

ATELIER

Creations for the Public Space

Lavanderia a Vapore / 8th-13th of May 2023, Collegno (TO), Italy

What happens when "Public" is a concept and a vision, a Space for relationships and not only a set of several gazes? How do we observe the Public Space, what is there and what is missing?

Which creative processes enable to choreograph its stratifications, relationships, and movements, giving life to artistic creations, enhancing a critical discourse on our collective space?

The Atelier of creation for the Public Space is a pilot project, at its first edition, that the Lavanderia a Vapore, centre for artistic residencies and European Dancehouse, launches in March 2023, offering practical theoretical research to artists interested in the exploration of the Public Space as a container and content of one's own experimentation.

The project is an intensive international practical-theoretical program which will take place from Monday the 8th of May to Saturday the 13th of May 2023 at the Lavanderia a Vapore - Casa della Danza of the Piedmont Region and in neighbouring areas of the Municipality of Collegno.

The Atelier is a training and research period, open to 9 Italian choreographers who, thanks to the mediation of 3 artists, mentors of the process, will explore themes, practices and methods of creation dedicated to some specific spaces, alternating guided work sessions with moments of free research and field study. An immersive journey where thoughts and practices feed and contaminate each other in a dimension that constantly oscillates between the individual and the collective.

Divided into three groups, the participants will explore different poetics and spaces, working in the Parco della Certosa with the choreographer Quim Bigas Bassart, in meeting and aggregation spaces with the choreographer Jessica Huber and in *non-lieux* with the artist and performer Sara Leghissa.

Natural, urban, and human landscapes will be the fabric to be observed and the space for a work of mapping and poetic and political recomposing. Each participant will choose their own reference group and the space to explore; during the training of the Atelier, the three trajectories will take place simultaneously and in parallel with moments of encounters and intersections.

Leaving aside the conception of Public Space, often confused with the outdoors, or simply, as an unconventional location for a piece that was born for the stage and afterwards re-set in another space, the Atelier aims to offer a moment to deepen the specific grammars and dramaturgies of the works that arise according to a site-specific logic for public spaces: starting from the characteristics of the places as the core elements, compositional, performative and relational approaches are developed handling the imponderability of open and public situations; furthermore, the notion of spectatorship will be reformulated, with the possibility to engage those people who pass through, attend or simply bump into the artistic creation.

Therefore, during the Atelier, the creations that will arise will be populated by a multitude of visible, invisible, and potential actors, and these elements, within the context, will act by informing the artistic language itself.

In this perspective, the Performing Art becomes an interpreter and a witness, as well as an active part in the deconstruction of the frontal spectatorship logic, to delve into the field of anthropological

experimentation and research, by interacting with the communities of reference or even creating a new “temporary” community. A call and a responsibility that resonates more and more urgently.

We open this opportunity of research to artists who, like us, resonate with these questions, by nourishing the desire to start this new path together with us.

The Atelier is part of Lavanderia a Vapore's planning for the three-year period 2022-2024 aimed at repositioning the role of dance as a catalyst and a device capable of triggering social transformations, leading artists to focus their gaze on the “world out there”, on contemporary society and on the *non-lieux* that citizens cross every day.

The project is developed in collaboration with the Associazione Danza Urbana and in dialogue with the informal network Open, formed by organizations such as Zona K/Milano, Periferico Festival/Modena, Invisible Cities of Gorizia, and Orlando Festival/Bergamo, who share a vocation for the exploration of the Public Space and the reweaving of social relations.

With the patronage of the Municipality of Collegno.

With the support of the Foundation Compagnia di San Paolo.

Conditions

Participation is free of charge and with any limit of age. The Atelier will be held in English; therefore participants should be fluent in spoken English and their presence during the entire period is required.

The selected artists will benefit of a lump sum of 500 euros to cover their travel, per diem and lodging expenses. A VAT number is required as an individual or via an association, able to produce an electronic invoice of the mentioned above lump sum.

How to apply

The participation form should be sent by the 3rd of April 2023.

FORM ita/eng: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BMbt0oPCbskKPdq5qWHgcrQbuTyEtIdz3FoS7Jyf9PU/edit>

Results

The selected participants will be contacted via e-mail by the 13th of April 2023 and published on the website www.lavanderiaavapore.eu

For more information write to: estdahl@lavanderiaavapore.eu with the word “Atelier” specified in the title.

MENTORS

Quim Bigas Bassart was born in Malgrat de Mar and lives between Barcelona and Copenhagen. Artist working within the fields of choreography, dramaturgy and information procedures. Quim's research aims to explore and express the essence and spirit of the places we cross. Quim's creations are often oriented towards mediating encounter situations rather than the spectacular product and often works with documentary procedures to explore possible points of contact between the present and memory, between the body and presences, to create choreographies that give substance to this stratified

temporality. Since 2018, Quim has been an associate professor of choreography at Den Danske Scenekunstskolen in Copenhagen, Denmark. Between 2018 and 2021 was part of the European project Dancing Museums, in collaboration with Fundació Mirò (Barcelona) and Mercat de les Flors (Barcelona). Between 2018 and 2020 was part of the European project More Than This, in collaboration with the Aula de las Artes - Carlos III University (Madrid) and Naves Matadero-Mateo Feijoó (Madrid). During 2019, Quim premiered DV (Desplaçament Variable) at Mercat de les Flors, as well as being involved in a series of performative lectures around archives in DV (Desplega Visions). Quim is still touring with previous works such as MOLAR, APPRAISERS and THE LIST.

Jessica Huber works as an artist in the field of performing arts. Together with Karin Arnold, she is a founding member of mercimax, a performance collective based in Zurich. She recently collaborated with British artist and activist James Leadbitter aka the *vacuum cleaner* on the Hope & Fear project. She regularly gives Workshops to professionals and non-professionals and teaches as a guest tutor at Hyperwerk Basel (Institut for studies in Process Design) and is one of the four artists who are part of the newly founded drama pool of Tanzhaus Zurich. She is an associate artist at Gessnerallee Zürich. For Season 20-23 she has focused on a research series called "Venus Eyebrow - or the Call of the Wild Song" - working on and around "rituals of tenderness" in different collaborations.

Sara Leghissa is an independent artist, active in the field of performing art. Her work embraces creation, scenic action, and curation. Her research stems from a need for connection, sharing, and transformation with contexts and people. Her artistic practice takes place mainly in the Public Space. Her curating practice ties into being an independent artist. She co-organizes for the Italian scene Nobodys Indiscipline, an international and independent platform for the exchange of practices in Performing Art, NESSUNO, a public gathering for a community of people who during the night claim and celebrate the energy of bodies and their diversity and A Sauna, a shared wooden room that contains the instrumentation for obtaining dry air at a high temperature. She co-founded the Strasse collective, a project of site-specific creations that works with the codes of performance and cinema to question and intensify our relationship with reality. She has presented her artistic work in many Italian and international contexts, such as Santarcangelo Festival (IT), Short Theater (IT), Triennale Teatro Dell'Arte (IT), far Festival (CH), Sareyett (PS), La Casa Encendida (E), Festival Parallèle (FR), Saal Biennal (EE), Les Tombées De La Nuit (FR), Mir Festival (GR), Beursschouwburg and Kunstencentrum Vooruit (BE).

