

14th NOFOD CONFERENCE, HELSINKI 12.-15.6.2019
CALL FOR PAPERS

Practice, Participation and Politics

The aim of the 14th international dance conference NOFOD (Nordic Forum for Dance Research) is to explore dance practices in their participatory possibilities and political significances. In the context of NOFOD, dance practices include both the fields of dance art in its various forms, dance pedagogy and dance research.

The participatory possibilities within each field may seem widely apart from each other but surprising entanglements and crossing points emerge. Research practices may be academic, practice based and artistic based and of course combinations of all of these. In dance/research the most intriguing results are perhaps truly graspable when the knowledge from the research is intertwined with dance practice and the research is made within that practice itself.

Within different dance genres such as contemporary dance, breakdance, hiphop, folk dance, ballet and bollywood etc. – who sets the agenda, who are the dancers, why are the dancers who they are, and what kind of bodies are asked for or developed? And how do dance/research practices themselves participate in other context and in larger sociopolitical structures.

Themes such as *politics in dance*, *politics and dance*, or *dance as politics* may show how different perspectives in how politics can be seen as having directly and indirectly influenced the dance field during former times as well as today. For example: *How do politically based decisions influence if – in how and to what extent - children and young people will get the chance to experience dancing in schools, as leisure activity and elsewhere. Or: How does state funding or other funding affect dance practices and participatory possibilities?*

Further questions and possible topics:

Practices of inclusion and exclusion in dance.

How do practitioners experience their practices - and how do people outside the practices experience the practices?

How does practice and identity relate to each other?

How does participation work in research?

Who is included in dance and research?

In what ways do participatory practices challenge dance history making?

Hierarchies in dance and research practices.

How can practitioners and researchers influence the politics of dance?

Dance as conservative practice.

Dance breaking borders – dance and research as a way of change and freedom?

What does politics within dance and politics connected to various dance practices mean?

How do shifts and changes in the political climate affect, and how are they affected by dance practices?

What kind of politics is involved in deciding who is able to participate in research and in practice?

Proposals

Striving to embrace a plurality of approaches connected with the themes of practice, participation and politics the organizers warmly welcome you to the Theatre Academy Helsinki, which is hosting the 14th international NOFOD conference 12th - 15th June 2019.

For the upcoming conference the NOFOD board welcomes a wide range of proposals for presentations: movement workshops, paper presentations, lecture-demonstrations, roundtable discussions, lecture performances, conversations, as well as other formats.

Guidelines for proposals:

We encourage you to submit a wide range of proposals:

- Paper presentations: 20 minutes + up to 10 minutes discussion
- Lecture-demonstrations: 60 minutes all included
- Roundtable discussions and conversations: 60 minutes all included
- Movement workshops: 60 minutes all included

Other formats: please specify whether the format needs 20 minutes or 60 minutes.

We welcome proposals in the form of abstracts of no more than 300 words including:

1. Presenter's name
2. Affiliation
3. E-mail addresses.
4. Abstract, max 300 words.

Send the proposals by November 19, 2018 to mikko.orpana@uniarts.fi