



Building Interdisciplinary Bridges Across Cultures

Birgitte Bauer-Nilsen

Abstract

This presentation will examine and articulate the choreographic process from idea to product as choreographer and scholar. My analysis takes practice-based research and artistic research as its point of departure. On the basis of courtship dances, I create intercultural dance performances. One is entitled The Butterfly. Here, the performers dancers and musicians from Tanzania, Vietnam and Denmark. The courtship dances have a ritual status in all three cultures. My working hypothesis is: Choreographic practices will promote articulation of and give added visibility to artistic and social practice and can therefore be expected to qualify and renew choreography as a discipline. The theories and methods used to analyze choreographic practices are discussed. They have their origins in performative anthropology, performance studies and theories of performativity. In practice, the three theories overlap and merge. This discussion is also a part of the performative turn in the art studies where the focus is on performance as a process of doing instead of something that is being.

Bio

Birgitte Bauer-Nilsen has a Ph.D and is an Associate Professor at the University of Stavanger, Norway. and choreographer. Birgitte Bauer-Nilsen has made intercultural performances in India, Vietnam, China, Tanzania and Europe with her dance ensemble, Yggdrasil Dance. Birgitte has given workshop/lectures at universities in Europe and Asia. For more information see Yggdrasildance.dk