

Within the project **Gestures Blooming - Strengthening the dance ecosystem in Romania**, a series of workshops for young professional and emerging artists were organized in Targu-Mures, Iasi, Bucharest and Constanta, coordinated by guest trainers from France and Germany.

* The experimental workshop **ContempL - LiSiLoG - WHEN BODY PLAYS** took place in **Târgu-Mureș** from 9 to 13 October, consisting of a series of interdisciplinary artistic creation and research activities. The workshop was facilitated by an eclectic collective of artists active on the French scene: Daniel Pop - contemporary dance choreographer, Jessie Gicquiaux - hip hop dancer, Vincent Geoffroy - composer, Christophe Lebreton - light designer and Jean Geoffroy - musician and pedagogue who contributed to the development of the [LiSiLog](#) interactive system. A complex digital device, LiSiLog allows the development of new scenic situations in which, through movement, the performer manipulates light and sound. The stage thus becomes an instrument and the performers develop a new kind of relationship with sound and space. A highly flexible interface that evolves throughout the creative process, it allows the performer to integrate their own sounds, providing an experimental and exploratory dimension that makes LiSiLog a unique tool for sound and stage research.

The workshop was organized in partnership with the Institute of Theatrical and Multimedia Research in Târgu-Mureș (ICTM) of the University of Arts in Târgu Mureș (UAT), the "Studio" Theatre in Târgu-Mureș, the cultural association "ART12PM" for the local artistic community (students and young performing artists).

* In **Iasi**, between 24-28 November, choreographer and dance pedagogue Sigal ZOUK (Germany) coordinated an intensive contemporary dance workshop for students of the Faculty of Theatre - Choreography specialization, organized in partnership with the George Enescu University of Arts Iasi.

The workshop combined physical effort and body technique with the development of awareness, proposing various improvisation patterns designed to enhance and fine-tune the synchronization of physical, mental and emotional awareness and sensitivity of the individual. The workshop aimed to heighten awareness of one's own body and the space around, to improve the ability to move from one state to another. Participants were able to learn how to use their mental and emotional state of the present moment as a starting point from which to connect with the performative tasks in any work/creation process, regardless of stylistics or dance form, with extension to any performance art.

[Sigal Zouk](#) is a dancer/artist working in Berlin since 1997. She trained at the Emek Izrael School

of Dance and joined the Bat-Sheva ensemble between 1994 and 1996. After moving to Berlin and working with artists such as Luc Dunberry and Juan Cruz Dias de Esanola, she became a member of Sasha Waltz and Guests from 1999-2004. In 2005, she began her collaboration with Meg Stuart/Damaged Goods; first as a dancer, and then as choreographic advisor/external eye for Stuart and Gehmacher's work, as well as Stuart's upcoming work. In 2007, she began her long-term collaboration with Laurent Chetouane, creating 10 dance and theatre works for the stage. She has also worked with Boris Charmantz (Musée de la Danse), AWST & Walter, Zeirkratzer, Simone Aughterlony, Ian Kaler, Antje Shupp and Shanon Conny. In recent years, she has begun to develop her teaching practice, where she guides professional dancers to locate their sensitive body as a presence that has the potential to navigate in and through any situation. She teaches in several European dance departments and institutions including [Tanzfabrik Berlin](#), [HZT University Center for Dance Berlin](#), [ZZT Hochschule für Music und dance Köln](#), [The Danish School of Performing Arts - DDSKS Copenhagen](#), [DOCH Stockholm](#), Cullberg Ballet Stockholm, CNDBucurești Dance and Performance Academy, Suzanne Dellal Center Tel- Aviv and [Ponderosa](#). Sigal Zouk collaborates with artists and choreographers such as Jared Gradinger/Angela Schubot, Meg Stuart, Sheena McGrandles, Antje Shupp, The Progressive Wave, Tamara Rettenmund, Mor Demer, Shannon Conney and Moritz Majce, helping them to work with their limits and potential. She received the award for best performer at the 2010 Dortmund Festival, as well as Tanz Magazine's dancer of the year award 2011.

- The [Uncreative dance](#) workshop, coordinated by Moritz Ostruschnjak (Germany), took place in **Bucharest**, as part of the [Iridescent festival 2023](#), from 29 November to 1 December.

- The last workshop in the series Gestures Blooming 2023 took place in **Constanta** on 5-7 December and was coordinated by dancer and choreographer Julien-Henri Vu Van Dung (France). The workshop was organised in partnership with Ovidius University - Faculty of Arts/Performing Arts - Choreography and Regina Maria College of Arts Constanta. The workshop was organized as a diptych with two sessions/day: in the morning with students & young dancers, and in the afternoon with students from the Regina Maria College of Arts, choreography specialization. The workshop approached dance technique from a contemporary and sensitive angle, bringing the notion of momentum/impulse back to the heart of the learning process, to create a toned, available and organic dance. Participants were invited to revisit the technical

elements of classical technique to reflect together on how these elements, while remaining the same physically, if they can be hijacked. The workshop looked at technique in relation to physical phenomena, the notion of matter (so important in contemporary dance), the quality of the body, rhythm and impulse, as it is the impulse itself that initiates all movement. Thus, the participants worked with technical gestures (jumps, turns, etc.) in a less academic but equally precise way, in order to discover their different facets. In addition, elements from the Sylvain Groud/Ballet du Nord repertoire were passed on, combining technical skill and momentum.

[Julien-Henri VU VAN DUNG](#) trained at the National Conservatory of Music and Dance in Lyon. At the end of his studies, he joined the MAD company led by Sylvain Groud, whose assistant he is currently and with whom he continues to collaborate at the National Choreographic Centre of Roubaix/Ballet du Nord since 2018. He has also collaborated as a performer with Carolyn Carlson, Thomas Lebrun at the Centre Chorégraphique National de Tours, La BaZooka and Daniel Larrieu. In 2021 he joined the PLAY / Michèle Murray company. In the fall of 2022 he created the company BALSAMAIRE and premiered his first creation, Homer Guelem.

He holds a state diploma as a contemporary dance teacher and is interested in pedagogy as well as transmission.