
NOFOD NYHETSREV

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NORDISKT FORUM FÖR DANSFORSKNING

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DEAR MEMBERS,

Here comes the second newsletter of the year. We in the board are happy to announce that preparation for the next NOFOD conference is going well. Finances have been secured and we have got positive answers from very interesting keynote speakers. More information about the conference will be on our homepage from the beginning of February 2010. Call for papers will be sent out early next year and we look forward to a good response from you. The conference in 2011 is the 10th NOFOD conference. The conferences have proved to be important meeting places of Nordic dance researchers and we hope the next one will be the same. Another piece of good news for dance researchers is that in the spring a new Nordic journal specialised in dance will be launched. The Journal is produced in cooperation between DENN, *Dance in Education Nordic Network*, and NOFOD; the editorial board is made up of equal number of members from each association. The name of the journal is “**Nordic Journal of Dance. Practice, Education and Research**”. Funds have been secured for a pilot project consisting of two issues, the first is due in the spring.

Best wishes for a happy New Year.

/Sesselja G. Magnúsdóttir, IS

The 10th NOFOD conference: Dancing Space(s) – Spacing Dance(s)

We are very happy to announce that the conference will be supported by grants from ‘Nordisk Kulturfond’ and from ‘Det Frie Forskningsråd, Kultur og Kommunikation (FKK)’. This means that the financial support for the conference is secured already a year ahead.

As informed in the last newsletter the conference will take place at the Institute of Sports Science and Clinical Biomechanics, at the University of Southern Denmark, Odense (the main campus in Odense) in Denmark. The conference will be held in collaboration with the research unit ‘Movement, Sport and Society’ and take place from the 27th-30th of January, 2011. First announcement inclusive of presentation of the keynote speakers and the schedule for the conference days will be on the web page during February, 2010.

Remember to reserve the dates in your calendar...

Leena Rouhiainen, Chair of the NOFOD committee
Susanne Ravn, conference organizer, member of the NOFOD committee

/Leena Rouhiainen, FI/Susanne Ravn, DK

News from Iceland

Reykjavik Dancefestival was held the 3rd – 6th of September, without founding this year. The artists gave their work but audiences could donate to the project. The festival was diverse. Both young and more stabilized choreographers showed their work and used the art form within a broad sense.

In spring 2009 students graduated for first time with B.A. degree in contemporary dance from Iceland Academy of the Arts. This was a big step in the history of theatre dance in Iceland as dance artists have been advocating dance education on university level from the establishment of the Academy in 1999.

MA program in art education was founded at Iceland Academy of the Arts this fall. Dance is part of it though no special dance courses will be offered. The B.A. study in dance is an important prerequisite for the discipline to be able to be a part of the teachers program.

Last spring new director was chosen for the Icelandic Ballet School. Lauren Hauser who had been on the post for three years accepted a job at the National Ballet in Oslo but Lára Stefánsdóttir, active choreographer and dancer took over the post as a director of the school.

Íslenska Dansfræðafélagið did held a contra dances ball in cooperation with the *Folkdance society of Reykjavik* in last spring. It's the second time the event has been held and number of participants doubled. The goal is to make the ball annual event.

Group of eight 15 year old students from The Icelandic Ballet School participated in Keđja in Kuopio last summer. Lára Stefánsdóttir did lead the work. Their participation will most likely end in further cooperation between Iceland and Finland on this front.

Three open lectures will be held on the behalf of Íslenska Dansfræðafélagið this winter. Guðbjörg Arnardóttir will present creative dance as a tool in dance education and as a part of academic education in elementary school. Sesselja G. Magnúsdóttir will introduce her ideas of new dance history book on Icelandic where her aim is to write women into the history and give peripheral regions as the Nordic countries more space within history of Western theatre dance. Helena Jónsdóttir will also present her work on dance on videos that she has been developing for several years.

/ Sesselja G. Magnúsdóttir, IS

Nyheter i Sverige

During 2010 a new national school of artistic research will be established with the support of The Swedish Research Council, in order to improve the quality of artistic research. The intention is for the school of research to include all the artistic areas.

