

LLB activity report- wild card | Tea Tupajic residency

25 till 30 may 2015 | Veem House for Performance (formerly Het Veem Theater)

Tea Tupajic, Croatian artist and maker of “The Curators Piece: a trail on art” - a piece that had been invited to Amsterdam to be presented at Veem in September at the opening of the season, used her wild card to research the historical, social and political context of the cultural field in the Netherlands. Visiting Amsterdam Tea got the chance to meet several professionals from the field and to conduct many interviews with them.

The team of Veem house for Performance supported her research throughout. Providing content of the research beforehand and also facilitating in practical steps by composing a list of people to talk to, inviting them, and bringing them in contact with Tea.

During her stay Tea was self-supportive, went around the city to meet people from various generations and fields of expertise. By giving her space for this research she was able to collect a lot of insights and the needed background information to present The Curators’ Piece in the local context.

Tea Tupajic spoke with different people of different institutions with an important role in the Dutch art field. Arthur Sonnen; founder and director of the Dutch Theatre Festival, someone with a rich historical perspective. Marijke Hogeboom shared her knowledge and expertise from the perspective of her involvement in different Dutch education structures and platforms. On that same subject Tea received input from the director of the School of the Arts Amsterdam, and former director of the Rotterdam City Theatre, Jan Zoet. Who is also very much informed by cultural advice commission in the realm of art policy. This was enhanced by Pieter Bots: Secretary of the Advice committee of culture. Berend Jan Langenberg who previously worked for the Ministry of Culture and with a background in economics offered an insight in the history of art policy in the Netherlands. Finally she also met with Simon van den Berg; Theatre critic and chief editor Theatermaker, a Dutch magazine for performing arts. Simon is also involved in a new movement in the arts: The Agenda. This is an open space platform to develop discourse in the arts in the Netherlands. Tea had been welcomed and participate on one of the Agenda meetings in Utrecht.

This research period gave a lot of substantive input in Tea developments. For Veem it was inspiring to have her in residence a few months before welcoming the work itself and be able to unpack the context with her in the run to present her performance, “The Curators’ Piece”, in September.