



PERFORMING ARTS IN NORTHERN NORWAY

Preface

Welcome to the north!

This catalogue is produced at the occasion of IETM Plenary Meeting, hosted by Dansearena nord and Vårscenefest the spring of 2020.

Norwegian performing arts is developing excitingly, and there is great interest for Norwegian productions and the ideas behind them.

This catalogue has been made for the sake of insight into the scope of production and companies in Northern Norway, and as such it provides an extensive image of performing arts in the north of now.

There is no doubt that the performing artists of the region have a wide range of interests and in-depth expertise within their fields. We hope this is obvious when browsing this catalogue.

We also hope that you, the readers, will take your time to get to know the content. You are welcome to contact the artists behind the productions for further dialogue.

Happy reading!

Greetings from

Susanne Næss Nielsen, Dansearena nord
Bernt Bjørn, RadArt

CONTENTS

Stellaris DansTeater	P. 4 – 5
Snakk for deg sjøl (Speak for Yourself)	P. 6 – 7
Silje Solheim Johnsen	P. 8 – 9
Ferske Scener	P. 10 – 11
Simone Grøtte	P. 12 – 13
Mari Bø	P. 14 – 15
Maya Mi Samuelsen	P. 16 – 17
Kartellet (The Cartel)	P. 18 – 19
Lost and Found Productions	P. 20 – 21
Haugen Productions	P. 22 – 23
Katma	P. 24 – 25
Elle Sofe Sara	P. 26 – 27
Samovarteateret	P. 28 – 29
The Sami National Theatre Beaivváš	P. 30 – 31
Intakt	P. 32 – 33
Rimfrost Productions	P. 34 – 35
Theatre RuNo	P. 36 – 37
Ida Løken Valkeapää	P. 38 – 39
Nordland Visual Theatre	P. 40 – 41
Fjellstad/Jessen	P. 42 – 43
Åarjelhsaemien theatre	P. 44 – 45
Mariann Torset	P. 46 – 47
Eilertsen & Granados Theater Company	P. 48 – 49
Lawrence Malstaf	P. 50 – 51
Organisations and collaborators	P. 52 – 53

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Current performances

Two Swans

Photo

Leinan-Hermo/ Hermo Jensen

Stellaris DansTeater (SD) is a professional independent company based in Hammerfest (Norway), managed by dance artists Solveig Leinan-Hermo and Marie Hermo Jensen. SD celebrates 40 years in 2020 and is the oldest active independent dance company in Norway today. It is likely the world's northernmost in this category.

SD has placed great emphasis on cross-border cultural collaboration. The company collaborates with various professional artists, institutions and companies in The Barents Region (Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia) and the Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania), as well as in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Two Swans is a visually beautiful and energetic performance inspired by rock carvings from Alta (Norway) and outside Belamorsk (Karelia, Russia). The performance is a leap from ancient to modern times, creating a fusion of tradition and contemporary expressions. In a universe of movement and colour, yoik and choir, a fantasy world is created. During 2020, SD is developing several touring versions of this production to address different performance formats.

SD and Kantele's previous collaboration project Adnazdi was described as a breath of fresh air and received standing applause from audiences both in Norway and Russia.

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Current performances

Søvnløs (Sleepless)

Photo

Tom Rune Angell-Storö
Juliussen

Speak for Yourself (Snakk for deg sjøl) and the artist duo Liabø and Junttila have produced numerous performances and participatory installations in the intersection between art and pedagogy since 2012. The performances seek to destabilize and convey, through opening for a multitude of voices, creating democratic dramaturgies and finding new ways of meeting the audience. Speak for Yourself especially promotes the voices of young people by, among other things, facilitating writing workshops. The texts written by the youths have been used as background material for performances, including *Sleepless*. Rebekka Brox Liabø is a writer and theatre pedagogue, as well as the manager of Speak for Yourself, and Kristina Junttila is a performance artist, researcher and pedagogue. Sound designer Rakel Nystabakk and dramaturge Lina Killingdalen are also part of the artistic team of *Sleepless*.

The performance *Sleepless* is a performative happening premiered at Arctic Arts Festival 2019, produced by Speak for Yourself. The performance takes place in the local youth club where audience can wander freely around while getting text messages on their own phones with different instructions, tasks to perform, texts by youth and interruptions such as sudden dance, a competition or personal stories. The performance can be translated and adapted to other languages and places, in collaboration with local youth. *Sleepless* is a performative meeting place for young people, an homage to sleep and a lullaby for all the insomniacs of the world.

SPEAK FOR YOURSELF



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Current performances

Two duets

Photo

Tale Hendnes

Silje Solheim Johnsen is a Tromsø-based dance artist who has been creating art for young people over a decade. Her works have toured extensively in schools and at festivals. Her current interest is exploring relationships between adult and child.

The performance of *Two duets* consists of duets with mother and son, one teenager and one 8-year-old. The age difference between the children gives different perspectives on the parent-child-relationship. The duets are shown separately but can be seen in relation to each other. Onstage with the dancers is also one of Norway's most active ambient percussionists, Aleksander Kostopoulos.

The safety within the parent-child relationship gives both freedom and opportunity for taking risks within the work, which is not easily found in other relations. *Two duets* stages the deep, but also vulnerable, average, complicated and loving relationships between a parent and their child.

