

RETHINKING DANCE: WHO DANCES AND WHO BENEFITS?

Critical whiteness in dance: decolonising somatic methods and choreographic practices.

Contemporary dance - and theater - are experiencing an unprecedented need to visualise their resources, structures of power and distribution as well as expose and constructively dissolve the mechanisms of inclusion and exclusion, hierarchies, discrimination and racism.

We initiate a temporary community, in which somatic and analytical research and experiences are made perceptible and visions are developed to questions, such as:

- Which knowledge about body health, movement and dance is currently predominant?
- How is "white supremacy" reflected in dance and bodywork?
- What is the norm that we recognize and reproduce and what would be the anti-norm?

In order to be able to grasp the above questions concretely, we first devote ourselves to the following basic tasks:

- To understand whiteness as a category.
- To reflect and experience one's own privileges within society.
- To understand racism as a construction and to understand its deconstruction as an opportunity.
- To acknowledge the emotional work involved and to approach the subject physically.

Finally, for one's own artistic practice, the need to ask the following questions is vital:

- Why, for whom or for what do I work?
- How do capitalism, capitalist control, capitalisation and appropriation function in art?
- An anti-norm artistic practice - what would that be?
- What would be the concept of 'degrowth' in artistic work/practice?

This seminar explicitly invites all interested parties. Inspired by the philosopher Judith Butler, a change in social relations can only succeed through a bodily gathering of all bodies and physicalness to form a community that formulates, fights for and creates its own conditions of living and working. (*Source: Notes Toward a Performative Theory of Assembly*).

No previous experience necessary. Please bring comfortable (workout) clothes. English speakers welcome.