In the governmental proposition of 2010 it has been suggested that Cullbergballetten moves to Dansens Hus, at the same time as information center for dance will be established in order to spread the knowledge of Swedish dance internationally.

The institute of "dance in schools" has been opened at the Technical university of Luleå. The institute will focus on the development of knowledge, methods and research, as the changing of attitudes, in order to give dance in schools a stronger foothold in Sweden. The 8th-9th of October the institute is organizing: Dance in Schools - biennial with focus on children, dance and the freedom of expression.

http://www.kulturradet.se/Documents/Verksamhet/Dans%20i%20skolan/barnen_dansen_ytrandefriheten.pdf

A web-based dance archive has been established, where visitors via the internet can find information of dance in Sweden from the 1950 until today: text, video, photos, books and 3d-documentation. In the archive dancers, choreographers, works and venues will be registered. As a try-out the project has also attempted

to use motion-capture technique (3d technique) in order to document parts of twelve choreographic works. During the autumn 2009 the access to the archive will be widened. The project is cooperation between The Royal Ballet, the ballet of Gothenburg Opera, Skånes dansteater, The Cullbergballet, independent stages, companies, dancers and choreographers. An English version will also be developed.

www.dansdatabasen.se

<<http://www.dansdatabasen.se>>

In April 2009 the organisation Manegen was founded in order to support the development of circus, variety and street performance and the professionals working within these genres. www.manegen.org

20-25th of March 2010 The University College of Dance, Subtopia and Manegen is organising the first conference on artistic research in circus: CARD. More information will follow on the homepage later: www.danshogskolan.se.

/Åsa Unander-Scharin/Camille Damkjær, S

Nyheder fra Danmark

Helle Winther defended her Ph.D. in Dance therapy at the Institute of Sport, at the University in Copenhagen, the 29th of June. This means that within a year 3 PhD in dance have been successfully defended in connection to the environment of Physical Education /Sports Science in Denmark. (Charlotte Svendler-Nielsen's and Susanne Ravn's PhD's have been mentioned in a previous report from Denmark)

Dansehallerne /the Dancehalls in Copenhagen (mentioned in the reports from the last NOFOD meeting) had its official opening Sunday the 16th of August. 500 people were expected – 5000 showed up! The day was a huge success and a great start for this new dance centre in Denmark.

Dansevidenskab/Dance research at Copenhagen University is allocated from the Theatre department to the department of Music. There are continuously 8-10 students in the BA classes. There are close collaborations – still – with Skolen for Moderne Dans/the School of Modern Dance in Cph. The work is still in progress preparing the accreditation of No-MA-ds degree as a joint program – at Copenhagen University.

The Finish PhD student Raisa Foster from the Department of Education at Tampere University presented her project: 'Learning about Identity and Self in Art based Practice', at the Institute of Sports Science and Clinical Biomechanics, at University of Southern Denmark, the

9th of November. This will be offered as an event possible to join for all the Danish NOFOD members.

Still more Danish Folk high schools have taken dance in as part of their profile. Several of these had before Danish Rhythmic Gymnastics as a main profile. (for example : Gerlev Højskole , Ollerup Idrætshøjskole and Århus Idrætshøjskole)

/Susan Ravn, DK

Nyheder fra Norgie

In 2009, two Ph.D degrees in the dance area has been awarded to Norwegian researchers:

In march 2009 Dag Jostein Nordaker, who works as a førsteamanuensis at the University of Stavanger, department of dance and music, successfully defended his thesis on dance pedagogy at the University of Copenhagen.

Education of professional folkdancers

At NTNU, program for dance studies a professional education for folkdance has finally been established in the fall of 2009. There are 5 students enrolled in the four-year BA program and so far the study has been going very well. If you are interested in more information about this, please contact Siri Mæland, who is in charge of the teaching and planning. (siri. maeland@ntnu.no).

"Dance in Education – Education in Dance"

- A seminar in the honour of Ina Guro Moen. . Was hold in Norwegian School for Sport Science. The 25th of September.

