

## Dancing (fancy)



When a body is considered able to dance? What are the necessary skills it should have? To what extent are bodies considered 'perfect' for dancing? Is there an ideal body? And if the emphasis is mainly on bodies that dance skillfully, then how would different bodies, disabled, of different ages and abilities, dance?

The choreography focuses on the above questions in order to further explore aspects regarding the able and disabled, the young, or the old body, i.e. the body that is not necessarily accepted to go on stage.

"What Can a Body Do?" asks Gilles Deleuze drawing his question from two statements by seventeenth-century Dutch philosopher Baruch de Spinoza: "We do not even know what a body is capable of. . . ." and "We do not even know of what affections we are capable, nor the extent of our power."<sup>1</sup> The research borrows its title from E. J. Muybridge's photographic work, 'Dancing fancy' from his 1887 book *Human Locomotion*.

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<sup>1</sup> Gilles Deleuze, "What Can a Body Do?," in *Expressionism in Philosophy: Spinoza* (New York: Zone Books, 1990), 226

- [The workshop](#)

**What can a body do? On movement, breath and voice**

**26 & 27 August 2023, 17:00-19:00, iJuLa-Raum, Herthastraße 50, 50969 Köln**

The workshop will be based on the research of the work **Dancing (fancy)**.

Duration: 2 hours | Open to anyone with or without prior experience in dance or movement.

Please email [mariakoliopoulou@gmail.com](mailto:mariakoliopoulou@gmail.com) to reserve a place.

- [Open rehearsal followed by a Q&A.](#)

An open rehearsal of the research of the work **Dancing (fancy)**.

**30<sup>th</sup> August 2023, 18:00, iJuLa-Raum, Herthastraße 50, 50969 Köln**

- [Short CV](#)

**Maria Koliopoulou** is a female artist, activist, choreographer, performer and dance teacher with immigrant roots living and working in Athens. She earned a scholarship to the **Laban Centre** for Movement and Dance and studied Fine Arts at Vacalo School of Arts & Design in Athens. She practices in the martial art of Aikido in which she holds the second black belt and is a founding member of Proxima Dance Company where she choreographs and performs since 1996. In the recent years she has presented works commissioned by the **Onassis Stegi**, the **Athens Festival**, the **Ephorate of Greek Antiquities** and the **International Contemporary Dance Festival of Algiers**. Her choreographic works have been presented in Athens, Algiers, Vienna, Karlstadt, Ljubljana, Salzburg, Stockholm, Prague, Budapest, Chania, Serres and Kavala. She is currently **an awarded artist of the Dance Research NRW, a scholarship of the NRW KULTURsekretariat** – funded by the Ministerium für Kultur und Wissenschaft des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen. She has been awarded the **Jarmila Jeřábková award** (2008) at the New Europe Festival in Prague and the 2nd Prize at the International Contemporary Dance Festival of Algiers (2013) in Algiers.

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