Introduction

The Croatian dance scene, strong in talent and innovative ideas, is becoming all the more present on European stages. *The Guide to Croatian Dance* is published to support this internationalization of Croatian dance, as an insight into current dance production. It is primarily meant for selectors and programmers of dance festivals who are interested in lesser known, but emerging scenes. As well, it will be of use to all those intrigued by who is dancing in Croatia and what themes are occupying Croatian artists.

The Guide to Croatian Dance includes all professional dance groups; from National Ballet Companies and established contemporary dance companies with a long tradition of working in the art of dance, to new groups committed to cross-media researches and body-based performance that are hard to define or be categorized in a clear genre. In addition, *the Guide* presents emerging artists that are boldly showing new directions, as well as projects that are on the margins of the professional scene, yet which are of importance for the overall picture of the Croatian dance scene. Omitted are those companies that currently have no productions available for touring, as well as amateur productions and dance for children.

For those more interested in the background and wider context of the Croatian dance scene, this *Guide* includes three additional texts. Dancing in Croatia, by Maja Đurinović, a leading dance critic, presents a short history of dance in Croatia. The text uncovers the beginnings that parallel the pioneering days of European modern dance and detects what are the most recent tendencies in young Croatian dance. The text on dance festivals brings information on three exclusively dance - only festivals that bring international dance artists to Croatia. The developments in dance theory and dance publishing are presented by Željka Turčinović in her text Writing on Dance.

The Guide to Croatian Dance will be updated biannually.

Welcome to Croatian dance!

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