
NOFOD NYHETSREV

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NORDISKT FORUM FÖR DANSFORSKNING

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DEAR MEMBERS,

According to the calendar summer arrived here in Iceland yesterday on 20th of April. However, the weather reminds one more of autumn than spring or summer. But no matter how the weather is, here comes the spring volume of the Nofod newsletter. The main subject of this newsletter is the 10th Nofod conference held in Odense 27th - 30th January 2011 as well as news from the general assembly. It is also great to note that the second issue of *Nordic Journal of Dance* is now available and preparation for the third one is going well www.nordicjournalofdance.org.

/Sesselja G. Magnúsdóttir IS

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

As the new chair of the board I am very glad that nearly all the board members continue for a new period. Only Ingibjörg Björnsdóttir has decided to leave the board 'again'. Ingibjörg left the board 'first time' in 2008 but kindly offered her time and knowledge when the Icelandic members and the board needed her. It has been nice to have Ingibjörg back - even though it was only for a short while. I want to thank the previous chair Leena Rouhiainen for her overview and her way of continuously reminding and widening the sense of perspective throughout the board's work. I am quite sure that I am speaking on behalf of the whole board when saying, that I am very happy that Leena will continue in the board and as a Vice chair. I want to mention that Leena is one of the key persons in the *Nordic Journal of Dance* editorial board. She has been an issue editor of volume 2 and will also be the issue editor of volume 3. In the boards continued work on finding a way in which the Journal can become a Journal for NOFOD members it is important that the board have a close communication with the editorial board of the journal. I will ask all NOFOD members to consider sending in papers for the coming volume. [Further information later in the newsletter].

The 10th NOFOD conference: *Dancing Space(s) – Spacing Dance(s)* had over 50 presentations, and participants and presenters from more than 10 different countries. More than 75 dance scholars participated in the conference. Based on participants comments during the conference and evaluations send in after the conference, it is the general consideration of the board that we had a successful conference – concerning the arrangement as well as the content. The keynote speakers as well as presenters offered a rich perspective on the topic and a rich and varied way of presentations. Proceedings are expected to be published within half a

year. They will be sent directly to the conference participants and if the economy allows, NOFOD members will also receive their copy by post. Alternatively, they will receive a copy through national board members. The 11th NOFOD conference will be held in Trondheim from the 8th-11th of June, 2013. Dance heritage will be central for the theme of the conference. The final title and vision statements will be presented on the NOFOD webpage and, of course, in the next Newsletter. The conference in 2013 will be arranged as a co-joined conference with Society of Dance History Scholars, SDHS. Expectably, this conference will be at least double the size of earlier NOFOD conferences. No doubt, there is already a lot of work lying ahead of our Norwegian Colleagues in Trondheim. Anne Fiskvik is the central mediator between Trondheim and the NOFOD board. Be aware of this great event and reserve the dates already by now in your calendar.

/Susanne Ravn DK

News from the General Assamble

The 10th General Assamble of Nofod was held the 28th of January 2011 í Odense. Following is a summary from the meeting.

Report from the board:

- The last Nofod conference, held in Tampere October -2008, was a success, with 70 participants mostly from Nordic countries, a few from Europe and the U.S.A.
- Preparation for the 10th Nofod conference in Odense, Spacing Dance(s) – Dancing Space (s), have been the main task of the board since the general assamble in Tampere. Susanne Ravn acted as the main conference coordinator and mediator between Nofod and The Institute of Sports Science and Clinical Biomechanics

of the University of Southern Denmark who hosted and supported the conference. The conference was also supported by; Det Frie Forskningsråd, Kultur og kommunikation and Nordisk Kulturfond.

- The board has likewise initiated plans for the next conference that will be a joint conference with the Society of Dance History Scholars (SDHS) at University of Technology and Science (NTNU) in Trondheim, Norway. The dates for the conference are the 8th – 11th of June 2013.

- Board members have been involved in the editing and publishing of the first two issues of *Nordic Journal of Dance – practice, education and research* that was initiated by DENN (Dance education Nordic network). The impetus is that it will continue in the future that the editorial board of the journal will include members from the Nofod board.

- The board members have had initiative in activity on national level. Two national meetings have been held in Denmark and Finland in both cases where local members and dance researchers discuss and present their work. In Iceland four lectures on dance, a contra dance ball and general assembly annually have been held.

Rise of membership fee

In the end of January 2011 Nofod had 66 paid members. The financial situation of the board therefore depends on the cooperation with organisations and institutions. Not only in relation to the conference but also in connection to the working board meetings. Because of that the board suggested that the membership fee should rise and become.

- Student membership fee 25 Euros (students up to Master's degree)

- Regular membership fee 45 Euros

- Institutional membership fee 100 Euros

Fees cover:

- Inclusion in each countries local mailing list which shares information on NOFOD and dance research more generally

- Inclusion in the NOFOD local activities in each country.

- Newsletter (Twice a year)

- One copy of conference proceedings (for institutional member two copies).

- For students and regular member discount rates in the biannual conference (institutional membership does not offer conference discount).

