

PERFORMING ARTS HUB NORWAY, THE DANISH ARTS FOUNDATION,  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE ICELAND, DANCE AND CIRCUS INFO FINLAND  
AND THE SWEDISH CULTURAL COUNCIL PRESENT

# NORDIC PULSE

PERFORMING ARTS  
FROM THE NORTHERN  
LATITUDES

2022

# COMPANIES

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# INTRODUCTION

**Nordic Pulse – Performing Arts from the Northern Latitudes** is a joint-venture developed by the partnering countries in the network **Nordics Combined**. **Nordic Pulse** aims to serve as one of the most important opportunities for presenters attending CINARS to discover a wide range of independent Nordic artists creating rigorous new works in dance, physical theater, puppetry, video, multi-disciplinary and performance art.

22 artists and their producers from four Nordic countries will each give a 5-minute pitch highlighting their work that is in development or ready to tour. This is followed by networking opportunities for international collaboration, co-production and presenting.

**Nordic Pulse** is new of this year, but the concept and model builds on **Norway Now**, developed by Performing Arts Hub Norway (PAHN). It is now being further developed into a Nordic version with the partners in **Nordics Combined** comprised of The Danish Arts Foundation, Performing Arts Centre Iceland, Dance and Circus Info Finland, Performing Arts Hub Norway, and The Swedish Cultural Council. This network collaborates on joint Nordic initiatives on international platforms.

Nordic Pulse can be seen as a dynamic development between these Nordic countries. This year's version will be presenting works from Sweden, Iceland, Denmark and Norway.

We look forward to present highlights from the current independent performing arts scene across the Nordic region!



Danish Arts  
Foundation



PERFORMING ARTS  
CENTRE ICELAND

SWEDISH  
ARTS COUNCIL



Performing Arts  
Hub — Norway  
Danse- og teatersentrum

# ORGANIZERS

DENMARK

## THE DANISH ARTS FOUNDATION

We are Denmark's largest arts foundation. We work to spread the arts to a wide audience all over Denmark, to promote Danish art internationally, and to pave the way for talented artists. In the Danish Arts Foundation, we wish to facilitate the conversation about our shared world of art, and we invite everybody to join in.

Through more than 60 different funding programmes, we fund the production and promotion of both visual arts, film, literature, music, performing arts, architecture, crafts, and design – and all that transcends the borders of these art forms. As a foreign artist, you may apply for funding for your artwork or project through our international funding programmes.

[KUNST.DK](http://KUNST.DK)

ICELAND

## PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE ICELAND

The Performing Arts Centre Iceland (PACI) is an information and support centre for artists, producers, groups and institutions within the performing arts in Iceland. The role of PACI is to support Icelandic performing arts to increase their visibility and demand internationally. The centre achieves its mission through focused promotional work and specific initiatives that encourage international networking among performing artists and institutions in Iceland. The Center for the Performing Arts also provides information, educates and holds specific courses for professionals whose goal is to build the ability to work in an international context.

[SVIDSLISTAMIDSTOD.IS](http://SVIDSLISTAMIDSTOD.IS)

NORWAY

## PERFORMING ARTS HUB NORWAY

Performing Arts Hub Norway (PAHN) is a Norwegian national competence centre promoting professional performing arts domestically and abroad, with a special emphasis on independent performing arts. PAHN functions as a performing arts advisor for The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and manages the Ministry's travel grant system for Norwegian performing artists performing abroad. PAHN is also a part of *Norwegian Arts Abroad*, a network of organizations including Office of Contemporary Art Norway (OCA), Music Norway, Performing Arts Hub Norway (PAHN), Norwegian Crafts, DOGA, Norwegian Film Institute (NFI) and Norwegian Literature Abroad (NORLA).

Performing Arts Hub Norway is supported by the Ministry of Culture & Equality and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

[PAHN.NO](http://PAHN.NO)

SWEDEN

## SWEDISH ARTS COUNCIL

Swedish Arts Council is a government authority whose principal task is to implement national cultural policy determined by the Parliament. The national cultural policy objectives state that: "Culture is to be a dynamic, challenging and independent force based on the freedom of expression. Everyone is to have the opportunity to participate in cultural life. Creativity, diversity and artistic quality are to be integral parts of society's development." Through our grants and other operations, we contribute to the fulfilment of these objectives.

[KULTURRADET.SE](http://KULTURRADET.SE)

# UPPERCUT DANCE THEATER

DANCE



## BIO

Uppercut Dance Theater is an international dance company offering a fresh fusion of different dance styles, illustrated by the individual dancers' different backgrounds in capoeira, breaking, acrobatics and contemporary dance.

Uppercut Dance Theater's ensemble members are chosen for their distinctive individual style and character. It is important for the company to consist of performers and dancers with very different qualities, giving Uppercut a diverse movement language.

The artistic leadership is held by Stephanie Thomasen and Mark Philip. The works of recent years have resulted in several prestigious awards, nominations, grants, as well as a host of positive reviews.

## WHAT WAS MUST DIE - SAMBA

Part one of Uppercut Dance Theater's trilogy

Welcome to the blood-red imagination of the porker! A samba arena, a show ring, a hotbed, a pigsty. A circus of festivities, fellowships, secrets and seduction.

SAMBA is raw. SAMBA is urban. SAMBA pulsates. SAMBA is sensual. SAMBA is everything that arises in the space between us.