SILJE SOLHEIM JOHNSEN



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Current performances

Muohtadivggazat / The Sound of Snow
The Weather Project
Blood Club

Photo

Tom Rune Angell-Storö
Juliussen

Ferske Scener creates context-specific performances in the intersection between drama and relational performance, performances that thrill, challenge, ask questions and entertain the audience with both provocation and laughter. The Arctic region's conflicts and encounters connected to culture, language, ethnicity and nature form the framework for the productions, in which Sami, Finnish, Norwegian and English languages are combined.

The company consists of:

Bernt Bjørn – Norwegian-Sami actor and singer, with 35 years of experience from stage, film and TV.

Kristina Junttila – Norwegian-Finnish performance artist and research fellow at The Art Academy at The Arctic University of Norway.

Kristin Bjørn – Dramaturge, writer and stage director.

Muohtadivggazat / The Sound of Snow is a multilingual performance based on incredible true stories from the borderland between Norway, Finland and Russia. The script is written by poet and playwright Rawdna Carita Eira. *The Weather Project* is a collaboration with Western Norway Research Institute and the artist collective Reality Research Centre in Helsinki, about the art of talking about the weather. *Blood Club* is a series of encounters with audience, relational events with unpredictable results, during which Ferske Scener dives into the minefields of genetics and culture, with a special focus on the relationship between Sami and Norwegian culture.

FERSKE SCENER



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Current performances

Å KLORE SEG FAST / HOLD TIGHT

Photo

Mariell Amelie

Simone Grøtte is a contemporary choreographer from Lakselv in Northern Norway. Her work is strongly influenced by her indigenous Sami background and living and working in the Arctic region. These elements are woven into a modern expression in the theme, scenography and music. Her projects explore questions revolving around identity and belonging, with an approach on human emotions and perspectives.

In *HOLD TIGHT*, Grøtte digs into her Arctic background and growing up in a small spot on the edge of the world.

HOLD TIGHT is six months with two meters of snow. It is fiery mosquitoes and dark humour. It is resistance and standstill. It is a mixed account of pluses and minuses. It's a sense of belonging - the little secret you carry with you in your inside pocket. As one can turn to when life shows you the winter road. Hold tight to your surroundings, hold tight to life.

Simone Grøtte has collaborated on productions with large institutions such as Norrdans in Sweden, The Arctic Theatre, Varangerfestivalen and Arctic Arts Festival, for the latter with the critically acclaimed and popular performance *GLEMT / FORGOTTEN*. In 2018, *FORGOTTEN* was selected to perform as part of the official program at Cinars in Montreal, Canada and Tanzmesse in Düsseldorf, Germany.

SIMONE GRØTTE



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Current performances

Sound of Silence

Photo

Jamie Michael Bivard

Mari Bø is an interdisciplinary artist working with sounds, textures and movements connected to the body. Specifically, she is interested in exploring nuances and facets existing within her own body, using her art as a tool to understand and challenge herself. She has been working mostly with dance productions and performances, and she has recently begun to move more into the field of fine art and performative installations, exploring the limits and possibilities of movement.

How does your hair sound, and which sound is made when you shrug your shoulder? *Sound of Silence* is not a performance in the traditional sense, but an open experiment exploring the relationship between movement and sound. The soundscape in this performance consists of sounds created onstage by the dancers and their movements. Using different types of microphones and computer programming, every sound the spectator experiences is a result of the happenings on stage. *Sound of Silence* seeks to explore new and more direct relationships between movement, bodies, and sound. Aiming to inspire the audience to think differently about the relation between sight and hearing, the artists challenge the spectator to think beyond the traditions of musical language and dance.

MARI BØ



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Current performances

*MITT OPPRØR MOT OPPDRITT/
RAGE AGAINST THE FISHFARM
MACHINE*

*Vaktmester Samuelsen/ Care-
taker Samuelsen*

Photo

Eivind Hansen

Maya Mi Samuelsen, based in Karlsøya and Tromsø, works as a dance artist, stage artist and dance teacher. Her work is inspired by her own life experiences and she is known for making art that promotes political themes she is engaged in. Maya Mi Samuelsen is currently touring *MITT OPPRØR MOT OPPDRITT*, which can be translated to *RAGE AGAINST THE FISHFARM MACHINE*.

MITT OPPRØR MOT OPPDRITT is a performance combining art and activism on the theme of aquaculture and the value of wild nature. Large parts of Karlsøya are nature reserves due to a rich diversity of natural landscapes in the form of rare growths and ancient forest. In 2015, politicians in the municipality of Karlsøy decided to establish a fish farm at Korsnes (Karlsøy), and Maya Mi Samuelsen decided to start this project to protest it.

Maya Mi Samuelsen is currently working on a new project, *Caretaker Samuelsen*, in collaboration with Anne Katrine Haugen. The project is motivated by the magical mystery tour of life.

MAYA MI SAMUELSEN



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Current performances

Kan du komme ned og hente meg igjen? (Can you come down and fetch me again?)

Lyden av Kartellet (The sound of Kartellet)

Anføttes (Head to feet)

Doppler

Kan du komme ned og hente meg? (Can you come down and fetch me?)

Kartellet

Photo

Knut Aasrud

Kartellet (The Cartel) was originally a dance performance initiated and choreographed by Sigurd Johan Heide, with newly composed music by Mariann Torset, for the festival Kalottspel in 2012. Now they have established a dance company called Kartellet and Kartellet A/S, which has made five full-length performances since 2012. In addition, Kartellet has contributed to a several concert performances, including Northern Jazz Expo 2015, Barents Bird and Kalottspel. The company has given more than 250 performances over the last 8 years, in Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland and Russia. Kartellet won Norwegian Critics' Award for best dance performance with DoPPler in 2015/2016. The company received the Culture Award from the county of Troms in 2016 and was a headliner for Arctic Arts Festival the same year.

