepted for 2015).

Statens Scenekunstscole, The Danish National School of Performing Arts, is in the process of being accredited for BA and MA degrees.

Dansehallerne will lose their stages, studios and offices at Carlsberg Byen, Copenhagen, by the end of 2016. The process of finding a new place has begun. Furthermore, there is a change of management where Benedikte Paaske and Jonathan Harshorn will be leaving Dansehallerne. The new manager(s) will lead the process of redefining Dansehallerne.

The international site-specific performance festival, Mellemrum, organized and curated by Kitt Johnson's X-Act has lost its funding. The festival was staged in different areas in the city of Copenhagen every second year since 2008. Information and video archives can be found here: <http://www.mellemrum.info/en/node/19>

### *News from Finland*

The Finnish association "Tanssin talo" (House of Dance) got a grant of 15 million euros from Jane and Aatos Erkko Foundation for renovating and building new spaces for dance in Helsinki. The grant covers nearly half of the estimated costs for the spaces planned. The project has already been approved by the City of Helsinki, so it is expected that the rest of the funding needed will be provided by the City of Helsinki, the Finnish state and other Finnish foundations.

A national NOFOD meeting was held on October 27th 2014 at the Theatre Academy. At the meeting, the activities of NOFOD were introduced to the participants and after that there were presentations of recent publications on dance research in Finland.

In connection with the meeting there was the book launch of the new book on methods in dance research that was initiated among Finnish NOFOD members. The new book is called *Tanssiva tutkimus: Tanssintutkimuksen menetelmiä ja lähestymistapoja* [Dancing research: methods and approaches of dance research], edited by Hanna Järvinen & Leena

Rouhiainen. The book was published in the new internet publication series Nivel of the Theatre Academy of the University of the Arts, but it is also available as a paper copy. The internet version can be accessed at: <http://nivel.teak.fi/tanssiva-tutkimus/>

In the same publication series has also appeared this year a publication called "Who are you?", which includes two articles by Leena Rouhiainen, one by Helka-Maria Kinnunen, as well as a video from a performance by these two authors. The publication can be accessed at: <http://nivel.teak.fi/who-are-you/>

More publications from Finland:

Hanna Järvinen: *Dancing Genius: The Stardom of Vaslav Nijinsky* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014). For more information, see: <http://www.palgrave.com/page/detail/?K=9781137407726>

Helena Saarikoski (ed.): *Silloin tanssittiin tangoa. Tanssikansan kertomaa 1900-luvulta*. [We used to dance tango, back then: as told by the dancing folks, about the 20th century in Finland]. Helsinki: Partuuna, 2014. Language: Finnish, 2. language Swedish. The book is a collection of written oral history materials: narration about 20th century popular couple dance and music culture in Finland, the so-called pavilion dance culture. Researcher Helena Saarikoski has selected and edited narratives of 87 writers who tell about dances in their youth. The book also contains a methodological afterword, titled "An ethnographer's step marks from the archive to the narrated dances", by Helena Saarikoski. The book can be ordered through: <http://www.partuuna.fi/kauppa>

Dissertations:

Aino Kukkonen defended her PhD dissertation on the 20th of September at the Department of Philosophy, History, Culture and Art Studies of University of Helsinki. The dissertation *Postmoderni liikkeessä: Tulkintoja 1980-luvun suomalaisesta tanssista* [Postmodern on the Move: Interpretations of Finnish Dance in the 1980s] is available online (in Finnish with English summary): <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-51-0086-3>

Elina Seye defended her PhD dissertation on the 20th of December at the University of Tampere, School of Social Sciences and Humanities. The dissertation *Performing a Tradition in Music and Dance: Embodiment and Interaction in Sabar Dance Events* (in English) will be published by the Global Music Centre: [www.globalmusic.fi](http://www.globalmusic.fi)

*News from Iceland*

Erna Ómarsdóttir was hired as the artistic director of the Icelandic Dance Company spring 2014 for one year. What then happens has not been announced.

Preparation for the 12th NOFOD conference held in Reykjavík 28th - 31st of May is going well. The conference has already got funding from Nordic Culture fund and the conference committee is working on more applications. Eeva Antilla and Elva Lilja will be the keynotes.

*News from Norway*

Sigrid Øvreås Svendal defended her ph.d. dissertation *COME DANCE WITH US: Amerikansk påvirkning på scenedansen i Skandinavia 1950-1980*, the 27<sup>th</sup> of June, 2014, at the University of Oslo, Department of Archaeology, Conservation and History.

Hooman Sharifi, the new artistic leader of the state dance company Carte Blanche in Bergen, started working August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

Oktoberdans 10<sup>th</sup> Edition, biannual dance festival in Bergen, took place from the 16<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> of October. <http://bit-teatergarasjen.no/oktoberdans-2014/oktoberdans-2014/>

Seminarium #3, arranged by Dansedyrkerne and BIT, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of October, at Oktoberdans.

Dance research seminar: **Framing Dance** - communicating contemporary art and its values – Dance research seminar, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of October, at Oktoberdans.