With our snouts in the trough and our tails in the air we will grub deep into the mire and hurl ourselves into the human fellowship with all the misunderstandings, compromises and balancing acts that entails, tiptoeing on piggy toes through the mud in a world of pork.

In SAMBA the audience is seated close to the circular arena. They are thus part of the set, which also features a suspension bridge, chairs, hay and mud. Live music is performed by the composer, who also happens to be a dancer. "Pig", the main character, guides and leads you through all the awfulness and vanity of the performance.

## WHAT WAS MUST DIE - SAMBA

Number of people on tour 6-7

Length of production 75 minutes

Funded by The Danish Arts Foundation, Augustinus Foundation, The Municipality of Copenhagen, William Demant Foundation, Knud Højgaards Foundation and Wilhelm Hansen Foundation

## CONTACT

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# JO STRØMGREN KOMPANI

DANCE



## BIO

Jo Strømgren Kompani was founded in 1998 and has from its base in Oslo, Norway, grown to become one of the most established independent groups in Scandinavia. The company presents 100–200 shows in 10–20 countries each year. The touring list covers more than 60 countries, frequented by a repertory of 34 stage productions and 3 movie productions. The company operates through widespread networks and performs in both large national theatres and small alternative venues. Their style is characterized by a mix of dance and theatre, with puppet theatre, nonsensical language, film and live music often added. Jo Strømgren also has a successful career as a freelance choreographer, theatre director and playwright.

## THE LOFT

THE LOFT bathes in gallows humor – showing it to be a true human coping mechanism that enables folk to laugh at the twin faux of evil and error. Four female co-workers sneak into an attic during their lunch break, where the friction between them sets in motion a series of conflicts. Feelings of unrequited love and surreal dreams hint at unspeakable wants, repressed instincts emerge revealing a caustic existential grey zone full of alarming questions that only add to the bubbling cauldron.

Friction between people in a confined space is a timeless problem that has afflicted our species since we began living in caves. THE LOFT reminds us that in modern life we're still grappling with that same ancient problem. In many cases, the aspect of psychological strain is more problematic than the situation itself, and people can quickly lose sight of what is trivial, what is important, and what is 'merely' existential.

## THE LOFT

Number of people on tour 7

Length of production 60 min

Co-producers The Norwegian Opera and Ballet

Funded by Fritt Ord, The Ministry of Culture and Equality

## CONTACT

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# DON GNU

DANCE



## BIO

DON GNU is a guarantee of physical theatre and action-packed dance in a playful, powerful and poetic universe!

The company was founded in 2010 by choreographers Jannik Elkær and Kristoffer Louis Andrup Pedersen, who also constitute the artistic duo at the helm of DON GNU. Today the company is one of the most renowned companies in Denmark, touring extensively. In addition to national tours, DON GNU has toured internationally across Europe, Canada, South Korea, and Cuba.

## HUMAN IN BALANCE

HUMAN IN BALANCE - [add city] is a dynamic and flexible performance that premieres again and again! When the performance is shown in a new city a new, unique performance arises.

The performance is developed in close collaboration with the city and organizers. With a local focus, using local performers and musicians, DON GNU creates a new balance, that evokes recognition, thoughts and dialogue among the local audiences and artists.

The scenographic framework is an oversized balance board that serves as a clear metaphor for interpersonal relationships. It illustrates very concretely the premises for collaboration- namely to get the 500 kg heavy spinning top into rhythmic rotation or completely in balance.

The performance can be produced both indoors and outdoors and is developed on the basis of a 2-3 week residency.

HUMAN IN BALANCE - [add city]

Number of people on tour 4-5 people + local artist

Length of production 30-40 minutes

Funded by Danish Art Foundation & The City of Aarhus

## CONTACT

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# YOHEI HAMADA

DANCE

## BIO

Yohei Hamada (b. 1987) is a Norway based dance artist from Japan, who holds a BA in Liberal Arts and a MA in Philosophy from Yokohama National University. Hamada seeks out non-egoistic dance- dance as a correspondent of a de-personified body within ever-changing surroundings. His works are interdisciplinary in nature, drawing from the knowledge of mathematics, architecture, physics, anthropology, linguistics, martial arts, and dance methodology, as well as the wisdom of daily life. Hamada is currently researching the physicality of Norwegian and Japanese woodworking tools and ropes.

## A TAIL HOLDER

A TAIL HOLDER is a dance of the human body and Japanese candles. With minimal sound effects and light created in collaboration with Randiane Sandboe, the audience experiences a soothing temporality through the ever-changing space of Hamada's dance. His movement, which is actively passive, precise and fragile, comes from his research on non-egoistic movements - like those of water, smoke, flame, as well as his tailbone and each body part.

Knut Ove Arntzen, a theater scholar from the University of Bergen, recognizes Hamadas' movement and work in the context of new authenticity describing it as: "no more a question of fake or non-fake, pretending or not pretending, but rather a question concerning the political function of art as an elaboration of truth through the fictionalization of truth."

First staged in a black box, A TAIL HOLDER is intended to be performed in a wide variety of open spaces (galleries, abandoned factories, caves, vacant stores...).

