

A HUNDRED. MAPPING CONTEMPORARY DANCE RESOURCES IN EUROPE

There's limited information for artists and producers and for organisations in search of partners for exchange and collaboration.

The European Dancehouse Network commissioned an action research project in order to explore how knowledge exchange across networks can contribute to a mapping process.

A Hundred. Mapping contemporary dance resources in Europe is not an exhaustive study, but a preliminary data gathering exercise – an exploration of how this information might be distilled and disseminated. As an applied research methodology, it has been developed as a reflective process in which the outcomes can contribute to inform and evolve the research actions.

It is meant to capture a picture of some centres (be these established institutions or new entities, networks or festivals) that support dance and have a strong international projection within their core mission or vision. It might act as guiding framework for artists and professionals, helping them to make connections with each other.

What is it?

- An initiative of EDN – European Dance House Network
- An attempt to capture the big picture and distil it in a hundred: what are the spaces, festivals and organisations that promote and support contemporary dance and stimulate international dialogue and collaboration
- A collection of data and knowledge for artists and professionals
- A guiding framework to visualise the field and better understand the dance ecology in Europe

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What is not?

- A comprehensive and exhaustive map of dance
- A hierarchical list of contacts
- A final or restrictive database

64 artists and representatives from dance organisations and festivals across Europe participated in the preliminary study through 5 workshops that were held between April and November 2015 coinciding with outstanding international dance meetings.

The knowledge and experience of invited participants informed and provided objective contributions to shape and develop the whole process. The research method used to gather data was based on a Focus Group model. The data analysis and criteria selection was then undertaken later on by the research coordinators resulting in 161 international resources documented. These include dance spaces, dance festivals, multidisciplinary festivals and/or venues programming dance, networks and projects and other resources.

Methodological approach description: <http://ednetwork.eu/2016/06/21/a-hundred-methodology-by-sheila-creevey/>

Results of the research process: <http://ednetwork.eu/a-hundred-mapping-contemporary-dance-resources-in-europe/>