



**WORKING LANGUAGE:  
ENGLISH**

**DANCE FOR CHILDREN OR YOUNG PERSONS:  
Approaches for Creative Work with Emphasis on Inclusion,  
Integrity and Empowerment**

**Workshop 1: Dancing in Circles**

**Content: Looking at ancient and present day circle work for dance, creative and otherwise.**

**SATURDAY, 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

**09.00 – 12.00**

**Art Academy Novi Sad (multimedial stage)**

**Đure Jakšića 7, Novi Sad**

Workshop leader:

**Karen Sofie Foss**, professor of Creative Dance at Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, Bergen

The workshop is intended for students / graduates of AUNS and the Faculty of Philosophy, educators and theatre artists.



**PLEASE, NOTE THAT:**

- Participation is open to persons with physical disabilities.
- Participants need not have danced before.
- Each workshop sheds light on information in the other dance workshops. However, it can also be understood separately.

What I am planning to do is elaborate on the qualities of exploration, discovery and discussion often found and used in dance work in schools in Norwegian context.

There will be physical work; however, a participant doesn't have to have danced before.

The dance shapes are simple and directed also to musical aspects found in present day contemporary dance work.

Some historical elements might be included, such as references to earlier times and the dances done then (and still done today ...). We will look at present days' dance expression and the ever expanding diversity of the dance research dealing with amateurs, i.e. children and young persons. And we will look at how creative dance work draws on professional contemporary dance art and other art expressions. So, there is some relevance in the workshop also for professional dance workers.

We will reflect and discuss in particular on the challenges of **inclusion**, since dance is often associated with youth and "normal" bodies, hence the implicit thought is that some persons are excluded from dance work. However, the field of dance today is very busy exploring and finding how any body is dancing - from early to old age. In Norway this is a VERY important argument and experience for legitimizing the use of dance in schools: reflecting the even stronger education politics of installing democratic values during school years through the different subject matters the kids are involved in while in school.

I will use some references to Dance modernists and Postmodernists (Isadora Dunca, Rudolf Laban/Gert Palucca, Trisha Brown/Steve Paxton, Katherine Dunham/Martha Graham - and others ...).

I plan to switch between doing dance and giving dance info per visuals as a way to rest participants from dance.

I will attempt to deliver clear tools for use by the participants, i.e. exercises they may want to try with their school children. Does "applicable in Norwegian context" mean the same in Serbia? this would be up to discussion amongst the participants: the relevance for different realities...

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