A Tail Holder

Number of people on tour 2

Length of production 53 minutes

Co-producers BIT teatergarasjen, Chino Cultural Complex and Frontlosjen

Funded by Bergen City, Fond for Lyd og Bilde (Arts Council Norway) and FFUK

## CONTACT

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# FINDLAY//SANDSMARK

DANCE / INTERDISCIPLINARY



## BIO

Findlay//Sandsmark (F//S) is a Stavanger, Norway based performance company working across dance, theater, live music and video art in a collaborative and collective effort. They have recently created several productions in the borderland between performing arts and installation, bending connections and correlations over disciplines to create live art which resonates from a physical and emotional plane. Their work has been presented across Norway and internationally at PS 122 Coil Festival and Abrons Arts Center / New York, On the Boards / Seattle, Wexner Center / Columbus, and Charlotte Street / Kansas City. They are also initiators of the platform/space RIMI/IMIR SceneKunst in Stavanger where they have a full-time production studio in an old boat factory/grocery store as well as programming guest artists.

## EVERY NIGHT IN MY DREAMS (EARLY CAMEROON)

With *every night in my dreams (early Cameroon)* Findlay//Sandsmark examine how a place can leave an imprint on the body and the senses, taking impulse from the childhood of Marit Sandsmark, who was born and grew up as a child of Christian missionaries in Ngaoundere, Cameroon. The small town, culture and people Marit knew as a child has undergone overwhelming change, and the global economic system we live off continues to ravage Africa. How does one recall one's past, filled with so much love, in the context of a void that feels impossible and unapproachable, and at the same time seems so necessary to address and understand?

When the pandemic lockdown made a journey to Ngaoundere impossible, Findlay//Sandsmark found a starting point by exploring other ways of addressing the void. Using ritual and hypnotic experience, multiple layers arise from memories and fragments. These imagined states find their way into clay objects, lights and shadows, patterns, shapes and sounds, and not the least, in the body of the solo performer as she negotiates and interacts with the landscape.

*every night in my dreams (early Cameroon)*

Number of people on tour 6

Length of production 60 minutes

Co-producers BIT teatergarasjen-Bergen and Black Box teater-Oslo

Funded by Norwegian Arts Council, Rogaland fylkeskommune, and Stavanger Kommune

## CONTACT

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# WIRED STUDIO

(DANCE)



## BIO

Wired Studio is a Copenhagen-based art studio working at the intersection of dance and visual arts.

With a physical expression and a minimalistic aesthetic, founder and artistic director Simone Wierød explores contemporary society through choreography and multidisciplinary artistic collaborations. Simone Wierød has a highly visual focus in her choreographic work and creates dance performances, choreographic installations, and dance films.

Wired Studio has a very international approach and has toured its works to more than 25 countries. They were recently awarded for the dance films "BEYOND" and "SOLUS" and previously for the stage performance "WWW".

## AXIAL FIGURES

**Axial Figures (2023)** An aerial dance performance created in collaboration with the architecture duo Standard Practice, Axial Figures is dance on the vertical plane. In a scenography of aerial ropes, 5 performers create an ever-evolving linear and geometric image by manipulating the ropes from the ground and the air. Axial Figures is choreography, architecture, and contemporary circus combined into a visual, minimalistic, and physical performance.

## COLLECTIVE BEHAVIOUR

**Collective Behaviour (2019)** A performance created in collaboration with the South Korean media art duo Kimchi and Chips, Collective Behaviour explores the symmetry between individual identity and collective identification. A scenography of mirrors intervenes the light, causing manipulations in space, time, and the dancers' individuality.

Collective Behaviour is suitable for a black box and is currently touring internationally.

Axial Figures / Collective Behaviour

Number of people on tour 7 / 6

Length of production 60 minutes / 40 minutes

Co-producers: Bora Bora - Dance and Visual Theatre, Aarhus, Denmark

Axial Figures Funded by The Danish Art Foundation, The Nordic Culture Fund

Collective Behaviour Funded by The Danish Art Foundation, Arts Council Korea, Bikubenfonden, The Municipality of Copenhagen

## CONTACT

Simone Wierød

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# SINDRI RUNUDDE

DANCE



## BIO

Sindri Runudde is a dancer and choreographer based in Sweden. Their work is characterized by a multi-sensorial approach to the body as a living archive. Sindri invites artists and creators to their process to examine and problematize how we experience the world around us through our senses and our perceptions. Sindri's work spans across several fields including sound art, visual art and performance. Educated in contemporary circus and dance, they have worked with many companies and institutions, as well as independently toured their own works both in Sweden and abroad.

## COSMETIC DEMONS: A CHOREOGRAPHIC SALOON

*Cosmetic Demons: a choreographic saloon (working title)* uses the barber-shop as a metaphor for a place where our processes, emotions and inner demons can be shared and cast out.

The work is conceived as a series of events where the visitor indulges in a cosmetic transformation by viewing a choreographed scene. This takes place through the staging of a hairdressing salon, where three hairdressing chairs are placed on the stage floor and haircuts take place live.

The work deals with the historical and community-building aspects of gossip and the function of beauty salons, through the transformative act of dancing. The vision is that the audience can move freely on the stage and/ or be placed/ sit around the hairdresser's chairs on four sides. The stage picture then becomes, three hairdressers, three customers/people getting their hair cut, and three dancers.

**Cosmetic Demons: a choreographic saloon (working title)**

**Number of people on tour** 5

**Length of production** 60 min

**Co-producers** Dansens Hus, NorrlandsOperan

**Funded by** The Swedish Arts Council

## CONTACT

Julianna Viðrsdóttir

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# KITT JOHNSON X-ACT

DANCE



## BIO

Founded by dancer, choreographer, and curator Kitt Johnson in 1992, Kitt Johnson X-act is one of the longest existing, most productive dance companies in Denmark.