Dance has gained increased impetus and attention in society owing largely to the recent boost in body and leisure culture. Scientific research argues evermore convincingly that the body and movement are important in learning. Arguably, then, dance is meaningful for the general population in addition to dance practitioners. The seminar addressed related issues and discussed what we learn in/through different forms of dancing, how dance is part of lower and higher-level education as well as how dance is taught to both lay and professionally oriented students. Speakers at the seminar were: Gunn Engelsrud, Ina Guro Moen, Eeva Anttila, Susan Ravn, Charlotta Svendler Nielssen and Dag Jostein Nordaker.

/Anne Fisvike og Hilde Rustad, N

News from Finland

A local Nofod seminar was arranged at the Theatre Academy on the 19th of November.

Tone Pernille Østern defended her doctoral dissertation: Meaning-making in the Dance Laboratory: Exploring dance improvisation with differently bodied dancers at the Theatre Academy on the 26th of October. Tone who is finish/norwegian, is a very active figure in the dance activities and academia in Trondheim city in Norway.

The first colloquium on artistic research in the performing arts of the Theatre Academy CARPA was held on the 20 – 22nd of November

Kirsi Heimonen will defend her doctoral dissertation: Dive into Movement – Movement Improvisation as a Source for Dancing and Writing at the Theatre Academy on the 12th of December. Her opponents are Senior Researcher Marjatta Saarnivaara and cultural anthropologist, PhD, Maarit Ylönen.

Ballet at Crossroads - International Seminar on Ballet Pedagogy was held at the Theatre Academy Helsinki, 23rd – 25th of October 2009.

The seminar aimed at enhancing communication between the different traditions of ballet and creating a space for international exchange between ballet educators, researchers and artists. It also aimed at developing the quality of ballet pedagogy and professional education of ballet teachers, dancers and choreographers. Experts from all over the world shared their views on the tradition, excellence in education and new directions to develop ballet education and give it academic credibility as well as artistic excellence.

International keynote speakers are Elisabeth Platel from Paris Opera Ballet School, Petr Silkin from The Vaganova Ballet Academy, St. Petersburg, Mavis Staines from Canada's National Ballet School, Toronto and Susan Koff from New York University/American Ballet Theatre School.

The Department of Dance and Theatre Pedagogy at the Theatre Academy, Helsinki, Finland was arranging the seminar in co-operation with The Association of Ballet Pedagogues.

www.teak.fi/balletatcrossroads

Inquiries: ballet@teak.fi

/Elina Seye and Leena Rouhiainen, FI

New books

Laakkonen, Johanna

Canon and Beyond: Edvard Fazer and the Imperial Russian Ballet 1908-1910.

Finnish Academy of Science and Letters

Annales Academiae Scientiarum Fennicae. Humaniora 354

Sastamala 2009, 282 pp.

ISBN 978-951-41-1031-3 (Soft)

ISSN 1239-6982

Price: EUR 30

Sales: Tiedekirja/Bookstore Tiedekirja. Kirkkokatu 14, 00170 Helsinki, verkkokauppa/webstore:

<http://www.tiedekirja.fi/>

Canon and Beyond: Edvard Fazer and the Imperial Russian Ballet explores the Russian ballet's first appearances in northern Europe and Germany in the early twentieth century. By looking beyond the canonical dance history and bringing in source material from the archives in northern Europe, the book offers a new insight into the history of Russian ballet in the West. The book focuses on the tours made by dancers from the Maryinsky Theatre from St. Petersburg to Helsinki, Stockholm, Copenhagen and Berlin in the early summers of 1908–1910. The star of the group was Anna Pavlova, for whom these performances were a stepping-stone to an international career. The tours were organized by a Finnish impresario, Edvard Fazer, who at the time was running his own concert agency in Helsinki.

Laakkonen examines the local dance scene in these cities and places the reception of the Imperial Russian Ballet in a larger framework of music, theatre and the visual arts. She shows the contemporary audiences' fascination with the character dancing and the virtuosity of the Russian dancers, and connects the discussion on ballet with the emerging modernism in dance.