In the performance *Kan du komme ned og hente meg igjen?*, the audience is placed among three expressive men, and experience a dance performance up close, both in regards of distance and theme. The two dancers, Inge Martin Helgesen and Sigurd Johan Heide, have a nostalgic but distorted expression, and they exploit their physical skill to balance play and seriousness. Musician Benjamin Mørk plays mechanical piano and has adapted the musical material to a state of male physicality, seriousness and games. Violent games. The whole show is built around watching a man's life pass by before his eyes, remembering both the good and the bad.

Kartellet will produce four new performances in 2020.

KARTELLET (THE CARTEL)



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Current performances

Love and the Ocean
Oh Baby Baby

Photo

Catharina Natalie Wandrup

Lost and Found productions is a theatre company based on Andøya in Northern Norway. The company was founded by Nikoline J. Spjelkavik and Victoria F. S. Røising in 2016, and since then the company has created ten original works. In 2020, Per Magnus Barlaug joined Lost and Found productions.

Lost and Found productions is working interdisciplinary with emphasis on exploring audio-visual theatre, which has been an important drive in the company's latest piece *Love and the Ocean*. As their aim is to make experimental theatre more inviting for a broader audience, music often plays a key role to make the work more accessible to the public.

Working with Teaterklubb'81, a group of over a hundred young actors and technicians, has become an important part of Lost and Found productions' artistic work. This provides a strong connection both to the local society, and to the future generation of theatre makers. All three members of Lost and Found productions were educated at The Norwegian Theatre Academy in Fredrikstad (Østfold University College).

LOST AND FOUND PRODUCTIONS



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Current performances

Hun&Hund / Her&Hera
Digging into my Magnificent Trashbin I'm searching for my Life
PUST/EXHALE
HomeMade
Chew It!

Photo

Jamie M. Bivard
Nicolas Tournenc

Norwegian sisters Liv Hanne and Anne Katrine Haugen founded Haugen Productions in 2003 in Tromsø, in connection with their first joint performance *Sisters*.

Over a period of three years, the Haugen sisters performed *Sisters* 180 times. Since then, they have worked both alone and in collaboration with each other, creating performances in the intersection of documentary and fiction, strongly shaped by their North-Norwegian identity and background. The company works with methods that include and juxtapose immersive theatre, cross-pollination, devising and non-hierarchic structures. Friction between documentary and fiction, the private and the universal, the popular and the experimental, the local and the international, are other strong focal points. The aim is to bring the familiar and ordinary in an extraordinary way on stage, the stage being a big inflatable bubble, a gallery, the home or - and as well - the black box. Working in close collaboration with different artists and forms ensures an ongoing freshness and dynamic in their work.

Liv Hanne and Anne Katrine Haugen both studied at London Contemporary Dance School. From 1991 – 2009 they worked extensively in Belgium and the Netherlands with dance companies such as *Ultima Vez / Wim Vandekeybus* and *Angelika Oei*. Haugen Productions is one of the most established dance companies in the region, having produced work that tour nationally and internationally since the beginning. In recent years, the company has had a special focus on international collaborations. In 2020, Haugen Productions will present work in USA and China.

Recent works include *Hun&Hund / Her&Hera* (2019), a duo with the dog Hera, *Digging into my Magnificent Trashbin I'm searching for my Life* (2018), a piece consisting of five different solos, and a group piece, *PUST/EXHALE* (2016/17), which is set in a big inflatable bubble with dance, voice, text and electronic music, and *Sisters* 11 years later (2014), addressing existential questions of sisterhood and the challenges and blessings of close family ties.

HAUGEN PRODUCTIONS



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Current performances

Ritsj

Photo

Mariell Amelié Lind-Hansen

Katma creates interactive performances for children. In 2008 Katma received an award from Performing Arts Hub Norway (PAHN) for creating ground-breaking, challenging and visual performances for children. The interactive performance *Usynlig* (meaning invisible) won an award for best production within The Cultural Rucksack (DKS, the public touring system for arts for children) in 2010.

All performances by Katma go on tour, and the company is one of the groups in Norway to perform the most every year.

The company's latest performance *Ritsj* was rewarded with 6/6 and critics wrote: "The magic is set from the first moment, and from there it keeps growing. It's baffling how Katrine Strøm succeeds again, and again, and again..." (Harstad Tidende).

Ritsj is a performance about tape. Rolls of colourful tape that sticks, rolls, stacks and can be pulled out as long threads. How does the tape sound? How does it feel when touched? *Ritsj*, and it's torn apart.

Ritsj invites the audience to a world of wonder and participation. After the performance, the children will be invited to join the actors to play with the tape. The performance is suitable for children of 1-4 years of age.

KATMA



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Current performances

vástádus eana - the answer is land

Ribadit

Beatnaga - Don't judge the dog by its fur

Photo

Torgrim Halvari

Elle Sofe Sara, based in Guovdageaidnu/ Kautokeino, is a choreographer and director who works interlacing video art, filmmaking, theatre and dance. In her works she regularly sheds light on the social, political and cultural peculiarities and challenges of the Sami People. She holds a master's degree in Choreography from Oslo National Academy of the Arts, and she studied dance at the Laban School of Dance in London. Elle Sofe is one of the founders of Dáiddadállu/ Sami artist collective.

Elle Sofe is Arctic Arts Festival's artist in residence in 2020-2021. In 2019, she won the Moon Jury award for her short film *Ribadit* at Imagine Film Festival in Toronto, Canada. In April 2020, she is a keynote speaker at Future(s) of Dance Education(s), an International Conference at Norwegian University of Science and Technology. Elle Sofe is also one of four selected talents in Talent Norway's filmmakers' program.