Besides staging their own productions- they tour extensively with solo and ensemble performances at home and abroad, offer physical classes, workshops, lectures, and art consultancy services, as well as collaborate with international festivals and partners through the site-specific concept MELLEMRUM. They also curate and host the international biennale Copenhagen Circus Arts Festival / C!CAF (editions in 2019/2022/2024).

## MELLEMRUM ENCOUNTERS

MELLEMRUM is a tribute to the walk and the locality.

Walking is an archaic practice. A basic means of transportation, universal to all times and cultures.

We walked out of Africa – we still migrate by walking.

MELLEMRUM Encounters are co-productions of around 1 year in duration (from initial research to final performances). Kitt develops carefully designed walks in collaboration with local partners/venues/festivals around the world. The walks involve a series of performances/interactions created by local, national, or international artists and in close dialogue with the specific locality and community. The site- and community-specific concept has been touring across Europe and Asia over the last 14 years.

### MELLEMRUM Encounters

**Number of people on tour** 1-2 people

**Length of production** 2 hours max

**Co-producers:** GLiMT (2025), Limfjordsteatret (2022–2023), Mapas Fest (2023), Sursaut Dance Company / FUDGE Festival (2022), Aaben Dans / SWOP Festival (2022), La Strada Festival (2020), Tainan Arts Festival (2019)

**Funded by** The Danish Arts Foundation

## CONTACT

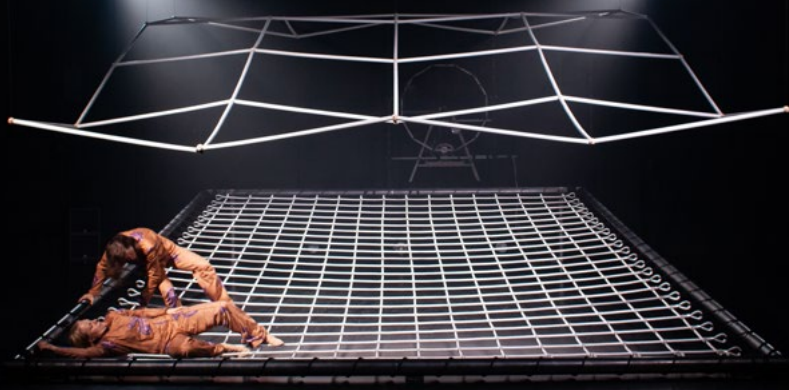
**Sarah Garde**

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# OR/ELLER

DANCE



## BIO

Madeleine Lindh and Anja Arnquist have been active in the field of dance and choreography since the early 2000s. They have worked with choreographers such as William Forsythe, Cristina Caprioli, Wayne McGregor, Efva Lilja, Angelin Preljocaj, Frédéric Flamand and Björn Säfsten. In 2018, they started making their own work as OR/ELLER and have quickly gained opportunities to create pieces for institutions and venues nationally and internationally such as Norrdans and Dansehallerne. In 2023, they will create three commissioned pieces and commence research for their third full-length piece premiering at MDT in 2024.

## V

V is a dance performance for people between 9 and 99. Characteristic of their work is highly visual stage works with big and complex set designs. The stunning set of V, consisting of two massive dancing nets and one gigantic scarf, acts as the hollow nest of two peculiar characters.

“We want to create performances that take your breath away and that unfolds as something both complex and simple. Kind of like that irresistible feeling of an approaching positivism, in which both the humor and seriousness have a place.”

OR/ELLER makes dance art that has the ambition, with each piece, to curate its audience. Therefore, cultivating dance art for children and young people is a matter of the heart, as well as finding new and broader audiences for contemporary dance and choreography.

## V

Number of people on tour 4

Length of production 45 min

Co-producers Dansens Hus Stockholm, NorrlandsOperan Umeå SWEDEN

Funded by Kulturrådet, Stockholms Stad, Region Stockholm

## CONTACT

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# ULV & UGLE

CIRCUS / INTERDISCIPLINARY



## BIO

Ulv & Ugle was founded by performing artist and playwright Camilla Therese Karlsen in 2017 with a focus on Sámi culture and related socio-political questions. They create cross-disciplinary performances incorporating Sámi joik, poetry, storytelling, dance, juggling and acrobatics. Their latest production, which premiered February 2022 in Oslo, has already been shown in 3 countries and performed in 2 different languages.

## HIDDEN PATH

In the days of old, the Sámi people would say that we had to follow hidden paths in order to avoid those who want to harm us. There is a parallel to how the Sámi identity went on a hidden path during the hard Norwegian assimilation process. Now, generations of Sámi live in shame, denying their heritage; a painful story experienced by many indigenous people around the world.

In the interdisciplinary production *Hidden Path*, the cliché of indigenous heritage is questioned, along with the problem of not being “Sámi enough.” How can this be fixed? How do we “unshame”? Using a combination of Sámi joik music, poetry, contemporary dance, circus, music and projections- this production tells a story about assimilation, shame, identity and belonging.

