

CORPUS

The Limitation of Movement in Dance

Performance
Concept, Stage and Costume Design
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Both through fashion and architecture, from interior design to product design, from the rules of etiquette and conduct in society, we are all limited to certain forms of behavior. Each of our movements were defined in different ways and through different norms throughout history.

How restricted are these movements? How limited is our mobility if the room only allows certain – short, narrow – gestures? What does it mean, to be constrained?

How would it be, if our senses had their own will and no longer acted as we know it? If our hand could see, while our eyes take over our speech and the mouth becomes our ears?

What kind of responses would our body create to this?

The idea of awakening all the senses, both in the audience and in the performers themselves, was urgent from the beginning to the end of the creative process of this show.

The flow of our movements can be limited by several factors – whether they are fabrics, special structures or rational norms.

As a metaphor to all the possibilities of restriction, we decided to use fabric as our main material. More or less elastic, long or narrow. A fabric can be a hiding place or emphasize the shapes of the body, allow long movements or shorten them. They are part of our everyday life – clothing can limit not only movement but also behavior.

Such circumstances originate certainly a reaction – do we fit to it, re-setting ourselves and developing new ways of movement or do we fight against them?

All these questions were used as stimulation for different exercises in search of a choreographic language. None of them was answered, all of them were useful. Resultant to this interpersonal approaches a dance-dialog was created.

This twisted worldview criticizes the standardized everyday world in which we live and in addition sharpens the heed for the unusual. Above all, however, it should encourage us rethink space and mind setting in order to make it more suitable for different or stubborn bodies.

The show was presented in the context of a small performance festival organized by the Stage Design class of the Universität der Künste at the Acker Stadt Palast in Berlin.