Following rising of membership fee was approved on the meeting and the changes effectuates immediately after the general assembly.

- Owing to the economic situation in Iceland it was approved that all the Icelandic members pay the student membership fee 25 Euros (= 4000 ISK).

- If so decided and collaboration with the other publishing organization, one copy of the Nordic Journal of Dance as a member publication (two copies for institutional member) is possible. It will though not be in the

nearest future because the development of the Journal is still in process – paper or electronic version, negotiation with publishers....

Special interest groups

Following initiative was accepted at the general assembly of NOFOD on the 28th of January 2011.

With the impetus of Dance Education Nordic Network (DENN) and the related discussion and collaboration between DENN and NOFOD board members, there is interest to develop NOFOD further. It was approved to reorganize NOFOD to include special interests groups working with different themes within the scope of NOFOD and it had been approved within DENN to become the first “special interest group” within the organization. DENN was formed in 2007 and it is an open network that aims to develop and promote dance education in the Nordic countries. Currently it has on its agenda three different initiatives: 1) developing a Nordic dance education program (a joint master's program), 2) clarifying a Nordic blueprint that promotes sound principles and contents for dance education, 3) publishing a Nordic journal on dance. Currently the DENN participants find that they would need to move forward to become a more official organization and requested collaboration with NOFOD.

- Special interest groups can be formed by the initiatives and interests of NOFOD members. Members can participate in the activities of one or more groups. The aim of the special interest groups should be to promote dance practice, education and research in the Nordic contexts through different perspectives or themes.

- They should be lead by a steering group of two members. This mean that two/three people should be elected as coordinators of the interest group who also inform the board of the activities of these groups.

- To form an interest group members need to draw an initiative that includes a description of the purpose and working approaches of the group as well as a suggestion on the steering group.

- The interest group members would need to join NOFOD as full members.

- NOFOD could support the work of the special interest groups through offering the use of the existing bank accounts, the website and supporting the working groups in the conference program. However, the finances of the special interest groups are reliant on the initiatives of the group itself. The current membership fee does not allow for any additional costs.

- The NOFOD board can act as an adviser and co-participant in subsidy/grant applicant for the sub-groups, if necessary and appropriate with the overall agenda of the board.

- The organization and regulation of the interest groups will be assessed and developed further in the next few years, as they begin to take form.

The NOFOD board welcomes questions and initiatives in forming new special interest groups. Please contact the chair Susanne Ravn sravn@health.sdu.dk or the

vice chair Leena Rouhiainen lrouhiai@gmail.com for further information.

Members of the board

The only changes on the board was that Ingibjörg Björnsdóttir stepped out as one of the Icelandic member and Guðbjörg Arnardóttir a ballet teacher and owner of a Ballet School in Hafnafjörður was elected instead as the second Icelandic member. At the first meeting of the new board Susanne Ravn was elected as a Chair instead of Leena Rouhiainen but Leena became the Vice chair instead of Anne Fiskvik. Anne will at the other hand be the mediator between the board and the comity coordinating the conference in Trondheim 2013.

/Leena Rouhiainen

News from Iceland

A cultural policy for the Icelandic stage dance has been completed. It cover many aspects of the dance scene and among the items is a request for encouraging and furthering dance research.

Four dance students are taken their MA in Art Education at the Iceland Academy of the Arts.

The department of contemporary dance at Iceland Academy of the Arts is planning a MA program in dance in the near future. Up to 35 Icelandic dance students will finish their BA degree in the next 3 years both from the department and various dance academies abroad.

A significant increase in independent dance groups can be seen and the number of dance performances has multiplied. The applications for grants for dance performances tripled the year 2010 but the applications are competing with applications from other theatrical groups.

The Dance Atelier was opened in Reykjavik December 2010. It offers 2 studios for rehearsals and workshops, office space and space for brainstorming and discussion.

Reykjavik Dance Festival was held in the end of August and continued the first week of September. Few foreign guests took part, mostly from Sweden.

Keðja meeting was held in Reykjavik in the beginning of October. Attendance was good to the shows, lectures and arrangement offered.

/ Ingibjörg Björnsd. and Sesselja G. Magnúsd., IS

Nyheter i Sverige

New Artistic director at Moderna dansteatern is Danjel Andersson

http://www.modernadansteatern.se/Nyheter/Aktuellt-p%C3%A5-startsidan/Ny-chef/.pg_136

Conference, Dans och lärande/ Dance in education was held October 7-8 2010, in Piteå

<http://www.ltu.se/dansiskolan/d24653/1.61853?l=sv>

The institute for Dance in School is organizing a Nordic Research conference at Musikhögskolan in Piteå the 7-8th of October 2010. The conference will be the start of an attempt to develop methods and research within the area dance in schools. The conference will raise questions such as: dance in schools seen from a gender perspective, didactic questions concerning dance in schools, dance and learning and dance and health.

The first doctoral candidate in Dans och lärande has been employed at Luleå univeristy of technology: Ninie Andersson

By the 1st of January The University of Dance/Danshögskolan changed its name to The University of Dance and Circus/Dans och Cirkushögskolan.