With the new participatory dance work *vástádus eana - the answer is land*, choreographer Elle Sofe Sara and seven performers celebrate activism and collective unrest. The performance starts outdoors and invites the audience into a transitory experience, in which movements and yoik-singing will be the fuel to gradually conquer the stage of a theatre.

vástádus eana - the answer is land poetically reflects on the power of standing together and the awareness for the common ground and nature that we stand on.

ELLE SOFE SARA



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Current performances

Lost in the horizon

Photo

Sergey Zhigaltsov

Samovarteateret is a professional performing arts company, which for 30 years has created brand new, transnational performing art. It was founded in Kirkenes in 1990, by Bente S. Andersen. The company consists of four performing artists and one administrator. Samovarteateret engages 15-25 artists from different countries every year, and tours in Europe, The Barents Region and Norway.

Samovarteateret creates performances through its own "Samovar methodology"; a method where text, movement, music, different cultures and languages are merged into a whole.

In the performance *Lost in the horizon*, the company focuses on borders, horizons and how they affect us as human beings, our hopes, dreams and everyday life. A highly relevant performance, seen in the light of today's worldview.

According to the UN, today a quarter billion human beings are moving across national borders, in search of a better future. At the same time, new walls and border zones are created all over Europe, all over the world. Closed borders. Strictly protected borders.

"That which has a price, can be replaced by something of equal value. That which is raised above any price, has its dignity. All human beings have an inherent dignity. Our duty is to preserve humanity's dignity – within ourselves" - Immanuel Kant

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Current performances

Juoiggas! (Yoik!)

Áillohaš/yoik and poetry

Photo

Aslak Mikal Mienna

Per Heimly

The Sami National Theatre Beaivváš is a professional theatre company based in Guovdageaidnu/Kautokeino, Finnmark, Norway. Beaivváš has made it a priority to consistently perform all their plays in Sami language. The theatre tours Sami areas in Norway, Sweden and Finland several times annually, and occasionally presents performances in Sami-speaking areas in Russia as well. In addition, the company regularly tours outside of the Nordic countries to highlight and showcase Sami culture on an international stage.

The Sami National Theatre Beaivváš wants to:

- Function as a national stage for all Sami, regardless of where they live.
- Function as an important culture bearer and mediator of Sami history, cultural values and identity.
- Produce engaging performances where Sami imagery and storytelling feature heavily throughout.
- Function as an important stage for Sami traditional music productions. The Sami National Theatre Beaivváš aims to make contemporary Sami yoik performances and other Sami musical productions available to the majority in the Nordic countries.

The Sami traditional music yoik is one of Northern-Europe's oldest music forms. In the concert performance *Juoiggas (Yoik!)*, the Sami National Theatre Beaivváš delves into the history and function of yoik through the ages. The audience gets to experience yoik as an authentic, close and personal expression, given from one person to another. They get to hear the old yoik poems that travelled and inspired Europe's poets in the late 1600s, and together we make a musical journey in time and space, through the ages up until our modern age.

THE SAMI NATIONAL THEATRE BEAIVVÁŠ



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Current performances

SMELT
Eksogen

Photo

Alexander Browne
Sofie Westvik

Intakt is a recently established Northern Norwegian contemporary dance company with dance artists Lise Damsgård, Sofie Westvik and Mathilde Caeyers. The company was founded in 2018 with the purpose of taking part in developing the professional dance scene in the Tromsø region. A long-term goal is to expand and become a dance company for contemporary dance representing the north of Norway, both nationally and internationally. Intakt wants to present young, interdisciplinary contemporary dance created through collaboration with other creatives from the region.

SMELT (Norwegian for melt) is about beautiful destruction. The process of melting is embodied through dance in a powerful and visual experience, made for further reflection. *SMELT* stems from an increased yearning for ice and our close association with Arctic nature and the sea. Three dancers give soul to the ice and explore its movements. The ice is moving slowly and fast, it lives, tumbles, melts and disappears. In this performance, Intakt wants to suggest an underlying taint to initiate reflection on climate change.

SMELT is the second production by Intakt and will open during Vårscenefest, on the 29th of April 2020.