**Hidden Path**

**Number of people on tour** 7

**Length of production** 60 minutes

**Co-producers** Riksscenen, Dramatikkens Hus in Oslo, as well as Oyoun in Berlin

**Funded by** Sámediggi, Dáiddáfoándá, Fond for Lyd og Bilde, Stiftelsen Fritt Ord, Norsk Kulturråd, Fond for Utøvende Kunstnere, Figurteateret i Nordland, Tanzfabrik Berlin

## CONTACT

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# KOMPANI GIRAFF

CIRCUS / PERFORMANCE



## KOMPANI GIRAFF

Kompani Giraff is a Stockholm based circus company that creates visually unique circus performances based on a foundation of poetic narrative and a passion for magic in everyday life. With this foundation, the company seeks to explore new grounds in contemporary circus by making inventive and engaging performances for young audiences where contemporary circus, magic and object manipulation meet in a scenic universe unlike any other.

## MOLN (CLOUDS)

Moln is a circus performance imbued with music and inspired by the life and work of the legendary Swedish poet Karin Boye. Its framework is the tale of a collection of individuals living at each other's mercy in a vacuum between childhood and adolescence. Dystopian, yet life-affirming, it moves between the ordinary and the grand.

This performance is a "dream play" - with a light and poetic touch, it casts itself between the dark existential abyss and the bright, light clouds that coexist inside all of us; particularly on the brink between childhood and adulthood. Set to music and sung by the artist Jonathan Johansson, Karin Boyes' poems merge into a seamless universe.

## MOLN (CLOUDS)

Number of people on tour 5

Length of production 60 min

Co-producers Cirkuslyftet Sundsvall

Funded by Swedish Arts Council, Swedish Arts Grants Committee, City of Stockholm, Region of Stockholm

## CONTACT

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# CIRK-L

CIRCUS



## BIO

Cirk-L is a Swedish circus company founded by Mattias Lindström & Magali Bancel. With a background in working for a variety of institutions, organizations, and individuals, Cirk-L specializes in stage performances with cross-over art labs, creative rigging and innovative construction. Their most recent viral success was "The Last Fish," a circus and music performance with an industrial robot produced by Östgötateatern. "Sinfonia Volante," their latest production, is an outdoor, high flying, circus and music show based on "wall-acrobatic", where circus artists and musicians from Norrköping Symphony Orchestra, all hanging in ropes and harnesses, revolve around a specially designed 18m high rig.

## SINFONIA VOLANTE

"Sinfonia Volante", the flying symphony, is a dazzling show, combining high-flying acrobats with three musicians, also in weightlessness.

This piece invites everyone, in these times of pandemic and geopolitical worries, to a fascinating inner journey, leading us from frustrated loneliness to the joyful certainty that if we do join forces, everything is finally possible.

The main character of this show is a huge metal rig, a symbol of a mountain to climb, or to topple. The very long skirt of the harpist, falling from the adjoining platform, acts as a nurturing mother who draws from the depths of the earth our roots- the strength essential to the journey.

This outdoor, high-flying, circus performance played around an 18 meter specifically designed rig is based on "abseiling" or so-called "wall-acrobatic", where the circus performers and musicians - who are all hanging from ropes and harnesses - take over the airspace and make it their stage.

**Sinfonia Volante**

**Number of people on tour** 12

**Length of production** 40 minutes

**Co-producers** NyCirkus Öst, Östgötateatern, Norrköping Symphony Orchestra

**Funded by** Kulturrådet, Konstnärsnämnden, Region Östergötland, Norrköpings Kommun

## CONTACT

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# SVARBARD COMPANY

CIRCUS



## BIO

Svalbard Company is a Swedish based, transdisciplinary performance company originating in circus. It was founded by four graduates of DOCH in 2014 (current members: Ben Smith - UK, Alexis Akrovatakis - Greece, Tom Brand - Germany, Santiago Ruiz Albalade - Spain). Previous work includes their award-winning debut "all genius all idiot" which toured globally to over 30 countries and across 4 continents in 2016 - 2021.

Svalbard Company creates and produces performances/experiences that are both showcased and toured. In parallel they strive to generate process-based work and research opportunities for themselves and others within the community. Always eager to break expectations and challenge contexts, their work has been described as edgy, raw, anarchic and queer.

## DIGITAL FOSSILS (WORKING TITLE)

In a time of endless distractions where one can choose to exist in the parallel realms of the digital and physical, the biggest challenge is to learn how to be present. Stuck in the past, liberated in the moment. We are covered in time. Our minds find peace when the future is revealed. Are we dropped in space or held by time?

The centrepiece of this performance is a replica of a blue whale's ribcage, the largest animal known to have existed. The artists climb and move around this object, while it simultaneously represents an omen of the direction humanity is moving towards faster than ever. There also lies a portal representing time and the possibility to move to a parallel world/reality.

This work visually explores the topic of digital fossils and our relation to technology. Acknowledging that everything is everything and energy never gets lost...it transforms.

Supporting the set, the cast of 5 performers, and musicians- there is a theme of colour in the lighting design. Inspired by the work of Olafur Eliasson, the light represents diversity and its importance in all aspects.

Digital Fossils (working title)

Number of people on tour 7-8 TBD

Length of production 75 min

Co-producers Svalbard Company, Punkshangaren, more tbd

Funded by Kulturrådet, Svalbard Company

## CONTACT

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# HRINGLEIKUR CIRCUS COMPANY

CIRCUS



## BIO

Hringleikur Circus Company is an Icelandic non-profit organization at the forefront of developing the circus scene in Iceland through the production of circus shows, cooperative projects, events and a youth circus program. The company runs its own circus space and in 2022 they hosted the first Icelandic circus festival. Whatever the weather is Hringleikur's first fully produced show which received the Gríman, the Iceland Theatre Award 2021 for best stage movement.

