



# VALENTIN ALFERY

(he/him)

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Valentin Alfery is a self-taught dancer and choreographer coming from the street and club style community. While being rooted in the European jam and battle scene, he started to work as a freelance dancer in theatre projects in 2004.

Together with Dušana Baltić, Valentin is the co-founder and -director of the Austrian dance company Hungry Sharks. Following his first major stage work *Falling* from 2009, he realised eight feature-length productions, the underwater dance performance *Zeitgeist* and several short pieces with the Hungry Sharks, as well as creations in commissioned, academic or project-based contexts. The work of Hungry Sharks is funded by three Austrian regions – Vienna, Salzburg and Carinthia as well as by the cultural ministry of Austria. Since 2016 the pieces are regularly co-produced by brut Wien and Szene Salzburg.

In 2019 Young Sharks was initiated as a project series for emerging dancers from the urban dance field to gain experience in theatrical contexts. Valentin Alfery worked as a guest teacher and choreographer at the HF Bühnentanz in Zurich 2021, as well as at SEAD (Salzburg Experimental Academy of Dance) and MUK (Dance Education of the Vienna Music and Art University) in 2022.

From 2018 - 2022 he has been curating street art, dance, performance and music within the year-round program of kulturschiene Salzburg (30 outdoor events per season, budget 150.000 €) as an artistic co-director.

In addition to his work as a freelance choreographer and performer (e.g. with Simon Mayer), he is working as a puppeteer since 2013 within opera projects of the Blind Summit Puppet Company. In 2020 he became part of the puppet cast of the house repertory opera *Madama Butterfly* by Anthony Minghella at the Vienna State Opera which is being shown ongoingly.

In 2024 Valentin Alfery co-directed and choreographed the multi-divisional opera production *Die Hamletmaschine* by Heiner Müller, composition by Wolfgang Rihm at the state theatre of Kassel, Germany.

His creations can be located on a broad artistic spectrum and differ significantly from each other. They often refer to social topics and contain mostly a virtuosic movement language, the work with abstract elements and a structural logic that he develops by sorting material or finding patterns and connections between topics. Identifying features of his practice are strong physical bodies that often travel in repetitive movement patterns or are guided by cross-style principles of urban dance, as well as the use of an intricate musicality, an appetite for finding new movement qualities (e.g. Handsign-Style) and composing images with bodies.

Being part of several different projects, groups and collectives, Valentin is performing and busking on the streets on a loose basis as a way to keep a multifaced perspective on arts.

## FEATURE LENGHT PIECES

2024 | Destination FCKD, 52 min., 6 performers + live music

2022 | BÉTON BRUT, 57 min., 4 performers + live music

2022 | 1.618, 42 min., 4 performers

2019 | Zeitgeist, 51 min., underwater, 6 performers

2017 | the Sky above, the Mud below, 62 min., solo

2016 | Hidden in Plain Sight, 47 min., 12 performers

2015 | ANTHROPOZĂN, 67 min., 7 performers

2014 | #fomo - the fear of missing out, 51 min., 5 performers

2012 | StreetlifeMAD, 71 min., 21 performers

2009 | Falling, 61min., solo

## AWARDS

2023 Audience Award for The Vitruvian Human, Ion Solo Contest, Portugal  
2023 Individual Award for The Vitruvian Human, Krakow Dance Festival, Poland  
2023 Teatro Tina di Lorenzo Special Award for The Vitruvian Human, Teatro Riflessi 8, Italy  
2019 Performing Arts Award by the Government of Carinthia, Austria  
2015 Bonus Award for performing arts by the Federal Chancellor's Office, Austria  
2012 GTT-Memorial Award for StreetlifeMAD, Austria  
2007 Young Artist Award of the City of Salzburg, Austria

## SHORT PIECES

2024 | Lobes, 13 minutes, co-creation with Niels Claes, duet  
2023 | Habitual Silence, 21 minutes, transdisciplinary installation, co-creation with Dušana Baltić, 4 performers  
2021 | The Vitruvian Human, 11 minutes, shared solo of 3 dancers (-> 3 versions)  
2018 | 柔道 (the gentle way), 26 minutes, duet  
2017 | le constat, 15 min., duet  
2015 | before / after, 20 min., solo

## COMMISSIONED WORK

2024 | Die Hamletmaschine, co-director, multi-divisional opera production 110 min/100 artists, State Theatre Kassel, Germany  
2023 | Barangué, 25 minutes, 8 dancers, site specific performance, Dansa Metropolitana, BCN, Spain

