



# Zornitsa Stoyanova

choreographer | multidisciplinary artist

Based between Sofia, Bulgaria & Philadelphia, USA

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[@bodymeld](https://www.youtube.com/@bodymeld)

## What I do:

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**BodyMeld** – Director – since 2007

Create performance, video, photography and produce programs to support the dance community through exchange, performances and workshops. Teach composition, improvisation, and dance on camera locally and abroad.

**Dancer** – freelance – since 2006

Worked with Zhana Pencheva, Sasha Waltz & Guests, Boris Charmatz, Eiko & Koma, Sie. Willi Dorner, <fidget>, Lionel Popkin, Idiosyncrazy Productions, Group Motion Dance Theater, Emergent Improvisation Project, and others.

**Dance Writer and Editor** – [thiNKingDance.net](http://thiNKingDance.net) – writer since 2015, editor since 2020.

**Teaching** - performance technique, improvisation, dance for camera – since 2011

*Temple University and University of The Arts; Jurany Studios at Workshop Foundation, Budapest Hungary; One Dance Week festival, Plovdiv, Bulgaria; Wanted Dance Festival, Rennes; and many others.*

**Created programs** – Current: an evening of dance and art (2007-2011), Dance Cinema Projects (2008-2010), Move. Dance. Think. Fest. (2015), Moms Make Art residency (2016), Get What You Need residency (2015 – now), Grappling together festival – 2016, residence of Polish choreographers in Philadelphia 2018-2019, International one-week workshop in DNA – 2021, Festival "Alternative Stage", Bulgaria 2022, BodyMeld International Performance Research Academy, Bulgaria 2023; Trilateral Dance Artist Exchange for choreographers from Philadelphia, Sofia and Budapest 2024; and others.

## Sampled performances and improvisations 2010 - Present

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**2016 – present**

[Sound Body](#) – a group international co-creation with Peter Sciscioli (USA) Bulgaria on the theme of democracy and democratic process at The Red House, Sofia, Bulgaria. Nov. 2024.

[Brutal Honesty](#) – solo performance premiere at Cannonball Festival, Philadelphia. Sept. 2024.

[Body Text Voice](#) – a performance situation with poet and performance artist Sophie Verraest (Belgium) at Toplocentrala, Sofia Bulgaria. June 2023.

[Shame](#) – a research presentation of the process of Brutal Honesty – May 2023 at TAM, Veliko Turnovo, May 2023.

[Window to another place](#) – created for Leap Off festival, collaboration with micro fiction writer Antonia Atanasova, Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria. Nov. 2022

[Altered States – a performance conversation -](#) touring – Megan Bridge and Zornitsa Stoyanova, performed at Etud Gallery, Sofia, Fidget Space, Temple University, Bryn Mawr College Philadelphia 2021 – present.

[The Beach](#) – created for the Alternative Stage Festival, site specific festival in Pancharevo, Bulgaria, September 2022.

[Woman in Red](#) – a site-specific performance at the National Gallery "Kvadrat 500", organized as part of the Antistatic Festival, Sofia, Bulgaria 2022.

[Род и диня не прави Родина \(aka Family and Watermelon ≠ Homeland\)](#) – online performance series supported by National Cultural Fund Bulgaria – March 2021.

[Bolero \(in quarantine\)](#) – Online live performance – January 2021.

[The Future is Here](#) – Online live performance produced by Fidget Space and 4bidden 4fruit, Philadelphia, PA New Year's Eve 2020.

[Andromeda](#) – site-specific performance created for Philadelphia Museum of Art – Jan. 2020.

[Un-seen](#) – *Etude and Friends Festival*, June 2019, Sofia, Bulgaria. (password: art123matters)

[Explicit Female](#) (*Rocky Award for performance 2017*) The Fidget Space and Vox Populi Gallery, Philadelphia, PA. Aprl. & Sept. 2016 (\*note: full nudity, password: artmatters)

#### **2010 - 2015**

[shatter ::: dawn](#) –Crane Arts Old School, Philadelphia. April 2013. (password: artmatters)

[Paper Duchess](#) –Falls Bridge Festival, Philadelphia, January 2012. Wanted Festival, Rennes, France, July 2012. PARD Performance Series, Philadelphia, May 2012.

[Vertigo](#) – commissioned by Philadelphia Center for the Book with support by New Stages for Dance. Studio34 and Christ Church Neighborhood house, Philadelphia May 2011.

[Experiment 1](#) - Commisioned by the New York Dance Exchange, CEC, Philadelphia, Nov. 2010.

[Sour](#) - commissioned by Performance Mix Festival, Joyce SoHo, NYC, April 2010.

#### **Selected dance films and exhibitions:**

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[EnTrance: Female bodies in digitalscapes](#) – solo exhibit photography, sculpture, and film at Toplocentrala Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria, May- June 2023.