## WHATEVER THE WEATHER

Whatever the weather is a contemporary circus show that examines the relationship between the weather and ourselves. Weather has always been a major factor of life in the northern latitudes, but modern technology, transportation, and culture has minimized the direct effect of weather on our daily lives. Through acrobatics, aerials, strong visual images and quirky humour, Hringleikur draws out the effect that the weather can have on us - the emotions, the energy, the stories.

This family-friendly theatrical circus performance was created as an outside performance but can be (and has been) adapted for theaters. The show includes little spoken language and can fit a variety of venues and locations, making it suitable for festivals of all kinds.

**Whatever the weather**

**Number of people on tour** 4-5

**Length of production** 50 minutes

**Co-producers** Midnight Theatre Company (creation), MurMur Productions (international touring)

**Funded by** The Icelandic Ministry of Education and Culture, the Icelandic Artists' Salary Fund, Uppbyggingarsjóðr Austurlands fund and Reykjavík City

## CONTACT

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# BELOW ZERO

CIRCUS



## BELOW ZERO

**Below Zero** is a Swedish circus company creating modern and innovative circus performances with a specifically developed aesthetic. Their style is characterized by a combination of highly technical skills, a choreographic approach to circus movement and a poetic narrative – all orbiting around captivating themes. The company was created by four Swedish circus artists with similar roots but spanning entirely different careers including corporate events, site specific performances, large productions, musicals and prize-winning performances at some of the world's biggest circus festivals.

## KORUS

**KORUS** provokes the idea of what coming together really means. Through hand-to-hand acrobatics, tight wire walking and teeterboard, the artists indulge in the risk of circus and cooperation; cooperation with humanity as well as cooperation with nature.

Through scenography and technical equipment, **KORUS** brings nature on stage: wood, flowers, and a seven-meter-high tree. Four artists come together, unaware of what is happening in the outside world, unaware of the chaos that is closing in.

The audience is invited to a universe where communication happens through balance, strength, movement and acrobatics, but when the outside can no longer be ignored... what happens then?

## **KORUS**

**Number of people on tour** 5

**Length of production** 100 min (including a 20 min break)

**Co-producers** Riksteatern <sup>SE</sup>, CircusNext + <sup>FR</sup>, La Grainerie <sup>FR</sup>, Cirkus Cirkör <sup>SE</sup>, Subtopia <sup>SE</sup>, Dynamo, Odense <sup>DE</sup>, Cirqueon, Prag <sup>CZ</sup>, Ytterjärna Kulturhus <sup>SE</sup>, Futurum <sup>SE</sup>

**Funded by** Swedish Art Council, Region of Stockholm, City of Stockholm, Noura Nord Incubator

## CONTACT

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# PLEXUS POLAIRE

FIGURE THEATRE



## BIO

Artistic director Yngvild Aspeli develops a visual world that brings our most buried feelings to life. The use of life-sized puppets is at the center of her work, but the actor's performance, the presence of the music and the use of light and video are all equal elements in communicating the story. Within her company **Plexus Polaire**, Aspeli has directed six shows: *Signals* (2011), *Opera Opaque* (2013), *Ashes* (2014), *Chambre noire* (2017), *Moby Dick* (2020) and *Dracula* (2021). She is currently working on an adaptation of *A Doll's House* that will premiere autumn 2023.

## MOBY DICK

An ancient white whale, a captain steering his ship into destruction and the inner storms of the human heart. *Moby Dick* is the tale of a whaling expedition, but also the story of an obsession or an investigation into the unexplained mysteries of life. To quote Melville: "It is the image of the ungraspable phantom of life; and this is the key to it all." With seven actors, fifty puppets, video-projections, a drowned orchestra and a whale-sized whale, Yngvild Aspeli stages a visual adaptation of this wonderful beast of a book.

### Moby Dick

Number of people on tour 17

Length of production 1h 25 min

**Co-producers** Nordland Teater, Mo I Rana <sup>NO</sup>, Figurteatret i Nordland, Stamsund <sup>NO</sup>, Groupe des 20 Théâtres en Ile-de-France <sup>FR</sup>, Lutkovno gledališče Ljubljana <sup>SI</sup>, Comédie de Caen CDN <sup>FR</sup>, EPCC Bords 2 scènes, Vitry-le-François <sup>FR</sup>, TJP CDN Strasbourg <sup>FR</sup>, Festival Mondial des théâtres de Marionnettes de Charleville-Mézières <sup>FR</sup>, Le Manège, scène nationale, Reims <sup>FR</sup>, Le Théâtre, scène conventionnée d'Auxerre <sup>FR</sup>, Le Mouffetard, Théâtre des arts de la Marionnette, Paris <sup>FR</sup>, Les 2 Scènes, Scène Nationale de Besançon <sup>FR</sup>, MA scène nationale - Pays de Montbéliard <sup>FR</sup>, Le Sablier, Ifs <sup>FR</sup>, Le Théâtre Jean Arp, Clamart <sup>FR</sup>, La Maison, Nevers <sup>FR</sup>, Théâtre Romain Rolland, Villejuif <sup>FR</sup>, Le Bateau Feu, Scène nationale de Dunkerque <sup>FR</sup>, Théâtre de Choisy-le-Roi <sup>FR</sup>, Teater Innlandet, Hamar <sup>NO</sup>, POC, Alfortville <sup>94-FR</sup>

