

CONTEMPORARY

ANNA HEINIMANN works as a dancer, dance pedagogue and choreographer in the independent scene in Bern, Basel and Berlin. She completed her dance studies at the Danceacademy balance 1 in Berlin. She has worked with various choreographers and companies (YET Company in Berlin, Nunzio Impellizzeri, Brigitta Schrepfer and others) and created many short pieces and performances. In 2012 she founded the Bern-based group "Kollektiv F", in collaboration with Luzius Engel. The collective is associated artist of Dampfzentrale Bern during the seasons 17/18 and 18/19. It mainly creates pieces for a young audience. In addition to this, she performs in art houses, music videos and street actions for Amnesty International. She teaches professional trainings in Zürich, Basel and St. Gallen. From 2007 to 2017 Anna taught contemporary dance for children, adolescents and adults at tanzplatz vorbern on a regular basis, as well as having directed numerous dance projects in schools with the company „d'Schwyz tanzt...". Together with Pascale Altenburger, she has been directing a youth company since 2015. They create pieces collectively with the youths and search for an artistic language between contemporary and urban dance.

Reaching physical intensity through working with images is significant in Ana's class. The body's practice happens on a highly energetic level. At the same time, it enriches the vocabulary of the individual dancer. The class is a journey through physical states, including technical exercises. We memorize physical sensations in free sequences and follow this up with fixed material. The result is intensified as choreography. In this way, we use our technique creatively.

TOMMY CATTIN is a Swiss/Italian dance artist who works as a free-lance performer, choreographer and dance teacher. In 2020, he created his company, EREM dance in Switzerland, after several years spent abroad dancing and studying. Since 2020, he has created five dance pieces with his company that were showcased in different theaters in Switzerland and in Italy. As a professional dancer and choreographer, Tommy has both danced or showcased his works in many countries in Europe. Tommy is currently developing his future projects with EREM dance in Switzerland and abroad, and he also works as a dancer in projects of other professional companies and international dance makers such as Prototype Status - Cie Jasmine Morand, Theater Basel and EM+ Emanuele Rosa & Maria Focaraccio. He also regularly teaches dance, somatic practices or physical theatre workshops in different contexts and with different groups of people, from dancers to actors. As part of his artistic journey, Tommy was able to study or collaborate with a wide range of international dance artists and companies such as Marcos Morau, Pau Aran, Marie Chouinard, Trisha Brown Company, Batsheva Ensemble, Theo Clinkard, Jasmine Morand, Fabio Liberti, Igor & Moreno, Lali Ayguadé, Susanne Kennedy, David Zambrano, amongst many others.

Tommy graduated from the Northern School of Contemporary Dance in Leeds (UK) with a Master's degree in Contemporary Dance Performance. Previously, he completed his Bachelor's degree in contemporary dance at the Trinity Laban Conservatory of Music and Dance in London, where he received the Simone Michelle Award for his achievements in choreography. As part of his studies, he also trained at the Institut del Teatre in Barcelona. Between 2018 and 2019, Tommy was a member of the Holstebro Dance Company in Denmark.

In his classes, Tommy invites the participants to rethink the listening process of their own body while moving, questioning and challenging the notion of presence through a somatic and sensitive connection between body and mind. The classes are also often composed of rich physical parts made of guided explorations and contemporary dance material inspired by his diverse experiences in different dance styles, from contemporary to traditional folk dances for instance. Despite the importance put on physically training the dancer's body, Tommy dedicates a part of each of his classes to the empowerment of individual creativity and personal artistry, looking into performativity and ways of exchanging.

ANNA DEGEN, born in Basel in 1995, completed her Bachelor's degree in Contemporary Dance at the Zürcher Hochschule der Künste in 2017. She then founded the dance company 'ad hoc' and initially worked freelance before starting her engagement as a full time member of the dance company at the Staatstheater Braunschweig in 2019. Under the artistic direction of Gregor Zöllig, she danced in choreographies by Guilherme Botelho, Henrietta Horn, Rainer Behr, Ryan Mason, Annamaria Keskinen and others. In Summer 2022 Anna chose to become a freelancer again and has performed in pieces by IPTanz, YET Company and Moving Orchestra. In addition to performing, Anna also works as a dance teacher at various institutions, as an assistant for productions and as a choreographer, i.e. for her own 'ad hoc' dance company.

We start by tuning our bodies as a whole, both in place and in movement through space. Our aim is to progressively challenge ourselves physically, shifting between improvisation and structured technical dance elements. We explore different movement qualities and coordination patterns, always incorporating gravity to create a sense of weightlessness. Then we turn to choreographic dance material. Here, a focus will be on what the individual idea of a movement can be like, in order to be able to change and expand its quality. By consciously perceiving our surroundings and fellow dancers, new experiences for performative expression can be made.

LAB

MARIE-LOUISE SCHNEIDER is a vocal artist, improviser, musician and dancer who works as a freelance artist in music and dance improvisation, experimental creation and music-performance. She is part of the Tabula Rasa Kollektiv, BRAUCHPOESIE, the Duo with Catalina Gutierrez, the Seidenkord Duo with Risha and she also performs solo with her creations Luftbrotmehl (voice and dance), Malou durch den Wind (voice, violin, poetry) and others. She won the CONTEMPO-Prize 2021 for a concert to read, and she received the scholarship 2021 from Kanton Schaffhausen to deepen her artistic work in Berlin. Marie-Louise Schneider studied classical singing at Konservatorium Winterthur, music and movement/ rhythmic at Hochschule der Künste Bern and improvisation (voice) at Musikakademie Basel. www.marie-louise-schneider.ch

moving voice, sounding body

The lab will focus on the interface of body and voice, viewed from the perspectives of voice through the body, and movement through voice. While shifting between looking and hearing, as well as shifting the attention between inner and outer space, the emphasis will be put on musicality, weight and expansion. Voice and body work will open us up for abstract sound and body qualities, and on the other hand, for expression. In a playful way, we will experiment with the body and voice in solo and group formations, whereby the interests of the group also shape the sessions.

