

Performing Blab during the Choreographic Convention festival was overall an inspiring and interesting experience. I liked how different works intertwined in less obvious way to one another and how the symposium brought it all together in thought and language. I was especially drawn to the discourse of relational aesthetics and how I could reflect on my own work as well as few other propositions in this framework. STUK is always a very pleasant place to work in. The staff in all departments are very welcoming, helpful and creative towards the artistic works and I believe there is always a nice vibe in the house. Spring in Belgium is lovely, so the timing of the festival seemed great for exchange, staying to experience art and engage in a festival. I was wondering, if there is a growing interest towards exchange between artists, and artists and public, maybe discussion formats in their multiplicity could be enhanced. For instance workshop discussion or as a visiting artist committing to see few other works and taking part of a thinking together around them. Perhaps because of the timing of my work ( it was close to another show starting directly after ), I didn't manage to talk to audiences that much, which felt a bit of a pity. There were also people I knew but that had to rush off to the train after the second show and hence we didn't manage to talk. Perhaps this can be something to think in future festivals. At the same time- it is often unavoidable that audiences also must go home :) I am currently quite interested in different ways of engaging in processes and talking together and lately had an open studio where people could come, talk, drink tea and cut threads towards a tapistry work for a new creation. I was positively surprised how many came and wanted to hang out and discuss the work but also larger concepts around it. Perhaps there is a way of thinking with each artist on what kind of extra engagement in what kind of form could fit the artistic proposition to create other contexts around the work to meet, talk and engage.

Thank you for such a lovely festival and hosting us!