**Funded by** Kulturrådet / Arts Council Norway <sup>NO</sup>, DGCA Ministère de la Culture <sup>FR</sup>, DRAC and Région Bourgogne Franche Comté <sup>FR</sup>, Fond for lyd og bilde <sup>NO</sup>, Conseil Général du Val de Marne <sup>FR</sup>, Département de l'Yonne <sup>FR</sup>, La Nef Manufacture d'utopies, Pantin <sup>FR</sup>

## CONTACT

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# WAKKA WAKKA

FIGURE THEATRE



## BIO

Wakka Wakka is an OBIE and DRAMA DESK award winning theatre company consisting of artists who share a common language in creation and ensemble work. Their mission is to create works of theatre that are bold, unique and unpredictable. Since 2001, Wakka Wakka has created and produced ten original works of highly visual theatre, overlapping a wide range of styles. Based in Norway and as a non-profit company in New York City, Wakka Wakka has toured extensively throughout festivals, theatres and universities in North America, Europe and Asia.

## THE IMMORTAL JELLYFISH GIRL

Part coming of age story, part dystopian tragedy, and part metaphysical meditation on the fate of humanity, *The Immortal Jellyfish Girl* soars through dimensions, unconfined by time, gravity, or biology. The year is 2555, large swaths of the earth's surface are considered dead zones, and the final showdown, the war between the Homo Technalis and the Homo Animalis, has begun. Yet in this age of loneliness and destruction there is still hope...

The last of the Homo Sapiens, a man disguised in a fox suit who hails from the "now," is coordinating a resistance network that can change the future. A centuries-old prophecy looms, as the omnipotent Doyenne threatens imminent eradication of the natural world. And in an underground laboratory, the wrinkled and ancient Turtle works on a secret weapon while Aurelia, the Immortal Jellyfish Girl, is on the brink of regenerating the animal kingdom and restoring ecosystems on earth.

Hilarious, ridiculous and virtuosic, *The Immortal Jellyfish Girl* is a post-apocalyptic future drama that leaves audiences with exhilaration, doom, and hope.

**The Immortal Jellyfish Girl**

**Number of people on tour** 8

**Length of production** 1 hr 15 min

**Co-producers** Nordland Visual Theatre, Akershus Teater, Circus Xanti

**Funded by** Norwegian Arts Council, Nordland Visual Theatre, Akershus Theatre, Spenn, Fond for Lyd og Bilde, The Jim Henson Foundation, Creative Capital, NYSCA, The County of Oslo

## CONTACT

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# NORDTING

THEATER / PERFORMANCE



NORDTING - THE NORTHERN ASSEMBLY

Nordting - a nomadic people's assembly for the North - a party for the periphery - a separatist movement for the Arctic colony, NORDTING is a mobile people's assembly for the Arctic, regularly inviting people to Ting ("Ting" is old Norse for governing assembly). From Vardø, Norway to Anchorage, Alaska, we welcome to stage local issues from local participants including: marching bands, choirs, mayors, punk bands, cheerleaders, indigenous people, musicians, dancers and more.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Since the beginning on June 21st, 2014, NORDTING has traveled across the high North and beyond. People have gathered for assembly meetings from Vardø to Træna, Nordkapp to Oslo, Finland to Iceland, and the Faroe Islands to Alaska. NORDTING is a platform for intervention and reflection, arranging May Day parades and live TV broadcasts from court cases, waving flags and marking memorial days that no one else takes responsibility for. NORDTING destabilizes and strikes wedges into both personal perceptions and public debates, all while examining questions of power, art, money, identity, separatism, populism and periphery in a context of the circumpolar North. NORDTING creates new realities and contributes to shift both the prevailing narrative of the North and the prevailing power relations in the North. We ask ourselves after each NORDTING, after each flag-raising, after each voyage: Are we going to carry this with us tomorrow? Will it haunt us? Will it change us? Will it change the world? If not, it's just been a waste of time.

NORDTING – The Northern

Number of people on tour 4

Length of production 10 min up to 120 min

## CONTACT

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# MURMUR PRODUCTIONS

THEATER



## BIO

MurMur Productions specializes in producing high-quality cultural projects. They work with professional artists and groups within the independent art scene in Iceland across all forms of artistic disciplines. Being the first of its kind in Iceland, Murmur Productions aims to create a supportive environment for Icelandic independent artists/groups and their projects to reach their fullest potential, both in Iceland and abroad.

## CLUB ROMANTICA

On a visit to a flea market in Brussels, the Icelandic theatre-maker Fridgeir Einarsson purchased three photo albums containing snapshots of strangers. After flicking through the albums, he discovered that they all belonged to the same person; a Belgian woman who had traveled to Mallorca twice in the 70's, and married a decade later somewhere back in Belgium. After giving it thought for 10 years, Fridgeir decided to try to return the photographs to their original owner. The problem was that he didn't know her name, age, address, or whether she would even want the photo albums back.

The award-winning show *Club Romantica* is a documentary theatre piece.

**Club Romantica**

**Number of people on tour** 4-6

**Length of production** 80 minutes

**Co-producers** Abendshow Theatre Club in collaboration with Reykjavik City Theatre

**Funded by** Iceland's Artists' Salary Fund and Performing Arts Fund and Reykjavik City's Culture Fund

## CONTACT

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# HOUSE OF STORIES

INTERDISCIPLINARY



## BIO

House of Stories (HoS) premiered their first production, Mater Nexus by Lene Therese in 2001 to stunning reviews. They have since produced and co-produced performances, readings, lectures and workshops both nationally and internationally, bringing in various expertise from project to project. Their latest work Time Without Books (2020) was created after conducting workshops in both Uruguay and Norway. The Norwegian production toured festivals/venues in Norway/Svalbard and the Uruguayan production was featured in the documentary Camino a Casa (2021). Their production, Livia's Room has been in development since 2018, with collaborators from various art fields, as well as young talents.

