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Reporting on my experiences while attending an Erasmus+ Staff Mobility in Vienna

According to the initial plan for my stay, first and foremost I was focusing on future career planning and on developing the curriculum of my future courses while being surrounded by the inspiring atmosphere of the ImPulsTanz Festival. In the evenings, with a colleague of mine, Petra Péter, we were watching performances (Jan Fabre / Troubleyn: *The Generosity of Dorcas*, Silke Huysmans & Hannes Dereere: *Mining Stories*, Simon Mayer: *Oh Magic*, Jamila Johnson-Small: *I Ride In Colour And Soft Focus, No Longer Anywhere*), an exhibition on the cult mystification of Butoh (Choy Ka Fai: *The Wind That Cuts the Body*) and a screendance (Jorge León: *Before We Go* with Simone Aughterlony, Benoît Lachambre, Meg Stuart), while during the day, in various locations of the city, we were discussing our current PhD researches and their impact on the present Dance Studies field emerging in Hungary.

A great amount of the witnessed productions were relying on social issues and were trying to raise awareness and a sense of togetherness, either through storytelling or by a soundscape. A lot of them I found following the lineage of Nicholas Bourriaud's 'relational aesthetics' that considers the theatre or art exhibition as an event created for encounters. The film *Before We Go* was based on no other idea than how to establish a connection between a non-professional, elderly person and those famous and still active within the performing arts framework. I found this artistic intention very interesting for my research that intends to think about community and participatory dance often as distinct categories, because the first applies dance as a tool or weapon, while the other just creates (a ritual) space for a (spiritual) meeting.

In terms of the above mentioned plan, with Petra we came to the conclusion that not only the local dance scene, but even we could benefit from starting a Dance Studies Reader Group and thus we laid its foundation. We also discussed how to increase the quality of academic writing among the students of BCDA, and in what way their engagement at the classes could potentially become more intensive – all for the sake of creating valuable (artistic research) theses and presentations. As to sum up, I found our time in Austria very fruitful because of the reasons enlisted, and because of being able to purchase precious professional editions, too e.g. a DVD on Anna Halprin (*Dancing Life / Danser la vie*). Thank you; I am grateful to had been given the opportunity of the mobility grant.

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