Dance research seminar: Artistic research, at KHiO, The Norwegian academy of art, in Oslo, 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November: Arranged by Rethink dance and Framtidsdans.no <http://rethinkdance.no/>, <http://www.framtidsdans.no/>

*News from Sweden*

10 Ph D students were employed at Stockholm University of the Arts (including two in choreography: Anne Juren and Marie Fahlin). Furthermore, two professors were also employed there: André Lepecki for the profile area "Concept and composition" and Johanna Garpe for the profile area "Bodily and vocal practices".

Anneli Gardell has been appointed as the artistic director at Dansens Hus, The International Scene of Contemporary Dance, Sweden, in Stockholm. Anneli Gardell is

the former Artistic Director of the dance activities at NorrlandsOperan, Umeå.

Kenneth Kvarnström has been appointed responsible for a dance company with 6 professional dancers at Kulturhuset Stadsteatern, Stockholm.

Rasmus Ölme has defended his dissertation, "From Model to Modul – a move towards generative choreography", at the Royal Institute of Technology in collaboration with DOCH.

Annika Noter Hooshidar has defended her licentiate thesis, "Dansundervisning som förkroppsligad multimodal praktik, en studie om kommunikation och interaktion i dansundervisning", at Stockholm University in collaboration with DOCH.

"Dans i Skolan Biennal 2014" invited dance researchers and scholars to present their research projects. The following persons participated: Britt-Marie Styrke, Anna Lindkvist, Cecilia Ferm, Birgitta Sandström, Märta Pastorek, Torun Mattson, Ninnie Andersson and Annika Noter Hooshidar.

### *Special Interest Groups:*

Nofod currently has 5 special interest groups, and each interest group has a contact person. If you would like to start a new special interest group, please contact the Chair of the Nofod board.

#### *Special Interest Group: Artistic Research*

Contact person: Leena Rouhiainen, [leena.rouhiainen@teak.fi](mailto:leena.rouhiainen@teak.fi)

#### *Special Interest Group: Folk and Popular Dance Research:*

Contact person: Petri Hoppu, [petri.hoppu@uta.fi](mailto:petri.hoppu@uta.fi)

#### *Special Interest Group: Dance Pedagogy:*

Contact person: Eeva Anttila, [eeva.anttila@teak.fi](mailto:eeva.anttila@teak.fi)

#### *Special Interest Group: Dance as Service – New Roles for Dancers and Dance Organisations in Society:*

Contact person: Kai Lehtikainen, [kai.lehtikainen@teak.fi](mailto:kai.lehtikainen@teak.fi)

#### *Special Interest Group: Contemporary Circus*

Contact person: Camilla Damkjær, [camilla.damkjaer@uniarts.se](mailto:camilla.damkjaer@uniarts.se)

### *Nordic Journal of Dance*

Nofod members receive every second volume of Nordic Journal of Dance.

All numbers of NDJ can be subscribed from Dans i Skolen in Norway: [dis@dansiskolen.no](mailto:dis@dansiskolen.no). More info on the website: [www.nordicjournalofdance.com](http://www.nordicjournalofdance.com)

The board of Nofod would like to encourage all members to contribute to the journal. For more information about how to submit articles, please see: [www.nordicjournalofdance.com](http://www.nordicjournalofdance.com)

*The board (as elected at the General Assembly, June 2013):*

Denmark:

**Pia Stilling:** (TREASURER-COORDINATOR, Danish treasurer)

E-mail: [Piastilling@hotmail.com](mailto:Piastilling@hotmail.com)

**Christina Blicher Johnsen:** (SECRETARY)

E-mail: [cbjohnsen@health.sdu.dk](mailto:cbjohnsen@health.sdu.dk)

*Danske girokonto: 472-8939 (+Grønland & Færøerne)*

Finland:

**Elina Seye:** (WEBMASTER)

E-mail: [elina.seye@uta.fi](mailto:elina.seye@uta.fi)

**Mikko Orpana:** (Finish treasurer)

E-mail: [mikko.orpana@uniarts.fi](mailto:mikko.orpana@uniarts.fi)

*Finnish account: FI4640553020143905*

Iceland:

**Sesselja G. Magnúsdóttir:** (Icelandic treasurer)

E-mail: [sesseljagm@gmail.com](mailto:sesseljagm@gmail.com)

**Guðbjörg Arnardóttir:**

E-mail: [info@dansgledi.is](mailto:info@dansgledi.is)

Norway:

**Hilda Rustad:** (VICE CHAIR)

E-mail: [hilde.rustad@nih.no](mailto:hilde.rustad@nih.no)

**Elizabeth Svarstad:** (Norwegian treasurer)

E-mail: [elizabeth.svarstad@ntnu.no](mailto:elizabeth.svarstad@ntnu.no)

*Norsk girokonto: 0530 0562363*

Sweden:

**Camilla Damkjær:** (CHAIR)

E-mail: [camilla.damkjaer@uniarts.se](mailto:camilla.damkjaer@uniarts.se)

**Annika Notér Hooshidar:**

E-mail: [annika.noter.hooshidar@uniarts.se](mailto:annika.noter.hooshidar@uniarts.se)

*Svensk konto: 484 51 06 - 6*