## LIVIA'S ROOM

LIVIA'S ROOM is a cross-disciplinary Nordic project, developed with the Roman Era as its historical backdrop. It is inspired by a room with frescoes depicting a garden; now exhibited in a Roman museum, it originally belonged to Livia, the wife of Emperor Augustus. With an amalgamation of text, music, sound, textiles and bodies, a unique sensory experience is created all while examining from who and what our understanding of historic events and figures is formed. The connection between past and present is put into play, emphasizing the women around Augustus and how they have been "treated" by history. Who takes power in what rooms is the political angle of the project. A combination of installation, contemporary dance, opera, live music, experimental texts, and characters- LIVIA'S ROOM fluctuates through time and space, yet always remains close to the audience at hand.

### LIVIA'S ROOM

Number of people on tour 12

Length of production 1 hour 45 min

Co-producers Cornerstones Bergen, The National Scene in Bergen

Funded by Arts Council Norway, Nordic Culture Point, The Iceland-Norway fund, Icelandic Composers Union, Bergen Municipality, FLB, FFUK, The Norwegian Centre for New Playwriting, Meltzer's Foundation for visual arts, The Norwegian Embassy in Rome, Norwegian Director's Union

## CONTACT

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# PERPLEX

THEATER



## BIO

Perplex is an ensemble of queer theatre artists founded in 2016 in Reykjavík. Perplex is a chosen family production company for the artistic work they deem worthy of their talent and time. They create work informed by the hopeful belief that theatre can change the world. The core team is director/writer/producer Gréta Kristín Ómarsdóttir; activist/producer Hjalti Vigfússon; actor/writer Bjarni Snæbjörnsson; composer/musician Axel Ingi Árnason and; dancer/chooreographer Cameron Corbett.

## GÓÐAN DAGINN, FAGGI (GOOD MORNING, FAGGI)

Góðan daginn, faggi (GDF) is an autobiographical one man musical, a political cabaret that premiered in Þjóðleikhúskjallarinn at the National Theatre of Iceland August 2021, during Reykjavík Pride. Tailored to the audience at hand, performances currently take place at the original venue and tour all over Iceland for students age 15-20, as well as for teachers, parents and the general public. GDF is a work co-created by three best friends, queer director Gréta Kristín Ómarsdóttir, gay actor Bjarni Snæbjörnsson and gay composer Axel Ingi Árnason, through writing labs, readings and co-thinking with communities of queer people in Iceland since 2017.

Through the micro lens of one mans' vulnerable autobiographical accounts of life, GDF addresses internalized and subtle systematic oppression and violence against queer people in a self-proclaimed queer paradise society.

Góðan daginn, faggi (Good morning, faggi)

Number of people on tour 3-4

Length of production 90 min

Co-producers Perplex in collaboration with The National Theatre of Iceland (Þjóðleikhúsið)

## CONTACT

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# SISTERS HOPE

PERFORMANCE / INSTALLATION



## BIO

Sisters Hope is a highly acclaimed and award-winning Copenhagen-based performance group, spearheading a new way of performance and inspiring generations to come. Their work unfolds at the intersection of immersion, intervention, activism, research, and pedagogy. In their large-scale durational performances, they explore different aspects of what they call a Sensuous Society – a potential new world arising from the post-economic and ecological crisis. In their on-going 5-year performance, Sisters Hope Home, they introduce a whole new artistic paradigm that they term 'Inhabitation'- stimulating ecologic connectedness and sustainable futures.

## SISTERS ACADEMY

A venue will be transformed into the complete performance-installation, *Sisters Academy* – where more than 25 performers will staff an experimental boarding school in a potential future Sensuous Society. Audiences can only access the school by enrolling as a student for 24 hours. A stay at the school naturally includes a night in the school dormitory. The students will enter another world, where the sensuous and poetic mode of being defines all actions and interactions. In this world the poetic comes first! These values also transcend the teaching and learning experiences at the school, and during their stay the students will begin to discover and unfold their own Poetic Self. At the emergence of a new world the Sister and her staff conduct sensuous and poetic experimentation with new modes of learning. New modes of existing. New modes of being together in a world beyond the current crises.

### Sisters Academy

**Number of people on tour** 15 – 40 (depending on the number of local performers involved)

**Length of production** 24 hours

**Funded by** The Danish Arts Foundation, The Nordic Culture Fund and The Bikuben Foundation

## CONTACT

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NORDTING

JO STRØMGREN KOMPANI

YOHEI HAMADA

WAKKA WAKKA

HOUSE OF STORIES / LENE THERESE TEIGEN

FINDLAY//SANDSMARK

PLEXUS POLAIRE

ULV & UGLE / CAMILLA THERSE KARLSEN

DON GNU

SISTERS HOPE

UPPERCUT DANCE THEATER

KITT JOHNSON X-ACT

WIRED STUDIO

BELOW ZERO

SINDRI RUNUDDE

KOMPANI GIRAFF

SVALBARD COMPANY

CIRK-L

OR/ELLER

HRINGLEIKUR CIRCUS COMPANY

MURMUR PRODUCTIONS

PERPLEX



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