

BIOGRAPHY

Vânia Gala

Vânia Gala is a choreographer and researcher. She holds a BA in Dance from E.D.D.C. (European Dance Development Center) Hogeschool voor Kunst - Arnhem, Netherlands and a MAC with Distinction from Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance. Gala's choreographies, scores and performance-lectures explore the potential of absence (and the non-human) in choreography through acts of withdrawal, auscultation procedures and acts of attending to invisible things or systems as central players of the performance. Current research interests are acts of withdrawal, institutional critic, choreo-politics and conditions of spectatorship in the present digital, Post-Fordism era. These interests are driven by her inquisitiveness on the limits and precariousness of institutions including democracy, community and modernism in the present "information society" and their relation(s) to choreographic practice. The main focus of her artistic practice is to advance strategies for a "choreography of disappearance". Her choreographic work - Automatic Id (AID) has been performed since its premiere in Angola, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Ireland, Great Britain and Russian Federation. In 2005 (AID) was awarded with "Best Female Performance" at the Dublin Fringe Festival, was part of Aerowaves Festival representing Portugal at the Place- Robin Howard Theatre, London and of the 1st Triennial of Luanda (Angola). In 2007 she performed at the 1st African Pavilion at the Venice Biennale. MiamiLuanda premiered at Teatro Académico Gil Vicente in 2009 and was presented at the Portuguese Platform for Performative Arts 09' curated by Rui Horta. 8°10'30" was performed at TAGV and at Centro Cultural de Belém in 2010. Recent collaborations in the visual arts include Sonia Boyce (artist part of Tate collection), curated by Paul Goodwin (Tate) presented at Centro Cultural de Belém, and Georgia Scherman Projects, Toronto. In 2012 she created "Invited Guests", performed at Bonnie Bird Theatre. More recent projects include "Cooling Down Signs" a Pan- European commission by Beyond Front@ performed at Dance Week Festival, Zagreb Plesni Center (HR), D.I.D (AT), Front@ Festival (SI), Bakelit (HU) and "35 Days of Nothing to Say" an on-going research performed at The Place, London and Dance 4 (Nottingham). Her writings are featured in Emergency Index and in Angolan Pavillion of 56th Venice Biennale 2015 catalogue. She is an associated artist of Espaço do Tempo and artistic director of Gala-me Ass. where she develops her own creations.