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**NOFOD NYHETSBREV NR: 36 – Mars 2012**

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Here comes the spring newsletter for 2012. As usual it brings you the news from the last Nofod board meeting and news from the countries where information about new publications and Doctoral dissertations are included. Call for articles for the Nordic Journal of Dance vol. 3(2) can also be found and an announcement of the book *Dance and the Formation of Norden - Emergences and Struggles*. - It is great to see how much is going on in our dance research community so enjoy reading the newsletter and enjoy spring.

Editor/Sesselja G. Magnúsdóttir /IS

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### *News from the chair to the members*

Dear All

The board had its former meeting in 2012 the last weekend of January. As usual we had two very hectic but also inspiring days, filled up with discussions, exchange of information and (not at least) decisions to be taken. Many interesting things are happening at the same time.

As also highlighted in the last Newsletter the next NOFOD conference, taking place at the Dance Department at the University in Trondheim in June 2013, will be a co-joint event together with Society of Dance History Scholars (SDHS). Since the October Newsletter Anne Fiskvik has participated in one meeting in New York with the SDHS board and this has clarified many ideas and questions we had raised from the site of the board concerning the conference arrangements. Under the theme *Dance Act* the conference will focus on dance heritage, especially how dance activates and in many ways might transform our lives and ways of living. From different perspectives we hope dance scholars will focus on how traditions become created and survive by being actualized or by being re-enacted. The vision statements and call for papers will be announced on NOFOD webpage – as well as SDHS webpage within the nearest future. So keep an eye on the NOFOD webpage ([www.nofod.org](http://www.nofod.org)).

Anne Fiskvik and I have in different ways been able to apply for funding to cover our travel expenses and accommodation and we will therefore both join the SDHS conference this June in Philadelphia and meet with the SDHS board to discuss and clarify the planning and arrangements further. In accordance with this information, I would like to mention that the board members, in different ways, uses a lot of energy on raising extra money from funding, from their own universities and other fundings to make the NOFOD conferences happen every second year. Still the NOFOD membership fees are absolutely necessary to ensure a minimum of activity in the board. Already, many NOFOD members have paid the membership fee for 2012, but if you haven't paid yet *please remember to do so*. A lot of great things are happening ...already in 2012:

As you can read in the news from the countries, all national board members take initiative to hold national meetings for NOFOD members. Members will receive one volume of the Nordic Dance Journal every year and the board continuously works on enhancing the benefits of being part of the internal communication between NOFOD members. Recently, the board has created a page for NOFOD on Facebook, the address is: <http://www.facebook.com/nofod> Please, join us there! We hope that this page will offer a new possibility for exchange of information and good ideas as well as a being a possible 'place' for discussions among members from all Nordic countries.

Some practical information: The volume 3 of the Nordic Journal of Dance (NJD) has newly been published and all members of NOFOD registered for 2011 should just recently receive their copy. If you are a registered member for 2011 and have not yet received a copy please don't hesitate to take contact to your national board members.

During 2011 the editorial board of NJD has worked on finding a publisher who will be involved in the publication of future volumes. Leena Rouhiainen from the board has been highly involved in this work, just as well as she has been the

chief editor of the coming volume. We hope to be able to announce the publisher – for your information – in the next Newsletter. We will of course also announce this on the NOFOD webpage.

...and now as we touch up on the NOFOD webpage again, I think it is important to mention that Elina Seye has taken on the continuous work of updating the site. The updating is primarily based on information collected and sent in from all the board members. If you find something is missing or maybe should be referred to otherwise, please don't hesitate to contact your national board members or write to Elina directly [elina.seye@uta.fi](mailto:elina.seye@uta.fi). We are very interested being still better updated on the webpage and to be sure that we bring relevant information.

Best wishes for the rest of 2012  
/Susanne Ravn DK

### ***Nyheder fra Danmark***

A national meeting was held Tuesday evening (19.00-21.00) the 29th of November in cooperation with 'DanseinformationsCenteret', at 'Dansehallerne' in Copenhagen. The meeting was focused on discussing the relation and connection between research processes and artistic practice - in dance and performance activities. The participants did also exchange experiences and meanings on how artistic practice as research can become a stronger and more recognized field in academia in Denmark. The meeting was held at Dansehallerne and PhD student and parkour practitioner Signe Højbjerg Larsen was invited to present her methodological considerations of her project, focusing on describing Parkour. Because of illness Signe's presentation was cancelled and the meeting was instead started by giving a short introduction and information on some of the topics described and discussed at the seminar 'Nye dimensioner – Hvad er Kunstnerisk forskning' which was held the weekend before by initiative of 'Teatervidenskab' and 'Teaterskolen'. About 25 participated in this NOFOD National meeting. Many of the participants were active performers interested in discussing how to take their artistic work into research. There was a high interest in trying to arrange a new meeting for one whole day in 2012 to further discuss the theme - that is, specifically to elaborate on methodological challenges, realistic possibilities, what to learn from ongoing projects, international research practices and so on.