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Current performances

TOBIAS
Monster i Magen
Utvik Senior

Photo

Marius Fiskum

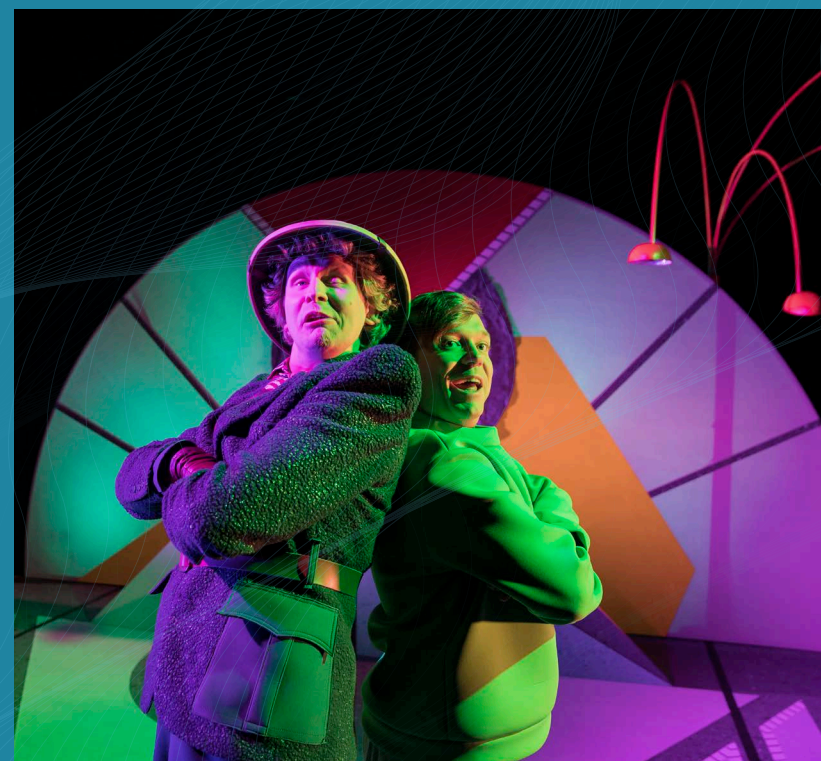
Rimfrost productions creates touring theatre for a young audience. The company's productions are mostly text-based, grounded in interviews, but the artists' background from physical theatre makes the space and physics an equal partner in the expression. The company experiments with form, space, venues and how to approach the audience. Form follows function.

Rimfrost has been under the artistic direction of actor Kristine Myhre Tunheim since 2010, and consists of her, Alexander Rindestu and Jeanette Solbakken. The company is project-based and collaborates with various artists according to the project's direction and needs.

TOBIAS is Rimfrost Productions' most critically acclaimed performance. It was produced with The Arctic Theatre and won the prestigious Norwegian theatre award The Hedda Award for best production for children in 2018, and it has received impressive reviews. Since the premiere in November 2017, the production has been performed for more than 22 000 children and adults all over Norway. *TOBIAS* is a performance about identity, dinosaurs and friendship, for children aged six years and up. It is based on conversations with children and adults about gender identity.

The company is currently working on a translation of the text, as Jenny Svensson/ Rimfrost productions is looking to reach an international audience as well, and will be able to present an English version of the text at IETM Tromsø in April. The English-language version will be performed by Norwegian actors, in a new touring-friendly version.

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Current performances

Kjærlighet Whatever

Photo

Jamie Michael Bivard

The Norwegian-Russian Theatre RuNo is a privately owned theatre company. Its most important purpose is to develop the international theatre environment in Tromsø. The main focus of the artistic development activities of the theatre is creating and conducting multi-language and interdisciplinary projects.

Kjærlighet Whatever is a multi-genre performance. It involves poetry, music (singing and instrumental music), acting and dancing. Poetry and singing form the core of the performance. Its important features are declamation and songs, performed in their original languages. The aim of the performance is to show the wealth of means and ways to express the most beautiful of all human emotions - love - in works of art that belong to diverse cultural traditions around the world. Despite this diversity, all these artistic paths highlight the eternal spiritual greatness and power that this feeling brings into a human life. On the whole, the performance is oriented towards multicultural audiences. Therefore, the concept of the project - "both to feel and to understand" - includes the above-mentioned components, where the art and technology in the natural synthesis provide a complete experience of the performance.

THEATRE RUNO



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Current performances

HAÍRESIS - Songs from the end of the world

W i P - Wittgenstein in Process

The Odyssey - Everything is a remix

Photo

Elisabeth Kristensen

Ida Løken Valkeapää grew up in Oslo and studied acting at HB Studio in New York (1995/96) and The Theatre Academy in Helsinki (1997-01). She has been working as a freelance actor in Finland, Sweden and Norway since 2001, and she lives in Tromsø.

I have been attracted to the north since I was quite young. The nature. The mentality. The stories. The raw beauty.

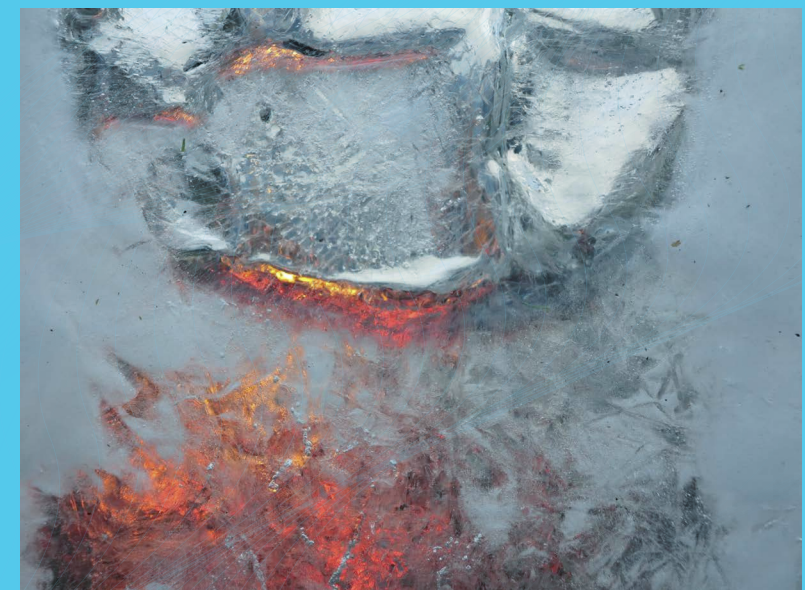
She describes her work as storytelling-concerts, using electronic soundscapes. The sound of our time, she calls it.

People, thoughts, stories inspire me, in my investigation of what it means to be a human being. I like to draw lines backwards and forwards, from the age of the ancient Greeks to Science Fiction. I play with language and speech, the musicality in the text and the narration in the music. They are closely linked and of equal importance in my compositions.

