

1000 words about the mobility of contemporary dance in Denmark

- **Festivals**

SWOP – dance festival for young audiences www.swopfestival.dk is biannual and will take place for the 3rd time in 2016 in Roskilde. KIT (Copenhagen International Theatre, www.kit.dk), presents international contemporary dance performances if applicable to the themes “Metropolis” (biannual festival) and Contemporary Circus. Other festivals that might present dance are Aarhus Festival (annual www.aarhusfestuge.dk) and CPH Stage (annual www.cphstage.dk), ILT, biannual international festival in Aarhus www.ilt15.dk and Waves, biannual international festival in Vordingborg (www.wavesfestival.dk). Bora Bora usually have an annual festival (Junge Hunde, DNA, in March 2015: First Move Festival) www.bora-bora.dk In 2013 and 2014 Dansehallerne (www.dansehallerne.dk) presents international performances under the headline Thousand Threads - a festival like performance series.

- **Venues**

There are two venues dedicated to contemporary dance and visual and physical theatre in Denmark: **Dansehallerne** www.dansehallerne.dk in Copenhagen, which has existed since 1991 (first as Dansescenen, from 2009 as Dansehallerne) and **Bora Bora** in Aarhus www.bora-bora.dk, which has existed as a venue for contemporary dance since 1992 (under different names and different organisations). Both venues are supported by their municipalities and from the National Arts.

The **Royal Ballet** (www.kglteater.dk) performs on three stages in Copenhagen. Primarily classical ballets but also contemporary works and invited guest performances.

The dance company **Åben Dans** www.aabendans.dk is ‘regional theatre’ in Roskilde. Their performance and rehearsal space is called Scenen i Laboratoriet. Occasionally other dance performances than their own are presented here. **Granhøj Dance** www.granhoj.dk in Aarhus is a dance company with own rehearsal space and a theatre room as well as apartments for artists. Various theatres/venues occasionally present dance performances.



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- **Agents**

There is no tradition of dance agents in Denmark. Some choreographers/dance companies hire international agents to help them create international tours.

- **Rehearsal spaces**

Only a handful of dance companies in Denmark have their own rehearsal spaces. The largest of the Danish contemporary dance companies, Dansk Danseteater, www.danskdanseteater.dk reside and rehearse in Dansehallerne.

Dansehallerne in Copenhagen offer rehearsal space at very low prices for funded contemporary dance performance projects. Individual dancers and choreographers can book studios for free within a shorter time-frame. The majority of contemporary dance performances produced in Denmark use Dansehallerne's premises

Danseværket www.dansevaerket.dk can advise reg. rehearsal space in Aarhus. They are currently negotiating with the Aarhus municipality regarding contractual access to a studio at the culture space Godsbanen www.godsbanen.dk. Forsøgsstationen www.forsogsstationen.dk is a performing arts space in Copenhagen where members (artists) can get access to studio space and conduct labs and other activities.

- **Touring/mobility structures and networks**

De Danske Teaterforeninger/The Danish Theatres Association www.dk-teaterforeninger.dk hosts a small showcase possibility each year. Its member theatres purchase and present Danish dance performances alongside more traditional theatre pieces which typically take up the majority of the theatres' seasons.

A national touring programme for children, consisting of a short performance and a workshop session is being offered to schools through the municipalities. The scheme is funded by the National Arts Foundation, administered by Dansehallerne.

www.dansforborn.dk

Funding of mobility and touring of national and foreign dance companies.

- Administered by the National Arts Agency a "guarantee scheme" covers possible acquired deficits when Danish presenters present Danish dance performances.

It is possible to apply for support from the National Arts Foundation to tour a Danish



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piece internationally or presenting an international performance in Denmark.

- [Contemporary Dance on Tour](#) is a national touring scheme to ensure, that Danish produced contemporary dance performances, travel the entire country and are presented to a wide audience. It supports the presenters when presenting dance performances. It is administered by Dansehallerne

- **Danish dance abroad**

International touring was, until 2006, based on the companies' and choreographers' own initiatives. Since 2006 the National Arts Foundation has supported and initiated promotional activities reg. international touring of Danish performing arts. They funded the Showcase p@art.dk in 2006 and 2009 (organized by www.kit.dk) and organize Danish representation at fairs like CINARS (Montreal), Tanzmesse (Düsseldorf), APAP and Ice Hot (www.nordicdanceplatform.com).

It is possible to apply to the National Arts Foundation for support for performing abroad as well as for presenting performances from abroad in Denmark. Danish ITI (www.danskiti.dk) hosts www.ivds.dk with some info about Danish performances abroad.

There are no figures available that would account for the amount of Danish performances abroad.

- **Residencies**

Dansehallerne in Copenhagen host residencies providing space for rehearsal and research and the opportunity to share knowledge with colleagues.

Bora Bora in Aarhus is hosting up to 6-7 residencies per year in their own rooms or at partner-institutions scattered around in the region. These residencies are typically co-productions.

From 2014: Focusing on relations to landscape, sustainability and participatory work, Secret Hotel (www.secrethotel.dk) organizes residencies in National Park, Mols Bjerger.



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- **Co-production possibilities**

Co-production possibilities are limited in Denmark and are based on the initiative and economy of the venues and producers. Funding for co-production is part of the overall funding from the National Arts Foundation.

An exception is Bora Bora in Aarhus who co-produces not only with local but also national and international companies and agencies. This is done 1:1 or through various international partnerships.

- **Daily training**

Professional contemporary dancers are offered cheap daily classes in contemporary dance and classical ballet in Dansehallerne in Copenhagen and in Aarhus, organized by The Union of Danish Actors/Aarhus Center of Performing Arts and Danseværket.

- **National features**

The dance scene is quite concentrated to the Copenhagen area. **Dansehallerne** is a main organisation as it offers a range of services: - coaching and advising related to application writing and production as well as administration of independent choreographers' projects.

- Present performances on several stages – run extensive programmes for children and youth nationwide. - Run international projects like keđja, DaCI 2015 and Ice Hot 2016.

The majority of dance performances in Denmark are created with support from the National Arts Foundation that grants operational (2-3 years) as well as project support to companies and individuals.

This paper was compiled May 2014 by employees of Dansehallerne and Bora Bora



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