The 24<sup>th</sup> of January the Ministry of Culture published a rapport on artistic practice in Denmark. The rapport is entitled 'Kunstnerisk Udviklingsvirksomhed: Udredning om vidensgrundlaget på de videregående kunstneriske uddannelser.' The rapport can be downloaded from the website of the Culture Ministry ([www.kum.dk](http://www.kum.dk))

The Royal Theatre has had to face economic challenges by the end of 2011. On the artistic side one of the consequences has been that more artists has been fired or asked to retire. Accordingly, 11 ballet dancers are to leave the company of the Royal Ballet during 2012.

Susanne Ravn and Pia Stilling /DK

### ***News from Finland***

National meeting was held in Tampere in September, which included a seminar on methodology of dance research. The meeting was attended by quite a large group of dance students from two different conservatoires as well as students of the University of Tampere and a few other people interested in dance. The Finnish Nofod members are also planning a book on research methods, because such a book in Finnish language would be very useful for teaching.

The next national meeting is planned for April, but the details have not been decided on yet.

Professor Susan Foster has been invited to lecture, teach and comment performances, jointly by Performing Arts Research Centre of the Theatre Academy Helsinki and the Side Step Festival at Zodiak Centre for New Dance between 7-12th of February 2012. See <http://www.sivuaskel.fi/>

There will be an international seminar on dance education in Vantaa (Helsinki region) on April 26-27th 2012. The website is only in Finnish for the moment, but the program will be published also in English later, see [http://www.vantaa.fi/fi/kulttuuri/lasten\\_ja\\_nuorten\\_kulttuuri/taikalamppu/taikaloikka\\_seminaarisarja/taikaloikka4](http://www.vantaa.fi/fi/kulttuuri/lasten_ja_nuorten_kulttuuri/taikalamppu/taikaloikka_seminaarisarja/taikaloikka4)

### Publications

The local dance magazine (Tanssi) combined forces with the theatre magazine (Teatteri) and from the beginning of 2012 the new magazine Teatteri&Tanssi+Sirkus (Theatre&Dance+Circus) will be published eight times a year.

See <http://www.teatteritanssi.fi/>

The Finnish dance information centre has published Tanssin paikka - *Tid för dans* that explores the place of dance in schools at <http://www.danceinfo.fi/hankkeet-ja-julkaisut/julkaisut/tanssin-paikka/>

Professor Eeva Anttila edited and published an anthology on art pedagogy in Finland: Taiteen jälki: taidepedagogiikan polkuja ja risteyksiä (The Trace of Art: Paths and Crossings of Art Pedagogy) with articles by ten authors.

See [http://www.teak.fi/julkaisut/Myytavat\\_julkaisut/TeaKin\\_julkaisusarja](http://www.teak.fi/julkaisut/Myytavat_julkaisut/TeaKin_julkaisusarja)

### Doctoral Dissertation

Lecturer Seppo Kumpulainen's doctoral dissertation *Hikea ja harmoniaa: Liikunnan ja fyysinen ilmaisun opetus Suomen Teatterikorkeakoulun ja Teatterikoulun näyttelijäopiskelijoille vuosina 1943 - 2005* (Sweat and Harmony: The Teaching of Physical Education and Expression to Actor Students at the Theatre Academy of Finland and the Theatre Academy Helsinki between 1943 - 2005) and was published in 2011. It includes material and approaches used by early dance teachers in the Academy. See [http://www.teak.fi/alltypes.asp?menu\\_id=1578](http://www.teak.fi/alltypes.asp?menu_id=1578)

/Elina Seye and Leena Rouhiainen FI

### *Nyheter i Sverige*

The University of Dance and Circus is organising a conference in Dance Pedagogy. The conference is called Contemporary Dance Didactics: Explorations in Theory and Practice. The conference will take place 28<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2012. For more information please contact [kay.artle@doch.se](mailto:kay.artle@doch.se), or visit the conference homepage: <http://www.doch.se/web/closeencounters.aspx>.

The Ballet Academy is organizing the conference "Ballet Why and How?" from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2012. For further information please contact: e-mail: [fay.nenander@folkuniversitetet.se](mailto:fay.nenander@folkuniversitetet.se) Tel: +46(0)703 809508.

The University of Dance and Circus is inaugurating the new circus hall on the 18 and 19<sup>th</sup> of April 2012. The two days will be filled with performances and other activities.

The project "circus as a transgressor in art and society", led by the circus director Tilde Björfors and supported by the Swedish Research Council, will present its work on a new homepage: [www.circusresearch.com](http://www.circusresearch.com). The home-page will be accessible in March 2012. It will be introduced at a conference at DOCH at the end of March 2012.