Her latest pieces include *The Odyssey - Everything is a remix!* with DJ Runther (2017), and *W i P - Wittgenstein in Process* (2018) with the pop jazz-musicians Solveig and Thea Wang.

HAÍRESIS - Songs from the end of the world is based on the witch trials in Finnmark in northern Norway in 1600-1692, discussing collective action in relationship to the individual. With jazz vocalist and composer Tone Åse and a choir (Vardø Damekor). The performance has its premiere in June 2020, during Arctic Arts Festival.

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Current performances

Love and the Ocean
Ritsj

Photo

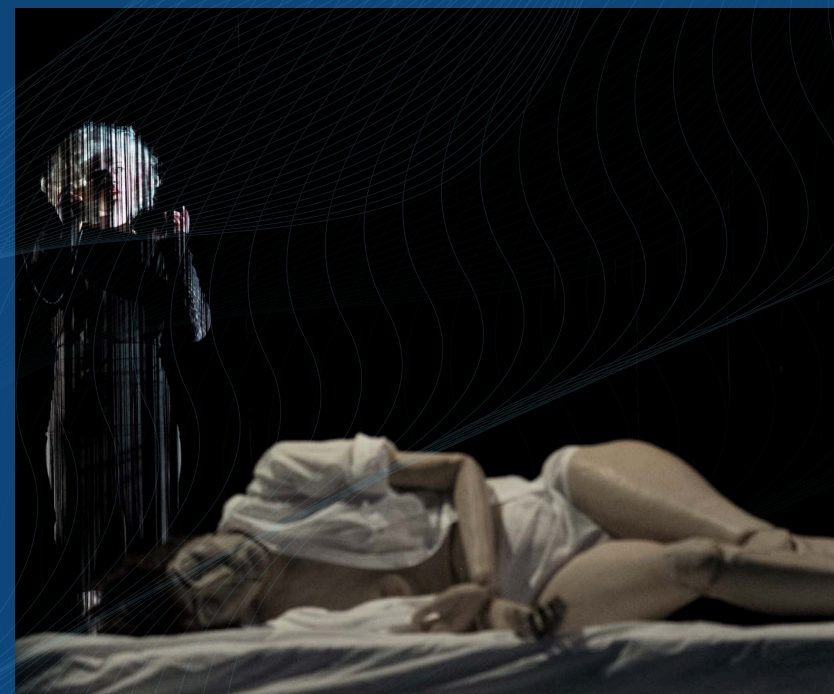
Knut Bry
©BenoitSchupp

Nordland Visual Theatre (NVT/ Figurteatret i Nordland) is a production and residency centre for visual theatre and puppetry, based in Stamsund, Lofoten, Norway. NVT offers co-production, pre-project development and residencies. The program is aimed at professional project creators and performers within puppetry and visual theatre. It is open for both Norwegian and international project creators.

NVT plays a key role in developing and promoting visual theatre in Norway. The theatre creates co-productions ranging from traditional puppet theatre to cross-over productions merging elements from visual arts, theatre, mime, dance and multimedia. This is done in co-production with theatre companies and artists from all over the world. Apply for a co-production at NVT now!

Between 10-20 NVT co-productions are constantly on tour. Every year NVT co-productions perform approximately 500 times for 30 000-50 000 spectators all over the planet. Check our website to find out where to see a show made at NVT.

NORDLAND VISUAL THEATRE



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Current performances

Veggen/ The Wall

Photo

Jonas Jessen

Trine Fjellstad and Jonas Jessen have collaborated for many years, on projects for children and youth. Trine was educated at The National Academy of Ballet (KHIO, Oslo National Academy of the Arts) and Norwegian Academy of Music. She was the producer of the project *Glitterbird*, dans for de aller minste at Dansens Hus/National stage for dance in Oslo. She has worked as a choreographer at The Norwegian Theatre, Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation (NRK) and the music award *Spellemannsprisen*, and she works with performances for children and youth in Hammerfest. Jonas Jessen has a master's degree from Aarhus University, and a bachelor's in communication from Roskilde University. Jonas has worked with children and youth through Red Cross and other international projects as *One song for Copenhagen*.

Veggen (The Wall) is a performance and a workshop dealing with identity and body, using film and movement to view oneself in different situations. Light and darkness are used to tell stories through movement and facial expressions.

The theme of the workshop is the gymnastics ladder. How can we move in it? How does it affect us? In the dark, our senses are sharpened, as is the knowledge of seeing and being seen. The children's presence, expression, energy and joy emerge in short moments that underline how playfulness can express itself. *Veggen* shows how children's ideas and the use of space and movements can be transformed into a playful, creative and poetic expression.

Veggen has been performed during Arctic Arts Festival (2018) in Harstad and DanseFestival Barents (2018) in Hammerfest. The performance has been invited to Iceland in 2020.

