



School: Bath School of Music and Performance

Researcher: Prof. Dr. Thomas Kampe

Project Title: Releasing the Archive

UOA: 33 Music, Drama, Dance, Performing Arts, Film and Screen Studies

Research Questions

The practice-led choreographic project asked and revealed an emerging set of questions concerned with stimulating embodied & affective ways of engaging with marginalised dance histories and their ethico-aesthetic & political dimensions:

- How can we repair and revitalise the significance of Viennese Ausdruckstanz through making explicit its corporeal and emancipatory dimensions?
- How can we raise awareness of the European Jewish dance diaspora in particular work that continued in Australasia after the second world war?
- How can we re-activate, document and disseminate nearly-lost European Jewish modern dance histories & practices through choreographic process and products?
- How can we develop new soma-ecstatic working processes, as archival acts of repair that bridge contemporary processes of embodied learning with historical, nearly forgotten, modernist expressive dance practices as tools for contemporary dance making?
- What can contemporary appropriations of these methods do for dancing subjectivity today?
- How can we articulate a critical understanding of body-codings, working modes and choreographic vocabularies embedded in these historical practices through somatic inquiry?
- How can we find relevant contemporary forms of expression, production and presentation in the un-archiving of such material?

- How can we articulate, test and build upon emancipatory ethico-political dimensions of early modernist practices through somatic-informed dance inquiry?
- How can we develop new understandings of proto-somatic body-culture practices & their impact on Modern Dance and contemporary somatic practices, through choreographic inquiry and theorization?
- How can we foster new understandings how notions of the autonomous critical self as foundations of modernist citizenship are historically embedded within the construction of contemporary somatic practices?