

Portfolio

Susanna Ylikoski

Content

Performance works

continuing containing
eventually
womb

Artistic research

Empathy in Movement

Publications

Continuing containing 2022

Dance performance by Raz Mantel and Susanna Ylikoski



In 'Continuing containing', the artists take up the question of the relationship between the person and their environment through the approach of collaboration. They understand collaboration as a biological process and reveal ways to make the influence that human and non-human others have on us visible, audible, and tangible. The performance creates new political ecologies: ways of perceiving and engaging with the lived world and its entanglements. Its cultural meaning confronts and embraces the conflict between inclusion and fear, spaces and practices of care and violence in a paradoxical relationship.

Creation and Performance: Raz Mantel and Susanna Ylikoski
Dramaturgy: peter pleyer, Gabi Beyer

Artistic Residencies:
4Fürtanzplattform Leipzig 2024
ada Studios Berlin Reinkommen 2023

Press

„First, as they dance next to each other, forming shapes in motion, constructing, deconstructing and reconstructing the position of their bodies, I remember how I feel sometimes when observing nature: things might not be understandable for me, elements might seem chaotic and unrelated, but I also know that all vegetation, animals, soils, are part of a system, have their own collaborative functioning. I sense that the two dancers' bodies have a secret language, a common understanding of the other one, that I cannot grasp and that is yet tangible.“ – [Adèle Aïssi-Guyon: „reinkommen“](#)

Further press: [michela filzi: On “continuing containing” and two whirling bodies of water](#) & [michela filzi: On "continuing" and containing](#)

Production: nein9 kollektiv

Co-production/Funder:

Dachverband Tanz Deutschland, Neu Start Kultur, and DIS-TANZEN

Premier: [Dock11, June 2022](#)

Further performances:

[4Fürtanzplattform Leipzig May 2024,](#)
[ada studios Reinkommen, December 2023](#)
[Dock11 Berlin \(DE\) September 2023](#)
[Stadt theater Spandau \(DE\) January 2023,](#)

***eventually* 2021**

A collaboration with Live-Music and Dance by Susanna Ylikoski and Jonathan Nagel



The duet of dancer Susanna Ylikoski and bass player Jonathan Nagel perform within a light installation by artist Ellen Knops. The piece develops slowly out of small repetitive movements and sounds. From restful stillness, the choreography evolves more and more into outbursts of power and emotion. Likewise, soft chamber music sounds gradually transform into magnificent electronic soundscapes. The slow buildup creates a meditative and trance-like atmosphere, that grows into an exploration of the limits of cognition and perception.

Performance Concept: Jonathan Nagel
Music and Composition: Jonathan Nagel
Dance and Choreography: Susanna Ylikoski
Light Design: Ellen Knops

Press: <https://artstalkmagazine.nl/jonathan-nagels-eventually-in-amsterdam/>

„At the climaxes of *eventually* an eerie and ominous air ensued “

„As the audience members and myself encircled the performers, we had no choice but to be confronted and drawn into the formidable presence of the bass and the dancer. (...) In our placement around the stage and in being close proximity to the performers, there was no alternative but to feel the overwhelming immersion of all the sounds and visuals. “ – Anja Herrmann

Production: Jonathan Nagel

Co-production/Funder:

Fonds Podiumkunsten, Balkonscenes, and TelepART

Premier: Oude Kerk Rotterdam Charlois (NL), July 2021

Further Performances:

Dock11 Berlin, January 2023

Fringe Festival Gothenburg, September 2022

Fringe Festival Turku (FI), May 2022

Kuhlspot Berlin (DE), September 2022

Maarten Luther Kerk Amsterdam (NL), July 2021

Helperkerke, Groningen (NL), July 2021

womb 2020

A collaboration with Live-Music and Dance by Susanna Ylikoski and Cesar Balleguier



The work was commissioned by Christian Awe and premiered in the exhibition HeartBeat at Kunsthalle Rostock (2020). In 'womb,' the artists share an auditory imagination of the dancing body. The performance questions how sound informs, influences, and transforms the embodied image of a situated body. The performance brings to the forefront the political body that cannot hide but must face its vulnerability when all its sounds, internal (heartbeat) and external (movements), are shared audibly.

Concept and Painting: Christian Awe

Performance Concept: Susanna Ylikoski und Cesar Balleguier

Music and Composition: Cesar Balleguier

Dance and Choreography: Susanna Ylikoski und Ariel Hayun

Light Design: Dennis Dieter Kopp

Production: Susanna Ylikoski and Cesar Balleguier

Co-production/Funder:

Christian Awe

Gema

Die Beauftragte der Bundesregierung für Kultur und Medium

Neu start Kultur

Premier: [HeartBeat. Kunsthalle Rostock, Germany 2020](#)

Further Performances:

[I, SEA. Kunstverein Cobourg, Germany 2021](#)

[Perspectives. Kunstverein Weinheim, Germany 2021](#)

[Blanck Check Festival, Dock11 Berlin, 2022](#)

[Artes Berlin, April 2022](#)

Video Link:

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/858610900/d9af24bf56>

Empathy in Movement 2021

Artistic Research



„I had lost my desire to dance but now something has opened, and I remember why I started to dance in the first place and the joy of it.” – Alina, a workshop participant.

“When I opened my eyes and saw another mover, I felt like I was a baby the first time seeing their mother. So much love. I am old already, I had forgotten the pure love and curiosity that a child can have.” – Olivia, a workshop participant.

Dare to care FULL – How embodiment can be the revolution of our times?

How does our body make decisions to animate itself, when moving from an empathic starting point and in relation to our environment? What affects us? What makes us orientate the way we do? How can we expose the body and its environments dynamic interrelationship and resonance? By training our ability to follow both the directionality and the dynamic nature of our sensorial information, this somatic practice enables us to study how our body makes decisions in its environment.

Research Artist: Susanna Ylikoski

Research Participants: nein9 kollektiv Berlin; Lena Klink, Omer Keinan, Raz Mantell; and Asboth Mate, Jin Lee, Rotem Weissman, Amit Landau

Founder

Dachverband Tanz Deutschland,
Neu Start Kultur,
Taike - Arts Promotion Center Finland

Open Workshop: [Seeing and moving symposium I](#), August 2021, Leipzig

Publications

2024

UPCOMING *A Love Letter*, short prose to be published by a Dance Mag

2023

[*How a polar bear turns into a solar bear*](#), dance review of the work solar bear by artist Lena Klink.

[*On Carving Dreams*](#), visual art exhibition at gallery bahnhof Jänickendorf, of the artist Jo Watson.

[*A state of a body produced by a plant*](#), dance review of the work URBAN PLANTARIUM by artist michela filzi.

[*Hybrid Offsprings*](#), dance review of the work Oiseau by La Cage Company and Apricot Productions Berlin

2022

[*Union*](#), dance review of the performance evening Foresigns by Nitsan Margalio.

Close to nature in everytime, dance review of FOLD-into the city by Tanzfabrik Berlin, magazine Memories and Reflections 2022-2023

2021

[*to be real, an object*](#), dance review of the work Silent Trio: Epilogue by Christina Ciupke and Darko Dragicevic & [*our return to nature*](#), dance review of the work Hopeless by Sergiu Matis, Tanzfabrik magazine Fall 2021

A confession game, prose, published in Are you here? Book by Ministry of Greek Culture, by artist Anastasia Valsamaki

2020

Diary Blue, poem, published by CARE WHERE Zine magazine: issue Pooetry December