FJELLSTAD/JESSEN



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Current performances

DOAJVVA - *håp*

STAALOE - *to fight the giants*

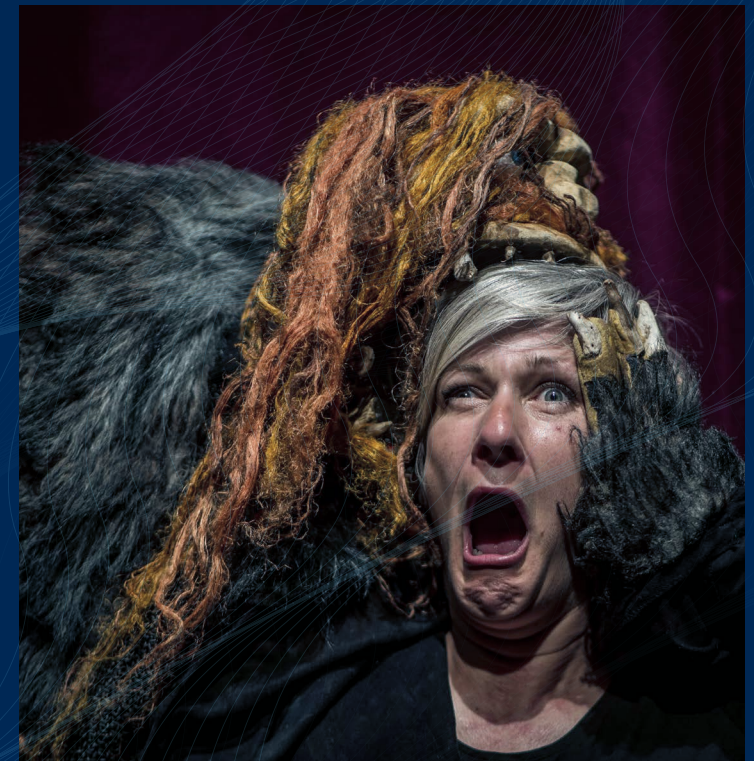
Photo

Bjørn Leirvik

The Åarjelhsaemien theatre is promoting and developing Southern Sami performing arts. The Southern Sami language and culture are essential in this work. The theatre will continue the historical collaboration with the Southern Sami area on the Swedish side and is a theatre for the entire Southern Sami area in Norway. Åarjelhsaemien Theatre works with professional artists, amateurs, other theatres, Norwegian and Sami schools. The theatre is based in Mo i Rana.

DOAJVVA - *håp*, In the summer of 2018, eleven people from the small village Tysfjord appeared in the VG newspaper. They were all sexually abused as children. Here we have parents, siblings, children, grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousins. We have all those who think and believe something, all those who think they know. Here stands an entire society. Tysfjord is a Sami village. A minority fighting for their language and their traditions. This is a story of a girl who is on the doorstep of adulthood. She is a daughter, a Sami and a part of a small community. She faces the past with sorrow and uncertainty but looks to the future with courage and hope.

ÅARJELHSAEMIEN TEATERE



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Current performances

Marja-Liisa Orgelsuite

Photo

Odd-Inge Larsen

Mariann Torset has composed new tunes in folk style since the 1990s. Her tunes are well known among folk musicians in northern Norway. In 2010 she fell deeply in love with a tiny pump organ she got from Finland, which she named "Marja-Liisa". In 2012 she composed the music (for fiddle and Marja-Liisa) for five male folk dancers in the dance company Kartellet. In 2018, she made her big dream come true; writing music for six tiny pump organs that could move around among the audience.

Pump organs have played an important part as a supporting instrument in Finnish and Swedish folk music for more than 100 years. Back in the days, the pump organ was mainly used to accompany singing in schools and community halls, but today the instrument plays a central part for many of the best-known folk musicians in the Nordic countries.

Marja-Liisa Orgelsuite or *Marja-Liisa Organ Suite* is a musical meeting of six portable pump organs from the Nordic countries. The concept and musical compositions were made by Mariann Torset from Målselv, and the performance was commissioned by the Kalottspel festival in 2018. The musicians who perform the *Marja-Liisa Organ Suite* have very diverse backgrounds, but they all have strong bonds with their pump organs. The organ suite is both a concert and a performance. *The Marja-Liisa Orgelsuite* has toured throughout Norway, as well as Northern Sweden and Finland. Sigurd Johan Heide (of Kartellet) has provided the choreography, which is evident in the harmonious movements in the performance.

MARIANN TORSET



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Current performances

Imagine a Spot - Cello Edition

Golden Room

Photo

A. Eilertsen

Under the artistic direction of Andreas Eilertsen and Cristina Granados, E&G Theater Company has developed its artistic activity since 2006, with its own theatre since 2009. The company bases its experience in expressive physical theatre. For several years Eilertsen & Granados Theater Company has worked searching for new ways of expression by combining the different disciplines that define contemporary art, and by collaborating with other professionals to bring multiple ways of expression closer to one another. The ensemble is essential to the creative process. The method of work and research is based on the meeting between the group members, the agreement and conflict in creativity, without compromise, in order to achieve maximum impact on the audience and the artists.

The most recent productions, *Imagine a Spot - Cello Edition* and *Golden Room*, were both created in collaboration with musicians and dancers. At the core of *Golden Room* is two women's struggle for their safety as human beings in the world, and their search for freedom. *Imagine a Spot* is the result of spontaneous artistic, music and theatrical improvisation, a look into an artist's head, as a slow metaphysical mise en abyme effect.