Two Ph.D. students have been admitted to the University of Dance and Circus, in cooperation with the University of Lund and the National school of research. Mette Ingvarsen and Malin Arnell are both internationally engaged artists, and have been chosen in competition with 26 other applications.

<http://malinarnell.org/bio/cv/>

<http://www.aisikl.net/mette/>

The first international conference for artistic research in circus was held at the University and Dance and Circus from the 18th to the 21st of April 2010: CARD. The conference invited researchers and artists in order to discuss issues currently addressed within artistic research in circus. The conference was an attempt to pave the way for a platform for artistic research in circus. CARD was organized in cooperation with Subtopia, Manegen and with support from Innovative Culture and the Culture Committee of Stockholm.

On the 2nd of September 2010 a new performance space for circus was opened in Alby, Stockholm: Hangaren. The opening is celebrated with a festival: Subtopiafestivalen.

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

/Camille Damkjær og Åsa Unander-Scharin S

Nyheder fra Danmark

Dansehallerne at Carlsberg continue to improve and expand. – their second season started in the end of august 2010 with a "kick-off" event.

PhD Lis Engel Associate Professor with the Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences at University of Copenhagen retired September 3rd after 37 years!

The Dance scene in Århus Arc House was on the verge of closing spring 2010 but a rescue plan saved the place.

In november 2010 a national meeting was held at Syddansk Universitet with presentation by Susanne Ravn, Kamilla Karbo, Hanne Blicher, Julie Johnsen and Kitt Johnson.

A new artistic leader of Dansescenen was appointed and started his work 1st of april 2011. His name is Bush Hartshorn.

/Susanne Ravn og Pia Stilling DK

Nyheder fra Norgie

At NTNU in Trondheim Gedimimas Karoblis from Lithuania has been hired as a new "Førsteamanuensis" (Assistant Professor). He started in august 2010. In february 2011 NTNU arranged, together with DiS (Dance in School) an intensive, practically oriented course called "Improvisation as a creative tool". In addition to this the professional education for folkdancers are now in it's second year, and in april 2011 between 60-80 students at masters level will join in the Erasmus course IPEDAM. In the fall 2011 Nomads students will meet at NTNU for the Dance Analysis course.

The dance stage in Oslo "Dansens Hus" has hired Unn Magrith Nordseth as new artistic director from 1st of August 2010.

October Dance, which is a contemporary international dance festival was held in Bergen in October 2010.
<http://www.oktoberdans.no>

/Anne Fisvike og Hilde Rustad, N

News from Finland

The NOFOD Finland did held a local research paper colloquium on the 26th of August 2010 at the Theatre Academy in Helsinki with a program of six papers. The discussion going on was around the themes of dance pedagogy and contemporary views on conducting research in dance history.

The next NOFOD Finland local meeting will be held the 15th of May 2011 at the University of Tampere.

The Department of Music Anthropology at the University of Tampere is now part of the Erasmus network called IPEDAM which organizes intensive courses on ethnochoreology and dance anthropology for students of the partner universities.

Petri Hoppu received the title of adjunct professor in dance studies at the University of Tampere in November 2010.

It was announced in the Helsingin Sanomat (main newspaper) that the National Theatre will be the home stage of Tero Saarinen Dance Company

Embodiment of Authority, a conference on artistic research in the performing arts was held at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki between the 9-12th of September 2010.

Moving in November festival, together with Theater Academy offered a lecture by philosopher and cultural theorist Boyan Manchev on the title: "Arts, Transformation, Event: Contemporary Dance in the Perspective of the Ontology of Actuality" at the Theatre Academy on November 3rd 2010

The Theatre Academy in Helsinki held the second Colloquium on Artistic Research in Performing Arts on the 13th-15th of January 2011 with the theme of Artistic Research in Action, it was attended by several dance artists working with artistic research in the Nordic context.

/Elina Seye and Leena Rouhiainen F

New books

A new book by Sigríður Þ. Valgeirsdóttir; *Íslenskir söngdansar í þúsund ár. Andblær aldanna*. [Thousand years of Icelandic songdances] was published at the University press in 2010. It contains a historic overview and a description of dances in Iceland of various types; songdances, vikivakar and vikivakagames. Some are based on Valgeirsdóttir's and Minerva Jónsdóttir's field research from 1958 to 1993, others are Valgeirsdóttir's own choreography, based on what is known of Icelandic dance tradition.

Within the area of dance research and dance research/physical education some important books was published in 2010 in Norway:

- *Norsk Danseforskning*. Ed. Sidsel Pape, Trondheim: Tapir Akademisk Forlag
- *Aktive liv – Idrettespedagogiske perspektiver på kropp, bevegelse og dannelse*. Ed. Kjetil Steinholt and Kirsti Pedersen Gurholt, Trondheim: Tapir Akademisk Forlag.

Nordic Journal of Dance

Second issue of *Nordic Journal of Dance* has been released. All information about the journal on: www.nordicjournalofdance.com

Call for contribution for vol. 3, 2011.

Deadline for submitting full articles and pictures is 1st of May 2011.

Material should be submitted to dis@dansiskolen.no

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