

Dance improvisation and intersubjectivity

Asaf Bachrach

30 people max

Nouma*

Workshop description:

This movement improvisation workshop is open to anyone. The work will be based on my experience and teaching of Contact Improvisation (Steve Paxton), the Tuning Score (Lisa Nelson) and other improvisational techniques as well as the Rolfing method and in particular the teachings of Hubert Godard. We will explore the fine details of intersubjective time/space that is the context for the production and interpretation of gesture (whether in dance or everyday interaction) and for the emergence of meaning.

* Nous (we in French) +ma (間, the Japanese concept of time-space interval)

Bio:

Asaf Bachrach is the initiator of the Labodanse and ICI projects. Originally trained in theoretical linguistics (Paris 3 and Paris 7), Asaf has received his PhD from M.I.T where he has developed expertise in cognitive neuroscience and neuroimaging. He subsequently completed a post-doc in the lab of Stanislas Dehaene (Neurospin/INSERM / CEA) under the direction of Christophe Pallier. He is currently a CNRS researcher, affiliated with the UMR "Formal Structures of Language" in Paris 8. His main research interests, apart from dance cognition, are theoretical syntax and neurolinguistics.

Alongside his university studies, Asaf has over 20 years of regular practice contact improvisation, a form he has been teaching since 2000, as well as other types of dance (Butoh, release technique, tuning score). In 2012, he organized an international meeting in Paris around contact improvisation and "mindfulness". Between 2012 and 2015 he has organized 4 interdisciplinary meetings between dancers, scientists and philosophers entitled "The Conscious Body".

The labodanse project (2013-2015) was centered around an in-depth, in-situ study of the work of the Choreographer Myriam Gourink and its reception by spectators. The study focused on physiological synchronization between dancers and spectators and the effect of Gourink's training and performances on time perception and temporal cognition.

The ICI project (2016-2018), in collaboration with the Conservatoire National Supérieur des Arts Dramatiques in Paris, is conceived of as a trans-disciplinary platform for the study of joint movement improvisation and its cognitive and affective effects.