

A micro-observation concerning memory

I would like to share a brief notice in relation to the ways I negotiate with the duration of a memory that appears in the present time.

While I was improvising focusing on how I experience the duration of time, I understood that sometimes the duration or the temporality of what I was doing at the moment could bring into surface a memory, a past experience or 'archives' coming from previous dance pieces. I observed that I was 'travelling' into that experience in the frame of adjusting it to the present. For instance, transferring my weight from one foot to the other in a specific tempo reminded me of a past piece. Understanding that, I gradually 'moved' to that experience in regards to its 'quality' of temporality, sensation and 'ambience', making it present. Such a negotiation was part of how the past was becoming present. In other words, the duration or the temporality of the present could release past experiences in the 'now'. Enlivening it in the improvisation of now was a way to connect with the past and allow memories enter into the present. The whole process was not a cut and paste format; the past was becoming alive through an increasable blending with the present moment.