BUSINESS BODIES 2008 Proceedings (ed. Kai Lehtikoinen) now available!

Requests: Kai Lehtikoinen, Theatre Academy, Education and Development Services, P.O.Box 163, Haapaniemenkatu 6, FI-00531 Helsinki. E-mail: firstname.lastname@teak.fi, tel. +358 (0)50 439 0517.

BUSINESS BODIES 2008 introduces conference papers from IADE's first international conference on Business Bodies that was held at the Theatre Academy Helsinki 18.-20. April 2008. The conference brought together new research on the complex connections between the body, business behaviour, communication, social interaction, movement and culture.

Papers in this volume underscore the importance of cultural understanding in relation to professional be-

haviour. Cultural codes and conventions of social interaction have become increasingly important social assets for anyone who wishes to succeed in the global market economy. Conversely the lack of attention to such details may hinder international growth of an organization.

Contributors: André Austvoll (Microdance, Norway), Ana Paula Bathala (Universidade Técnica de Lisboa, Portugal), Annette Henning (Dalarna University, Sweden), Taina Kinnunen (University of Oulu, Finland), Kai Lehtikoinen (University of Art and Design Helsinki, Finland), Ana Macara (Universidade Técnica de Lisboa, Portugal), James McBride (CoAction Consulting, Norway), Carol-Lynne Moore (Columbia College, USA), Leena Rouhiainen (Theatre Academy Helsinki, Finland), Talvo Pabut (Estonia), Karou Yamamoto (University of Colorado, USA).

New Ph.D.s thesis

Kirsi Heimonen has defended her doctoral dissertation: *Dive into Movement – Movement Improvisation as a Source for Dancing and Writing* at the Theatre Academy on the 12th of December. Her opponents are Senior Researcher Marjatta Saarnivaara and cultural anthropologist, PhD, Maarit Ylönen.

Tone Pernille Østern, who is finish/norwegian, and a active figure in the dance activities and academia in Trondheim city, has defended her doctoral dissertation: *Meaning-making in the Dance Laboratory: Exploring dance improvisation with differently bodied dancers* at the Theatre Academy in Helsinki in the end of October. Her opponent was Associate Professor Lis Engel

Dag Jostein Nordaker, who works as a førsteamanuensis at the University of Stavanger, department of dance and music, successfully defended his thesis on dance pedagogy at the University of Copenhagen in march 2009.

/Elina Seye, Anne Fisvike

Interesting Events

Next Keđja meeting will be held in Umeå, May 2010
The focus will this time is on Artistic Process.

<http://www.kedja.net/>

Scholarship

The Lilian Karina Foundation announce

a grant which aims at developing research on dance history. A special focus is put on how the art of dance was influenced by the political landslide of the 20th century – from the Russian revolution, further to Nazism and the influence of Indian, Asian, African and Afro American dance styles on European dance. In an appendix to her will, Lilian Karina formulated the purpose and regulations of the foundation.

The amount of the grant is 70.000 SEK [approx. 7.000 € or 10.000 USD by November 1st 2009].

The application

Shall arrive at the address of the Foundation at the latest on May 1st 2010 and shall include

- The applicant's name, date of birth, nationality, address (including e-mail)

- Curriculum vitae with special attention to the applicant's research merits

- Description of research (maximum 3 pages) budget

The application can be submitted in Swedish, English, German or French. E-mail application is not accepted.

Decision

The Foundation is headed by a board, which also makes the decision. The decision is final.

Official presentation of scholarship

The scholarship is presented to the awardee at a special arrangement in Stockholm, on the birthday of the donor, November 17th 2010.

