

## Dance Hub Residency at MDT Stockholm 1.4. – 14.4.2022

### Silvia Marchig: Experience report

During the residency at MDT, I took time to work in the studio on my own artistic practice, to visit sites, performances and art exhibitions in Stockholm to get to know the present artistic scene on the local and to establish connections with colleagues involved in the art production: MDT team and artists, curators, producers around the community I was in contact with.

I used the opportunity to learn from their experience: had numerous talks about the concrete frames and types of organizations existing, visited different venues and places where dance is produced and supported (Weld, Höjden studios, Dansens Hus, Site) and also introduced Croatian dance scene, modes of organizations, formats that we develop and practice. From these encounters I reflected on the similarities and differences of our interests, preoccupations and challenges we are dealing with, also on the future possibilities for sharing and exchange that would enrich both of our scenes.

The primary focus of the residency was to work on my artistic practice and it had effect on different aspects of my work:

- The methodology of creation, thinking of creative process as process of *doing*, rather than the process of *making it happen*. I spent time working on method and materiality of choreography and storytelling, of staying truthful to the process of unfolding and following the material, instead of trying to conquer it.
- The work on specific materials I am developing currently, for the piece of working title *Apophenia*. In its final version it is going to be a duet with premiere planned on Antisezona in June 22. During the residency I developed choreographic strategies and materials for the work, having the opportunity to experiment freely with no production pressure and to build a solid ground on which the future work can rely on.
- Dialogue with pavleheidler, artist based in Stockholm, with whom I nurture a long-term artistic and friendship relationship, on and off in the last 10 years. In the past, we developed different art projects in frames of Kik Melone production, always questioning its formats, methods and terminology. The works were appearing publicly through performances, durational formats, texts, poetry and film. During this residency, we spent time working in studio, talking, sharing and performing together during the open studio days.
- The aspect of presentation: on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of April we opened the studio and invited colleagues and peers (MDT team, pavleheidler's fellow artists) to join us in the experience of *porose performativity, a choreographic landscape of dialogue and sharing* – as we put it in the invitation. Our interest included both sharing of the materials we worked on and experimenting with materiality of performativity, i.e., when does an informal situation in studio become theatrical, what are the tools to shape the collective attention towards an experience that we would describe as a performance?

The conditions to work freely, to organize my time following organically my needs and combine time in studio with the time in reading, attending other performances and exhibitions, listening to the music, walking, etc., made me reset my priorities and interests and gave me rare and so precious opportunity to deepen my motivations and commitments, artistic and organizational. The most generously hosting MDT team and the residency structure gave me all the support I needed for this productive time that will impact my future work.

Beside my own artistic gains from this residency, I also like to think about it as a seed for the future collaborations between MDT and Antisezona, but also broader between Zagreb and Stockholm contemporary art and dance scene.

In Zagreb, 24.4.2022.

Silvia Marchig