

curriculum vitae

choreographer | theatremaker

Jochen Stechmann

education

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|-------------|---|
| 2007 - 2010 | DasArts <i>Master for Theatre</i> Amsterdam
(graduated 2010) |
| 1998 - 2002 | <i>Contemporary Dance</i> at Fontys Dance-academy Tilburg
(BA 2002) |
| 1994 - 1998 | <i>Pure Mathematics and Physics</i> at Universität Hamburg (diploma 1998) |



choreographic works

Since I finished DasArts in 2010 - after almost a decade of working as performer – I mainly focus on being a (dance-) maker. Because of my background, my works are most of the times labelled as 'choreography', but are in fact situated in-between disciplines: theatre, choreography, film and animation, performance, installation, digital art, composition, writing. To resist categorization and to radically blur the boundaries between these sacred disciplines is one of my main artistic goals.

I experiment with forms of postdramatic theatre that have a certain scientific or documentary character. The works employ techniques of montage, they partially replace choreography with discourse on choreography. They hijack documentary strategies and elements of natural science. In that sense, my approach is quite analytical and at the same time playful. Improvisational practices, a good sense of humour and a conscious play with power relations are core features.

The results are perceived as intellectually challenging while at the same time being entertaining. I do not aim to please an audience, but I don't want to bore them neither.

A philosophical undercurrent is present in all my works. I try to offer a multiplicity of points of view upon a subject, and those perspectives are deliberately not consistent with each other so the overall picture gets blurred. Art should not reaffirm the opinions that we already have, it should confuse us and challenge us to change our minds.

In the works with focus on the relation between language and movement (the critical piece, signs), I let the choreography follow grammatical structures or other patterns of language and the meaning created through them. In that process, digital technologies became more and more an essential part of my work. In the near future I want to explore such possibilities for an interactive choreography based entirely on audience participation.

Furthermore I dare to say that I work with high ethics. I do performing arts because it gives me pleasure, and not because I want to become famous. Part of the artistic process is to increase the transparency to the power-relations that are anyway always present between collaborators. By daring to become transparent about our interests and strategies we undo the pressure of competition and gain access to valuable material.

Together with Georgian artist Nadia Tsulukidze, I function as artistic director of Dutch dance-theatre company [Traum-A](#). Currently I am in-house choreographer at [Dansmakers](#), the production house for dance in Amsterdam.

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choreography

2014 *WORKINGMAKING OUT*
Studio project and residency at Dansmakers Amsterdam in collaboration with SNDO graduate Matias Daporta

2013 *THE CRITICAL PIECE*
Residency and reprise at Tanzhaus Zürich (CH)

SIGNS GUERRILLA
Choreographic interventions in public space, based on flag semaphore.
Festival Over Het IJ Amsterdam, Festival Chalon Dans La Rue, Festival Spoffin Amersfoort

2012 *SIGNS – ARCHIVE FOR FORGOTTEN SIGNALS*
Interactive choreographic installation based on flag semaphore. Introducing the FMS communication device (flag messaging service). Festival Over Het IJ Amsterdam, Oerol Festival Terschelling.

FONDA MEETS FOUCAULT I
Studio Project and Residency at Dansmakers Amsterdam. A choreographic research combining Foucault's theories and Fonda's fitness program Aerobics into a hybrid philosophical workout

2011 *THE CRITICAL PIECE*
Performative experiments on the relation between dance, words and memory; based on existing dance-reviews. Produced by Dansmakers Amsterdam and Traum-A. Performed in different setups at PUNCH Festival, festival Why Not?, Moving Meetings Maastricht, Tanzmesse Düsseldorf, LOFFT Leipzig/euroscene, dOCUMENTA13, Tanzhaus Zürich

2010 *FAMILY MATTERS*
Semi-documentary performative investigation of the history of my German Ancestor. A two-hander performed together with my mother as 'living archive'
A DasArts Final Project produced by Zeebelt Theatre, The Hague . Performed at Melkweg Amsterdam, Theater Fracati Amsterdam, Verkadefabriek Den Bosch, Dock11 Berlin

REFORMATION
Camera acting and choreography for full a feature docu fiction movie directed by Jeanette Groenendaal

2008 *WILL YOU EVER BE HAPPY AGAIN?*
Co author of two hander produced by BITEF Belgrade, hteveem Amsterdam. International tour (euroscene Leipzig, Wiener Festwochen, Zürcher Theaterspektakel, Bitef Belgrade, iDans Istanbul, Festival Sarajevo, Festival Premières Strassbourg.
Dutch BNG award for new theatre makers 2010

Upcoming

2014 *EUROPEAN MINISTRY FOR FAVORITE SONGS*
Independent theatre and performance project about cross-connections between music, bureaucracy and cultural heritage. International collaboration with 11 partners from 6 European countries, supported by the EACEA. Touring Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium, Italy and Spain (www.favouritesongs.eu)

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2015 *MOPA (My Own Private Artist)*
Programming and development of a self regulating internet portal to facilitate self organized small scale performances on locations.

WORKINGMAKING OUT

Première of the full performance and DVD launch at Theater Frascati Amsterdam
A collaboration with SNDO graduate Matias Daporta

audio-visual art

2012 *SIGNS – ARCHIVE FOR FORGOTTEN SIGNALS*
Interactive choreographic installation based on flag semaphore. Introducing the FMS communication device (flag messaging service). Festival Over Het IJ Amsterdam, Oerol Festival Terschelling.

2010 *WHAT IS? DASARTS*
Promotional Clip for DasArts, The Master for Theatre in Amsterdam (<http://vimeo.com/56328318>)

2008 *JUST FOR PLEASURE*
Interactive physical installation in which the audience is seduced to inflict pain on the performer's body. Coached by Franko B.

THE SICK MIND

Bondage endurance performance about the resemblance of pleasure and pain, coached by Midori

2007 *WANNABEES*
Docu-animation (12') on the disease of BIID (the desire to amputate a healthy body part). Coached by Cyrrus Frisch.

BODY LANGUAGE

Dance Film (15') as part of a research on Foucault's concept of self-technologies in DasArt. Coached by Boris Gerrets

2003 *EROTHEQUE*
Audiovisual installation for the B-visible 72h Queerathon at *De Vooruit* Gent; featuring a quadrophonic soundtrack of computer-voices based on gay internet profiles.

dramaturgy / text

2012 *BLOEDDRUK*
Dramaturg and Playwright text for youth dance-theatre piece by Groundbreakers, Amsterdam (www.groundbreakers.nl)

2010 *WAAR KOM JIJ VANDAAN?*
Dramaturg for youth dance theatre by Groundbreakers, Amsterdam

2009 *IN DE BAN VAN MIJN HORMONEN*
Dramaturg for youth dance theatre by Groundbreakers