Address: Stiftelsen Lilian Karina, c/o Danshögskolan, Box 27043, SE 102 51 Stockholm, Sweden

For more information contact the Chair of the Board, senior lecturer Gun Román

Gun.roman@danshogskolan.se

www.danshogskolan.se/web/Forskning.aspx

Members

Pars Pro Toto (PPT), is an independent physical theatre, directed by Lara Stefansdóttir, dancer/choreographer. Although dance is the focus point in PPT works, the aim is to combine different art forms, dance, music, visual arts, film, acting, writing etc. PPT does some curious experimental productions, searching for new forms, performances which insist open mind and senses rather than conventional logical thoughts. Besides performing in Iceland, PPT has performed at art festivals world wide, i.e. Berlin, Stuttgart, Denmark, Faroe Islands, Baltic countries, S-Africa, Avignon, Japan, Bulgaria etc.

Pars Pro Toto physical theater: Contact person/dir:
Lára Stefánsdóttir Address: Hagamelur 29 Tel:(

00354) 5611581/5513888 , GSM: (00354) 8994913 E-mail: larastef@simnet.is
www.larastef.is/www.toney.is

PPT á Aquarius Era Festival PPT has invited to the dancefestival, *Aquarius Era Festival of Dance*, held in Bourgas í Búlgaríu 6th – 15th November 2009. The festivals initiator are, *Theatre in a Suitcase Independent Foundation*. The works PPT will show is; Langbrók and Jói, a love story.

Denn. Dance and Education Nordic Network

What is DENN

DENN is a network of Nordic organisations within the field of dance and education. The network is about uniting, sharing and strengthening the development of dance in education in the Nordic countries.

The overall goals and values are “Bringing together expertise across borders, sharing ideas about pedagogical strategies and methods, promoting exchange in dance teachers’ training across the Nordic countries, promoting dialogue, opening doors and collaborating”.

The tasks of DENN are therefore

- United advocacy for giving dance in education a stronger voice
- Developing the status and quality of dance in education
- Promoting dialogue across boundaries and professions
- Exchanging information and research
- Strengthen the position of dance in education in the political sphere
- Opening doors to new challenges and perceptions
- Create platforms for exchanging experiences and knowledge

DENN 2009 meeting focus points

- Elaboration a Nordic blue print within dance in education
- Making outlines for Nordic professional development
- Editing a Nordic journal for dance in education

Blue print – an overall Nordic set of values

In order to be able to evaluate and develop the quality of dance in education, DENN wants to create an overview and insight in the dance education field of the Nordic countries. Questions raised in relation to this goal:

- Why establish a common ground/blue print?

- Who would be served by doing it
- What is dance and how should it be defined?

Professional development

From an overall ambition of offering best quality, and a higher quantity of dance experience for young people, DENN wants to work towards possibilities for professional development and exchange. Outlines for professional development were made concrete through a division in three perspectives:

- Nordic Masters' degree in dance pedagogy
- Open university/independent courses
- An informal platform for exchange

Masters' degree

By offering a joint Nordic degree, it would be possible to utilize the expertise and resources that each individual countries offer. A Masters' should follow the existing structures and content in the countries and the Bologna Treatate.

Open University/independent courses

The aim would be to create development possibilities for dancers who have a job and want to increase their qualifications? A summer school program would be an idea.

Dance Pedagogy Platform

Interest to research existing platforms for professional dance educators in order to exchange experiences and develop possibilities for networking and map the concrete needs for further development of the subject.

“Nordic Journal of Dance. Practice, Education and Research”

A new nordic journal on dance will be launched next spring. The purpose of the journal is to encourage and strengthen the network of dance practitioners, educators and researchers and exchange of information across the Nordic countries.

Kristine Høegh Karlssen is the editor of the first issue. In October the journal received 50.000 NOK (4.500 Eur) from the Nordic Culture Fond. Dans I Skolen (NO) and Dans I Uddannelse (DK) contributed with in total NOK 30.000.

The editorial board has already met twice in 2009 where the outlines and a budget has been set.

- Theme of the first issue: Improvisation in dance
- Authors can write either in their native language with an English summary or vice versa.
- Paper version and eventually a web site (all English versions).
- Two sections: peer reviewed and practice
- Pt. 7 articles

/Ulla Gad, Dansens Hus DK

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