

Tanzrecherche NRW 2023 / FINAL REPORT

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The primary goal and expectations of the residency in Dusseldorf were to further develop and reflect on my choreographic concept dedicated to the phenomenon of the bowing gesture. The project, BOW A STUDY, focuses on the various ambiguities of this bodily figure and can be understood both as a theatrical and political act. During my time in the studio provided by FREIRAUM and the Ben J. Riepe team, together with my collaborators, I aimed to rehearse choreographic scores, the dramaturgical pillar of my research, and the textual content for this project. Entering the studio time in Dusseldorf, my project was already well-advanced, with a significant amount of performative material collected. Certainly, my residency greatly helped me to reflect on my work and narrow down my interests for further development.

I am satisfied with the results achieved during the residency in Dusseldorf. The developed performative content and new choreographic interests will be important elements for further work, not only for the bowing research but also for the next project that I am about to start. In a way, my work in the frame of Tanzrecherche NRW became a sort of transition between my interest in the bowing gesture and the new process that I am about to develop this year, dedicated to the memory of three queer ballet dancers from the era of communism in Poland.

The daily access to the studio during the four weeks of the residency offered by the FREIRAUM team, was great support. The space, technical equipment, and production support offered to us fully met my needs during rehearsals in Germany. Collaboration with my host organization FREIRAUM went very well, and it was a successful, smooth collaboration. I appreciate their support, openness to my artistic and residential needs, which was a great value performed by the host.

One month of research in Dusseldorf was a milestone for the development of my artistic practice. I'm especially pleased with the results of the work on the choreographic level and the initial score proposal that I established for the purpose of the final presentation at the end of my residency. It is worth mentioning that, together with my collaborators, we were also able to come up with a new choreographic quality that is supposed to stimulate this project. I achieved the goal of this residency and, together with my collaborators Igor Cardellini, who worked with me as a dramaturge, and Wojtek Blecharz, a composer, we found new areas of interest in this project. One of the significant discoveries for us was the focus on head and arms movement and the choreography that is concentrated specifically on this body part - a moving bust. The exploration of these elements added depth and nuance to our overall concept, enriching the artistic dimensions of our work. For the final sharing practice, I developed a preliminary structure of the movement score and presented it to the invited group of people in Dusseldorf at the end of our residency. I

concluded the residency with many dramaturgical and choreographic new ideas and content. Also, the opportunity to discuss my research with people who gathered for the presentation was beneficial feedback that I will surely use in the next stage of the work.

In addition to the main topic of the concept, this project is also about emancipation and the visibility of different minorities. I think that our presence in Dusseldorf and collaboration with FREIRAUM contributes to the activist dimension of communities that are often excluded, overlooked, disrespected, or ignored. In this sense, the artistic dimension of our work also becomes political, and this is an added value to our work.

I think the Tanzrecherche NRW program is a well-designed offer for artists. It is great support in the process of developing a new art project, and as a member of the program, I felt understood and supported. Since the program is focused on the research dimension of the work, I think it would be great if additional budget for documentation of the residency would be provided. Considering accommodation and living costs that I had to spend in Dusseldorf, I was not able to pay for the recording and photographer to document final results presented during the open studio event. I think it would be important to consider this as an additional service offered or proposed to residents of the program by the institution. Also, having an opportunity to meet online with other residents of the program was a great added value to this experience. Overall, I am thankful for the opportunity to participate in Tanzrecherche NRW 2023, as it opened up new trajectories for me, allowed me to meet new people from the art sector, get to know the cultural offer in Dusseldorf, and become more familiar with the city and its environment.