

Proposal for a contribution to the workshop
Ludic Stance. Artistic Research – Theory and practice

Reflecting *with* Practice

(workshop, 60 mins)

by Joa Hug

One of the core tasks, and a key problem, of artistic research is the relationship between artistic practice and its verbal or written articulation. In my artistic research I am exploring how the relationship between (bodily) practice and (conceptual) reflection might be (re-)negotiated. One possible strategy for a performative and ludic approach to this (re-)negotiation is to temporarily suspend a number of notions that are (neuro-)typical for a certain kind of subjectivity – volitional movement, self-centred thinking, focalized attention, *inter*-action, the body/self as a separate and bounded entity – and, instead, to enact a mode of being with an altered sense of (self-)perception - foregrounding being moved, listening, distributed attention, affectability, *intra*-action, the body/self as relational/multiple/unbounded. For the workshop I propose we experiment with an exercise that activates this altered mode of (self-)perception, and to test how this might prepare the ground for a shift from reflecting *on* practice to reflecting *with* practice.

Joa Hug is a dancer/performer, research associate and doctoral candidate at the University of the Arts Helsinki, Theatre Academy. He studied History, Political Science and Sociology at the Universities of Freiburg and Oregon/Eugene (US), Dance/Choreography at the School for New Dance Development, and completed his M. A. in Artistic Research at the University of Amsterdam. Working as an independent dancer since 2002, he trained and cooperated extensively with Body Weather Amsterdam in the performance project 'Something Here That Is Not There'. The subject of Hug's doctoral artistic research is the impact of Body Weather performance training on the process of perception and the performability of the performer. Hug lives with his family in Berlin and coordinates AREAL (Artistic Research Lab) Berlin.