BALLET

BENOÎT FAVRE was born in Switzerland and graduated from Tanzakademie Zürich in 2012. During his studies he won numerous prizes and was a finalist at the Prix de Lausanne. He danced with Ballett Zürich Junior company and then joined the main company. After one year he was promoted to demi-soloist. During his time in Zurich he worked with world-renowned choreographers such as Jiri Kylian, William Forsythe and Marco Goecke amongst many others. In 2017 he joined the Finnish National Ballet in Helsinki and performed many solo roles in classical ballets as well as in neoclassical and contemporary works. Two years later he joined Staatstheater Nürnberg as a soloist and danced Demetrius in Goyo Montero's Sommernachtstraum and also had the main role in Montero's Sacre. Benoît has also been active as a choreographer throughout his career, winning the gold medal for choreography at Tanzolymp Berlin in 2015. He created pieces for Ballett Zürich, Bayerisches Staatsballett, Stanislavsky Ballett and the junior company of Finnish National Ballet. At the end of 2020 Benoît ended his dance career and continues to share his passion through teaching and choreographing.

Benoît aims to provide professional dancers with a fun, challenging and inspiring class to start their day. The class helps dancers find their balance and be in control of their body, with focus put on sharp technique and flowing upper body movements. The main objectives are: an effective warm up for the whole body, injury prevention, and further improvement of each dancer's technique.

ALICE BERTSCHY started dancing in Geneva at the Académie de danse de Genève and then at Dance Area before attending the English National Ballet School in London. She then worked for three seasons with the Polish National Ballet in Warsaw. Following that she took a break to work as a volunteer with horses. She then came to Basel/Alsace and worked with Maria Guerrero. She also works as a massage therapist, Pilates instructor and freelance dance teacher.

Trying to bring ballet back into a more intuitive sense of movement, the class focuses highly on musicality, body awareness, intentions and emotions. While still training pure advanced ballet technique, through imagery, physical and emotional cues, everyone will be shown how to improve their own experience with their individual aspirations and present physical abilities. Returning to the source: Ballet is dance and dance is expression, so ballet technique too can become a catalyst to lightness, joy and freedom within!

BALLET

OLIVER DAEHLER was trained as a dancer at the Royal Ballet School in London. He danced with the Royal Ballet London, the Royal Ballet of Flanders in Antwerp and from 1994 to 1999 for the Bern Ballett under the direction of Martin Schläpfer. In the same theater he worked for three years as a ballet master and choreographer. Oliver has created more than 30 choreographies (commissions including the Mecklenburgisches Staatstheater Schwerin, the Stadttheater Bern and the Lucerne Festival). These include full-length ballets as well as site-specific performances. In 2001 he won a scholarship from the Canton of Bern which enabled him to complete a six-month advanced training course in Modern, Contemporary Dance and Ballett in New York (et al. with David Howard, Zvi Gotheiner, Risa Steinberg, Alan Danielson and Steve Paxton). Oliver is a Certified teacher of RAD and completed the NDS Tanzkultur at the University of Bern in 2007. In 2008 he attended Ohad Naharin's Gaga-Intensive course in Tel Aviv. From 2009 to 2011 Oliver worked as a ballet master and choreographer in residence at the Tanz Luzerner Theater. Since the season 2011/2012 he works as a freelance choreographer, dance teacher and coach. <http://danceproductions.ch>

Oliver's ballet class focuses on correct body placement, fluidity in breath and movement qualities as well as musicality. Enjoy dancing with "minimum effort and a maximum result".

GENNADI MEDVED was born in Minsk (Belarus), where he graduated from the State Ballet School. As a soloist he worked at theaters such as the Bolshoi Theater in Minsk, the Polish National Ballet in Warsaw, the Polish Dance Theater in Poznan, the Dresden State Operetta, the Friedrichstadt-Palast Berlin, and the German Show Ballet Berlin. In 2013 Gennadi Medved obtained his teaching degree from the Royal Academy of Dance in Berlin.

Gennadi teaches according to the Vaganova method as well as RAD technique.

LINDA MAGNIFICO completed her dance education in Italy and received her first engagement with the Croatian National Ballet in Zagreb, where she danced as a soloist from 1988 to 1991. From 1994 to 2003 she was a soloist with the Compagnia Zappalà Danza and assistant to Roberto Zappalà. In 2004 Linda moved to Switzerland. She danced for cie. Anna Huber and was a dancer at the Lucerne Theatre under the direction of Verena Weiss for three years. In 2007 she founded the company „dysoundbo“ together with the composer Sasha Shlain. As a ballet mistress and choreographic assistant, she worked for the Theater St. Gallen and Staatstheater Darmstadt. From 2014 to 2019 she worked as rehearsal director for the dance company Konzert Theater Bern. Since January 2021 she is president of IG Tanz Zentralschweiz, founder and curator of Profitraining & Workshops Zentralschweiz, artistic director of Tanzfest Zentralschweiz and director and coordinator of various other projects. Linda is also active as a guest teacher nationally and internationally.

In her teaching, Linda Magnifico uses elements of different styles with which she became familiar during her career. The lesson focuses on preparing the body for rehearsals or performances. Basics that are important in her class are placement, fluidity, density in movement, change of body weight and direction and movement through space. The emphasis is on musicality, clarity and dynamics of movement.