EILERTSEN & GRANADOS THEATER COMPANY



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Current performances

Shrink
Spheres
Merzbau
Nemo Observatorium
Homo Religiosus

Photo

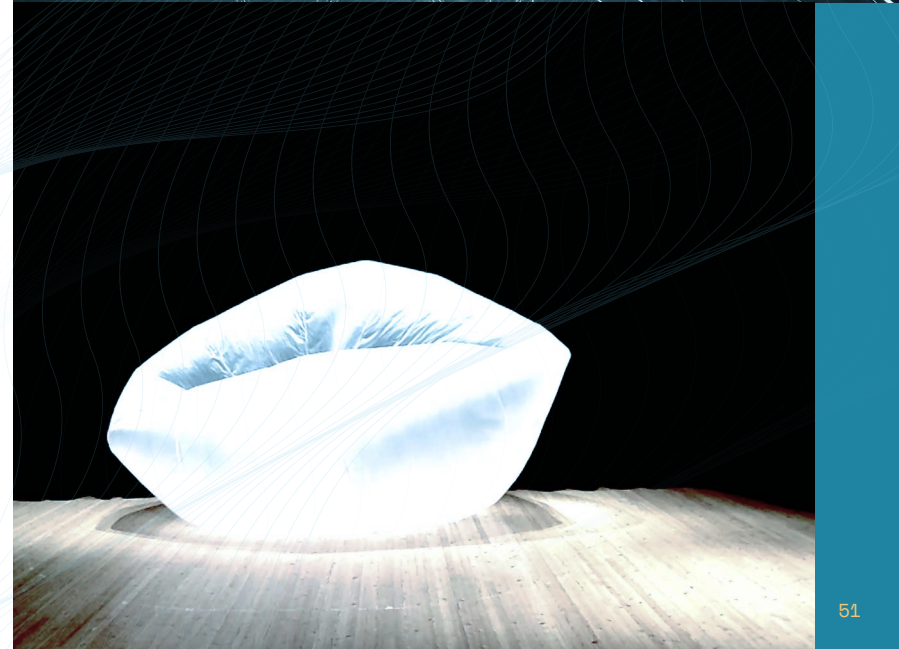
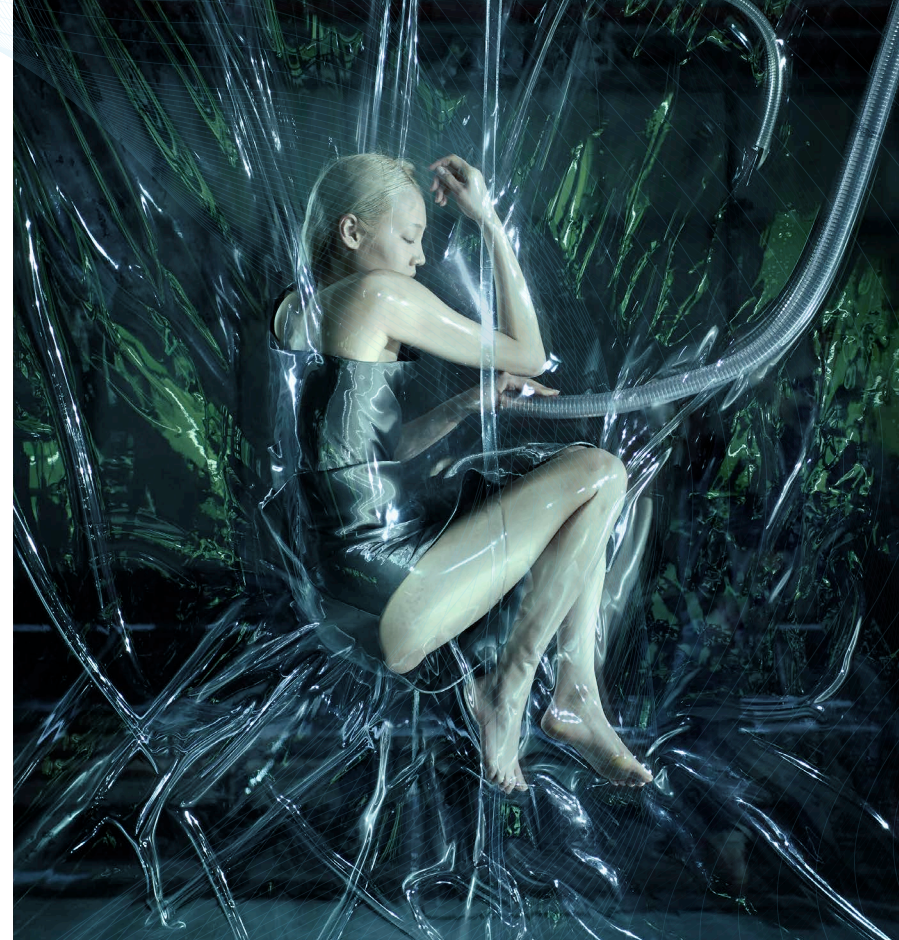
Steve McCurry
Lawrence Malstaf

The work of Lawrence Malstaf can be situated on the borderline between the visual and the theatrical. He develops installation and performance art with a strong focus on moving objects, coincidence, order and chaos, and a series of sensorial rooms for individual visitors. He also creates larger mobile environments dealing with space and orientation, often while using the visitor as a co-actor. His projects often involve advanced technology as a point of departure or inspiration, but also to activate the installations.

Lawrence Malstaf has won several international awards in the field of art and new technology and is also known in the global dance community as an innovative scenographer. He currently lives and works in Tromsø (Norway). He exhibits and performs internationally and is represented by Tallieu Art Office in Brussels.

Currently touring with *Shrink*, a performance-installation where people are vacuum-packed between large sheets of transparent PVC. A device gradually sucks the air out from between them and leaves the bodies vacuum-packed and vertically suspended. A transparent tube inserted between the two surfaces allows the person inside the installation to regulate the flow of air. As a result of the increasing pressure between the plastic sheets, the surface of the packed body gradually freezes into multiple micro-folds. For the duration of the performance the person inside moves slowly and changes positions, which vary from an almost embryonic position to one resembling a crucified body.

LAWRENCE MALSTAF



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