

Alumni.Tanz.Berlin meeting protocol

04.10.2017

First meeting of newly formed representation of interest for Alumni's from dance schools and universities of Berlin.

Attendee's: Alex Hennig, Cilgia Gadola, Gabi Beier, Johanna Withelm and students as well as Alumni's —happy to welcome Alumni's from: Tanzakademie balance 1, Die Etage –Schule für die darstellenden und bildenden Künste, Berlin Dance Institute, DANCEWORKS Berlin, Hochschulübergreifendes Zentrum Tanz Berlin, Dance Intensive Program/Tanzfabrik Berlin.

After a short introduction with the questions “Where do we come from / Why are we here?” we gathered questions.

The following questions/concerns/topics have been gathered:

being “lost in space” / “how can I connect with people, with other interesting artists?” / “how can I apply for money to realize a project” / “what does it need to prepare, start a project? What do I have to write for an application?” “How can we exchange on an artistic level? / Show our works to one another” “How can I earn my living and do art/study at the same time?”

“In our schools / during the study we basically don`t talk about the future”

“How can we deal with desires for community at the one hand, while there are not enough resources?” “How to deal with competition?” “How can we support each other rather than being competitive / keeping information for oneself?”

“How can I get people together to form a company?”

TOPICS

Money & time & space & engagement

- How to work artistically without funding?
- How to get to know the dynamics and aesthetics of the independent scene/landscape of contemporary dance (and performance) in Berlin?
- How to know where/ to which theatre to turn to and how to make the first contact?
- How to build up a network? What are the expectations towards a network? E.g. to find dancers for a new piece or a company or to realize projects which are curated by artists? To build up relationships between artists, to get support by school and teachers, connection with or contact to scientists, dramaturges, assistants, press work, help for application, etc.
- Where to find cheap rehearsal space?

- How can we work more process-oriented?
- How to get a residency? Where do I find the information? And what is needed; e.g. VISA?
- Does Crowdfunding work to realize a contemporary dance project? How?

Organization

- How to apply for Künstlersozialkasse?
- How to apply for funding or dance jobs? Where to get the information about applications, auditions etc.?
- How to organize a company structure without funding?
- How to do press work and public relations for my work?
- Where can I find someone to translate my concepts? (How expensive is it? Is there another way to “pay” for it?)
- How to find a mentor by means of self-initiative?
- How can we create a space for discourse, to exchange about dance and politics and questions around the topic where dance can go?
- There is also a need for emotional support and exchange; could be a topic for one meeting and/or a mentor could be helpful

DISCUSSION + FURTHER PLANS FOR A SECOND MEETING

Main intention for this first meeting was to find out what concerns and questions alumnis have and need to discuss. We discussed only shortly some of them in the first meeting:

- ZTB (Zeitgenössischer Tanz Berlin e.V., <http://www.ztberlin.de/>) and LAFT (Landesverband freie darstellende Künste e.V., <http://laft-berlin.de/>) worked out a recommendation for a lower limit fee per month (minimum wage) which is now 2.300 € (it used to be 500 €/week). You can find more info here: <http://laft-berlin.de/honoraruntergrenze.html>The Berliner Senate supports this lower limit and should not accept applications where people get less unless there are reasons for it for example if rehearsals are only half day). Means it should be at least this, never go under in an application but you can go higher!

- For a performance a good fee would be 250 €; this depends a bit on the number of the performances you play or if they follow directly a well paid rehearsal period. Then they could be lower but better they start with 250 €/show.

- For information about per diems and accommodation costs you can check this list:
http://www.jointadventures.net/fileadmin/user_upload/ja/texte_formulare_deu/npn_for_mulare/npn_int_formulare/NPN_Int_arvvwv_2017_pdf.pdf

In Germany per diems a day are 24 €, for half a day (e.g. arrival day) it is 12 €.

- There is a mentoring program from PAP – Performing Arts Program, where one can apply to: <https://pap-berlin.de/en/the-performing-arts-program-areas/consultation-and-qualification/mentoring-program/mentoring-program-newcomers/> At the moment there is no application deadline. Best is to get the LAFT-Newsletter (mostly in English) to get infos about different kinds of applications and news from cultural politics, workshops etc.: <http://laft-berlin.de/newsletter/bestellen.html>

- Also get the newsletter of tanzraumberlin: <http://tanzraumberlin.de/Newsletter-bestellen--660-0.html>

- You can also choose a mentor by yourself and ask her*him if you could be Mentee for e.g. 3 months: have an idea, be open, give them a call!

- Also if you are looking for a job as a dancer: maybe write the choreographer you want to work with; be prepared with a short video of you dancing and a CV/bio and think about and write down what are you interested in

- The next application deadline for "Einstiegsförderung" is June 30, 2018. We want to organize a workshop before it to prepare. First steps are:

1st you need the venue – (Letter of Intent)

venue not always has to be a theatre, could be a gallery or another space suitable for your project idea; the "big theatres" might not be the right contact if you are standing at the beginning; think of it step by step; e.g. ada studio, ACUD Theater, Ackerstadtpalast, KuLe, Theaterhaus Mitte

- There are funding's for each Bezirk in Berlin; check it out here:
<http://www.kulturfoerderungspunkt-berlin.de/foerderprogramme/berliner-kulturfoerderung/kulturaemter-der-bezirke/>