

Maryam Bagheri Nesami's Biography



(B.A. in Cultural and Artistic Management, 2007, Tehran), (M.A. in Art Studies (Comparative Mythology), 2010, Tehran), Maryam is an independent performance artist based in Auckland who is developing a creative practice PhD research about '*politics and poetics of solo performance*'.

Coming from underground dance community in Iran, and performing and living as an undisciplined Middle Eastern dancer outside Iran, Maryam has been questioning the conventional frames, homogenizing gazes, categorizations and reductionist definitions and these, contextualize her practice(s) of freedom. Her creative practice and research focus on inclusion, non-violent resistance, strategic negotiations, and micro-politics.

Maryam recognizes herself as a soloist. She has created numbers of solos like "***Imposed Muliebrity***" (August 2014, Tehran), "***My Mind Is Fooling me***" (March 2015, Tehran) "***Parenthesis***" (March 2016, Tehran/Auckland) and "***The Missing Score/ a Requiem for a Solo***" (May 2017-December 2019, PhD creative component, Auckland, Utrecht, Dunedin), "***Zaar Breath the Air Around You***" (September 2018, Auckland, performed by Xiaofeng Hu, choreographed by Maryam) and "***Effortless Power on the Edge***" (April 2018- December 2019, PhD creative component, Auckland, Dunedin) are examples of her solo challenges to cope with her liminal identity and femininity in transitory contexts.

Apart from solo practices, as a video artist, freelance performer and physical theatre actress, Maryam has appeared in international platforms such as ***Tempo Dance Festival***, (2016 and 2017) New Zealand, ***Dancing On the Edge***, (2017) Netherlands, ***Spazio Teatro No'hma***, (2018) Italy, ***Bipod*** (2018) Lebanon, Danza ***Urbana*** (2018) Italy, ***Dance Dance Dance*** (2019) London.

In July 2019, she was granted a dance residency under ***IDOCDE*** (International Documentation of Contemporary Dance Education) program of ***IMPULSTANZ*** festival, in Vienna. Maryam recently has received a research grant from Kone Foundation (Helsinki, Finland) to work on the practice-led post-doctoral project ***Subtle Corporeality: Propositions of Resistance for Creative Practitioners***.

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