



MELISSA KIEFFER

DANCER, TEACHER, CHOREOGRAPHER

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BIRTHDAY: 02.04.1993 | NATIONALITY: GERMAN | LANGUAGES: GERMAN, ENGLISH, FRENCH | TANGO, KUNG FU, SOPRAN

PROFILE

I am deeply convinced that movement expresses our deepest nature, for which we sometimes have no words. Dance expresses that creatively. As a dancer, I strive to find ways to express from the inside out. In my personal dance practice, I am looking for self surprising moments, diversity of bodily expressed motives, dreams and codes of human life - containing the narrative but not forgetting about the strong physicality. I am interested in dangerous and tamed movement, sometimes delightful but determined, mysterious but still accessible.

ACADEMIC STUDIES / EDUCATION

- **2015-2018: La Manufacture, Lausanne. Bachelor in contemporary dance, creation/choreography option, artistic director: Thomas Hauert.**
- 2018: Manufactured, Fabrice Mazliah, STEPS Tour, Switzerland
- 2018: Subject to change, Michael Schumacher, STEPS TOUR, Switzerland
- 2018: Living Room, Zoe Poluch, Lausanne, Geneva, Zurich
- 2017: Time...two, Jeremy Nelson, Lausanne, Geneva
- 2017: Drumming Repertoire, Taka Shamoto, Cie. Rosas, Lausanne
- 2016: Re/Rosas, Théâtre Vidy, fête de la danse, Lausanne
- 2016: Divan, Cie. 7273, Lausanne, Geneva
- **Feb. 2021- July 2021: University of the arts & Tanzangente, Berlin, "Creating Dance in Art and Education"**
- **2013-2014: Tanzfabrik, Berlin. Dance Intensive**
- Performance Project Shai Faran
- Performance Project Andrew Wass and Maik Riebert

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Dance

- December '22 - February '23: I am for free, will you be there?, **Victor Rottier**
- From September 2022 - now: "In C" by **Sasha Waltz&Guests**, Berlin
- May 2022: Residency with **Sebastian Zuber**, St Gallen
- March - August 2022: Time Gestures, in collaboration with **Lauren Rae Mace** (Staatstheater Kassel)
- March - May 2022: PLAY, **Mirjam Gurtner** (Swiss Tour May 2022)
- 2021/22: Durch Hilma, **Breeanne Saxton**, Berlin, Sweden
- July 2021: Cherry Wringing, **Fleur Darkin (Scottish Dance Theatre)**, Berlin
- April - June 2021: Quintett, **Hermesdance**, Bern, Switzerland
- 2020: Ode to Phanes, **Alma Edelstein-Feinsilber**, Berlin (MasDanza Extension Tour, Canary Islands)
- 2019: White Light, **Cie LeLokart**, Neuchatel
- 2019: Mercury Rising, **Michael Schumacher**, Amsterdam
- 2019: Decidophobia, **Sacha Vera**, Utrecht
- 2018: Solarstorm, **Johannes Wieland**, Berlin

Teaching/Dance

- From 2022: Professional Training at Tanzfabrik Berlin, Tanznetz Freiburg, Tanz Leipzig and Tanzbüro Basel
- From 2021: Professional Training at "The Practice" and Tanzhalle, Berlin
- From 2021: Teacher at "Die Etage", Berlin
- From 2020: Leading my own practice group "Embodiment and Movement Research", Berlin
- 2020: Professional training, Dock11 Berlin
- From 2019: Teacher/choreographer at Seneca e.V. in the educational year of dance and Slide Dance Intensive, Berlin
- From 2019: Teaching and choreographing at the Jugendtheaterwerkstatt Spandau, JTW Dance Ensemble, Berlin

CHOREOGRAPHIC WORK AND ARTISTIC MANAGEMENT

- 2022: **Enjoying the cold of the marble**, in collaboration with DIE ETAGE, piece for 11 dancers, JTW Spandau
 - 2022: **Time Gestures**, Collaboration with Lauren Rae Mace, Co-Production: Volksbühne Kaulenberg
- 2021: **NEO**, piece for 13 performers, Jugendtheaterwerkstatt Spandau
- 2020: **Expal**, final project Seneca e.V. students, Berlin
- 2019: **Speechless**, creation at the Jugendtheaterwerkstatt Spandau, Berlin
- 2019: Sommercampus, research week Jugendtheaterwerkstatt Spandau, Berlin
- 2019-2020: **Kreativheide**, cabaret evening Jugendtheaterwerkstatt Spandau, Berlin
- 2018: Solo **Memphis Belle**, La Manufacture, Lausanne
- 2017: **We,undecidable**, Les quarts d'heures, Théâtre Sevelin 36, Lausanne
- 2017: Collective project **Imaginarium**, La Manufacture, Lausanne
- 2016: Solo **Colours we can't hear**, La Manufacture, Lausanne

STIPENDS

- October 2021: GVL Produktion

RESIDENCIES

- June 2022: Gula Villan, Järna, Sweden
- March 2022: OFF Bühne Komplex Chemnitz, Germany
- November 2021: Tanzhaus Zürich, Switzerland

CO-PRODUCTIONS

- October/November 2022: JTW Spandau, Berlin
- July/August 2022: Volksbühne Kaulenberg, Halle

OTHER EDUCATION

Important Workshops

- B12 Festival 2021: Workshop with **Zoe Gyssler**
- From 2019: Permanent Onlinetraining with **Shai Faran**
- 2017: Camping Paris, CND, **Deborah Hay**

Training

- 2021: The embryo in the human, basics of Embryology, Jaap van der Waal, Berlin
- 2020: The self-healing nerve, Cranio Sacral techniques according to the polyvagal theory, Stanley Rosenberg, Berlin
- 2020: Introductory weekend in Social Presencing Theatre (Arawana Hayashi and Otto Scharmer), University Witten/Herdecke
- 2018: Introductory Weekend in Somatic Experiencing (Peter Levine), Berlin