## RESEARCH GRANTS

2024 / 4.500 € / Podium Zuidhaege, Assen Netherlands / Artist in Residence 2024/25  
2024 / 7.200 € / Artistic Work / Government of Salzburg, cultural department  
2023 / 10.000 € / Educational Stipend / Austrian Ministry of Culture  
2023 / 5.000 € / Research Stipend / Government of Carinthia  
2023 / 400 € / Scholarship Giovanni di Bella - Teatri Riflessi 8  
2022 / 4.200 € / Dance and Performance / Austrian Ministry of Culture  
2021 / 2.760 € / Art and Science / Government of Carinthia  
2020 / 3.000 € / Artistic Work / Government of Salzburg, cultural department  
2011 / 6.000 € / START / Austrian Ministry of Culture

## PIECES IN ACADEMIC / PEDAGOGICAL CONTEXT

2024 | recreation 1.618 | HF Bühnentanz Zurich  
2023 | Prelude | short piece, local dancers of Bolzano Danza, Italy  
2022 | Panta Rhei | EU-funded project, National Theatre Salzburg  
2022 | We – the art of not representing society | SEAD – Salzburg Experimental Academy of Dance  
2021 | the sonic cycle | HF Bühnentanz Zurich  
2021 | In / Out | Bühnenwerkstätte, Tanz Ist Festival, Dornbirn  
2020 | recreation Hidden in Plain Sight | Young Sharks, Szene Salzburg  
2020 | 1.618 | Young Sharks, Pandemie Festival, Klagenfurt  
2019 | recreation #fomo | Young Sharks, Szene Salzburg

## RESIDENCIES

2025 / Lakestudios Berlin  
2024 / ongoing 2025 – Artist in Residence at Podium Zuidhaege  
2024 / Festspielhaus St. Pölten  
2023 / Residenzzentrum Tanz+, Baden, Switzerland  
2023 / D8 Sorkuntza Faktoria Bilbao, Spain  
2023 / Dancebase Edinburgh, Scotland  
2022 / Tanzhaus Zürich, Switzerland  
2022 / Life Long Burning - Dance Hub Residency, Budapest  
2022 / P.A.R.T.S, Summer School, Belgium  
2021 / Szene Salzburg, Austria  
2021 / Brut Wien, Austria  
2016 / Choreographic Center Bleiburg, Austria  
2015 / Premio Prospettiva Danza Teatro, Italy

## TOURING REFERENCES

2025 | Osterfestspiele Tirol, Austria  
2025 & 2018 | Festspielhaus, St. Pölten, AT  
2024 | Artspace Millstatt, Austria  
2024 | Flora Festival Olomuc, Czech Republic  
2023 | Co-Festival, Ljubljana, SL  
2023 | CPA Choreographic Platform Austria, Vienna, AT  
2023 | Krakow Dance Festival, Krakow, PL  
2023 & 2017 | Bolzano Danza, Bolzano, IT  
2023 | Teatro Riflessi 8, Zafferana Etnea, IT  
2023 | URB Festival, Helsinki, FI  
2023 | Das Tanzfest, Winterthur, CH  
2023 | Dansa Metropolitana, Barcelona, ES  
2022 | Sommerszene, Salzburg, AT  
2021 | MOVE! Festival, Krefeld, DE  
2021 & 2017 | Tanz Ist Festival, AT  
2020 | Umea, Falkenberg, Jönköping - by Dansnet Sweden, SE  
2020 | Theater am Gleis, Winterthur, CH  
2019 | SFHHDF, San Francisco, US  
2019 | CITF, Colombo, Sri Lanka  
2019 & 2016 | FITS, Sibiu, RO  
2018 | Tanztheater International, Hannover, DE  
2018 | Lulea, Falkenberg, Jönköping, Kungsbacka - by Dansnet Sweden, SE  
2018 | At Your Leisure Festival, North Berwick, GB  
2018 | Pottporus Festival, Herne, DE  
2018 | Sommerblut Festival, Köln, DE  
2018 | Y Generation Festival, Trento, IT  
2018 | T\*Danse Festival, Aosta, IT  
2018 | Imagetanz Festival, Wien, AT  
2017 | Dance&Non-Verbal Th. Festival, S.Vicenti, HR  
2017 | Museumsquartier, Wien, AT  
2017 | Impulstanz, Wien, AT  
2017 & 2015 | Tanzsommer Innsbruck, AT  
2017 & 2015 | Tanzimpulse Salzburg, AT  
2017 | Breakin' Convention, London, UK  
2017 | Unithea, Frankfurt a.d. Oder, DE  
2016 | Streetforma, Zagreb, HR  
2015 | Premio Prospettiva Danza Teatro, Padova, IT