[Elsewhere](#) – (2015-2019 – 7m 20s) – world premiere at Etude and Friends Festival, Sofia, Bulgaria, June 2019 | Outlet Dance Film Festival, USA Oct. 2019 | Tipperary Dance on Film Festival, Ireland Oct. 2019

[Explicit Female](#) – film from *Explicit Female* performance (2016 - 7m 19s) – Salto Independent Film Festival, Uruguay, Oct. 2018| Short Long World Festival, Argentina, Nov. 2018| Outlet Dance Project Film Fest at Grounds for Sculpture, Hamilton, NJ Oct. 2018 | 20/92 Video Festival at Crane Arts, Philadelphia, Mar. 2017. | Къща, screening in Sofia, Bulgaria, June 2017. | Fidget Space, Philadelphia, Apr. 2016. (Password: Explicit123Female)

[Geometries of Time](#) – (2016 - 4m 40s) Detroit Dance Festival | Dance on Screen, Short films at the Roxey Ballet | Mexico City Videodance Festival | Hope Film Awards | Greensboro Dance Film Festival | 2017 Philadelphia Screendance Festival.

[Open Lens II](#) – group photography exhibit (2016)– Da Vinci Art Alliance, Philadelphia, PA.

[Chrysalis](#) – (2015 – 3m 58s) Ozark Shorts Film Festival | CineDance Women – online publication | 2016 Philadelphia Screendance Festival | Outlet Dance Project Dance on Film Festival | Movies by Movers | The Iron Factory Dance on Film Festival | Vox Populi Gallery, AUX Space | International Open Film Festival semi-finalist.

[The Experimental Exhibit for the European Month of Photography 2014](#) – group exhibit at Museum of Sofia, Bulgaria, October, 2014.

## **Sampled Residencies 2010 - present:**

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**Philadelphia:** The Iron Factory, Mascher Space Cooperative, <fidget> Space.

**US:** Bennington College (VT), Black C Gallery (Gainesville, FL), International Interdisciplinary Artist Consortium '23 with invitation by Movement Research, NYC, USA.

**International:** Derida Dance (Sofia, Bulgaria), Stary Browar Nowy Taniec (Poznan, Warsaw, Gdansk in Poland), Meet the Next Generation Fellowship - eXplore Dance Festival (Bucharest, Romania), and others.

## **Sampled Professional Development and Education:**

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**Masters of Choreography – COMMA** joint degree Fontys and Codarts Universities, Netherlands – expected 2025

**Paolo Cingolani; Steve Batts; Peter Sciscioli; Megan Bridge;**

**Jeanine Durning (USA)– 2020; Deborah Hay (USA)– 2008, 2011 and 2018; Nancy Stark-Smith**

**Improvisation(USA); Rosalind Crisp Dance(AUS); Tim Etchells Making work (GB); Luciana**

**Achugar Choreographic Workshop – all 2015; Michelle Boule Performance Workshop, 2013**

**and 2014; Fay Driscoll Choreographic Workshop; Falls Bridge Fest** with Ishmael Houston Jones and Yvonne Meier - 2012; **Susan Rethorst making your best work workshop. - 2010**

**Headlong Performance Institute, 4-month training, Philadelphia, PA - 2008.**

**American Dance Festival, Durham, NC - 2005 and 2006.**

**Bennington College, B.A. in Dance and Sound Design, Bennington, VT - 2006.**

**Kontakt Budapest International Improvisation Festival, Hungary - 2002, 2003, and 2004.**

**American College of Sofia, Bulgaria – English language school - high school diploma – 2000.**

## **Supporters and Presenters:**

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**USA:** Philadelphia Museum of Art, Phila. | Movement Research, NYC. | Trust for Mutual Understanding | Pew Center for Arts and Culture (previously Dance Advance), Phila. | Pennsylvania Citizens for the Arts, Phila. | CEC new Edge Mix, Phila. | <fidget> space, Phila. | Danspace Project — after school series, NYC | Hight Tide Gallery, Phila. | Hubbard Hall — Vanguard series, NY | Inhale Performance Series, Phila. | Marlboro College - Embodied Learning Symposium, NH | NY Dance Exchange, PA and NYC | Little Berlin Gallery, Phila. | Mascher Space Cooperative, Phila. | New Dance Alliance: Performance Mix Festival, NYC | NEXUS Gallery—Influx Series, Phila. | Philadelphia Live Arts and Philly Fringe, Phila. | Rutgers Camden Center for The Arts, NJ

**International:** Art Stations Foundation, Poland | Workshop Foundation, Hungary | Derida Dance Center, Bulgaria | eXplore Dance Festival, Romania | Wanted Festival, France | One Dance Week Festival, Bulgaria | Къща – Creative HUB, Bulgaria | Bulgarian National Cultural Fund Bulgaria | Antistatic Festival Bulgaria | Toplotsentrala Regional Art Center Bulgaria | Elizabeth Kostova Foundation, Bulgaria | Sofia Municipality Cultural Fund, Bulgaria and others.