The Gothenburg ballet has appointed a new director: Adolphe Binder.

/Camille Damkjær og Åsa Unander-Scharin S

### *Nyheder fra Norgie*

In October 2011, a national NOFOD-seminar, NOFOD – CODA, was arranged at Dansens Hus in Oslo. There were 6 paper-presentations, and the main theme was dance history. The seminar was part of the program for CODA, Oslo International Dance Festival 2012, ([www.codadancefest.no](http://www.codadancefest.no)), which this time had as its theme PAST PRESENT – Age in Dance.

In the autumn 2012, The University of Trondheim, NTNU, will start an Erasmus Mundus program, "Choreomundus". Far more than one hundred persons from all over the world have already applied for 18-20 scholarships. Choreomundus investigates dance and other movement systems (ritual practices, martial arts, games and physical theatre) as Intangible Cultural Heritage within the broader contexts of Ethnochoreology, the Anthropology of Dance, Dance Studies, and Heritage Studies. (<http://www.ntnu.edu/studies/choreomundus>).

/Anne Fisvike og Hilde Rustad, N

### ***News form Iceland***

Two national meeting was held in fall 2011, Margrét J. Gísladóttir informed about a course held at the ethnology department about dance and Ragna Rögnvaldsdóttir informed about a course she took in Scottish dances in Edinburgh. The general assamble of The Icelandic assotiation of dance research (NOFOD in Iceland) was held the 14th of February. After the meeting there was a disscusion about the situation and futhure of ballet in Iceland and elsewhere.

/ Guðbjörg Arnardóttir and Sesselja G. Magnúsdóttir IS

### ***Publication***

*Dance and the Formation of Norden - Emergences and Struggles*

Ed. Karen Vedel

Tapir Akademisk Forlag 2011

ISBN: 9788251926485

What is the role of dance in the formation of the geopolitical region known as the Nordic Countries or Norden? In this book a group of dance scholars from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden shed light on the topic by juxtaposing material relating to theatrical, folkloric and social dancing in the 20th and 21st centuries. Contextualized in the wider cultural and political making of the region, the chapters relate dance to questions of emerging nations, canon building, local variations of global trends and democratic practices in the arts.

#### Contents

Introduction: Dance and the Formation of Norden (Karen Vedel)

National Dances and Popular Education – The Formation of Folk Dance Canons in Norden (Petri Hoppu)

Tracing Dance Fields (Anne Fiskvik and Egil Bakka)

Strategically Nordic. Articulating the Internal Logic of the Field (Karen Vedel)

Participatory Dancing – the Polska Case (Mats Nilsson)

Nordic Night Fever (Inger Damsholt)

Dance and Democracy in Norden (Lena Hammergren)

Reflexive Notes: A Conclusion (Egil Bakka, Inger Damsholt, Anne Fiskvik, Lena Hammergren, Petri Hoppu, Mats Nilsson, Karen Vedel)

### ***Nordic Journal of Dance***

Present your work in the newly founded publication Nordic Journal of Dance: practice, education and research. The first volume of Nordic Journal of Dance (NJD) was published in March 2010 by Dans I Skolen on behalf of the Dance Education Nordic Network. The second and third volumes were published respectively in December 2010 and January 2012.

Volumes 1–3 address especially artistic and pedagogic issues in dance within the Nordic countries.

Nordic Journal of Dance, volume 4, will present recent work, reflections and findings by dance practitioners, educators and researchers with a Nordic perspective. It will be published by the end of 2012.

Nordic Journal of Dance invites practitioners and researcher to submit a variety of texts in two categories:

#### *Research papers:*

NJD expects these papers to present research, findings and theoretical argumentation related to diverse dance practices and artistic processes as well as learning and teaching dance/movement in the Nordic context. The maximum length of the submitted paper is 35000 characters (including spaces and footnotes) which are about 5500 words or 15 pages. List of references should be submitted as a separate document.

*Practical papers:*

NJD expects these papers to document and reflect upon the work being done within dance and education in the Nordic countries in different artistic and educational settings as well as with different age groups. The purpose is to introduce the experiences and conceptions of dance practitioners and educators. The maximum length of a submitted paper is 10 pages or less including footnotes and references.

*General guidelines:*

Papers can be written in English or one of the Nordic languages. In creating the document, use European standard A4 setting. Use 1 cm margin on all sides and do not include page numbers. Type text and headings in 12 point Times New Roman and use line-spacing 1,5. Mark references using Chicago Manual Style. For specific details on formatting and other guidelines please contact Dans i Skolen (DIS) at [dis@dansiskolen.no](mailto:dis@dansiskolen.no).

Deadline for submitting full papers and pictures is May 1<sup>st</sup> 2012.

Send submission to [dis@dansiskolen.no](mailto:dis@dansiskolen.no) with subject heading "Contribution to Nordic Journal of Dance Vol. 3 (2)"

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