

DIMITRI TSIAPKINIS

Master of Arts / Social Sciences

Choreographer and educator

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Birth date: April 3d, 1967

Nationality: Greek and French

Speaking/writing fluently: Greek, English, French, German



Artistic Experience

- 2011 to present **Omnivion, Tours, France**
Projects director & choreographer of a nonprofit association. Choreographed the solo *Golden Age* (2012), command of the **Thessaloniki Dance Festival** / National Theater of Northern Greece. Performed with a musician and an IT interface *Mechanics of B(ea/i)ts* (2015), in the Dance **Festival On Marche** (Morocco). Staged & choreographed *Barbebleue* for the Chorus singers of the **National Conservatory of Music in Vendôme**. Also, **director of Newtopia, an inclusive annual project** focused on dance and mental health with performances, and other events (Tours, France). *Newtopia* is subsidized by the French Regional Cultural Affairs and the City of Tours. In 2018 he created *Feux Oranges d'Ours*, a One-man-show combining dance and comedy.
- 2011 to present **Mawguerite, Brest, Dir.: Bernardo Montet, France**
Third period of collaboration with the choreographer Bernardo Montet as a dancer / performer. Third touring session of the legendary piece *O.More* created in 2002. Dance education and choreography projects in schools, nonprofits and hospitals.
- 2018 to present **Lasko Theater Company, Dir. : Isabelle Elizéon, Brest, France**
Dancer-performer for the theater directeur and researcher Isabelle Elizéon, (contemporary theater, hybrid performances). Collaboration for *Transes ou les Métamorphoses Montet*, a research-creation on the work of the French choreographer Bernardo Montet.
- 2003-2011 **National Choreographic Center of Tours (CCNT), Dir. : Bernardo Montet, France**
Dancer-performer in numerous productions by the choreographer Bernardo Montet, one of the major representatives of the *nouvelle vague* of the eighties in France (meta-modern, physical theater and performance art). At the same period, choreographed the dance-theater solo *Delirium Tremens* (2010) subsidized both by the CCNT and the Greek Ministry of Culture.
- 2010 & 2018 **Tenebrae Film Productions, France**
Dancer-actor for the films *Narcisse fragments* (2010), a physical theater on the myth of Narcisse *and Temps des Crocodiles* (2019 – currently in production) a poetic film on the Greek financial crisis; both films by director Florence Doucet.
- 2002-2009 **XSOMA Dance Collective, Thessaloniki, Greece**
Artistic co-director, choreographer and performer of a nonprofit cultural association. Directed *zero-coma-one* (2002) and *Apnea* (2005) in Athens and in Thessaloniki (National Theater of Northern Greece). Organized numerous street performances in order to promote contemporary dance in Thessaloniki. XSOMA was nominated as most promising dance company in Greece for 2003 (Tanz Jahrbuch Magazine) and was subsidized by the Greek Ministry of Culture.
- 2000-2001 **National Dance Theater of Thessaloniki, Greece**
Dancer for the production *Invisible Cities* (Post-modern release-based esthetics) and soloist for a dance-theater adaptation of *Bluebeard* by Konstantinos Rigos.
- 1999-2003 **Mawguerite, Brest, Dir.: Bernardo Montet, France**
Second period of collaboration with the choreographer Bernardo Montet. During that period, among other works, performed *O.More*; a choreography that interrogates Shakespeare's *Othello* in a very abstract manner and which realized a successful tour in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

- 1998-1999 **ARTE Television Production, Paris, France**
Dancer-actor in the awarded movie *Beau Travail* by Claire Denis, shot in Djibouti. Performed abstract movement scenes between martial arts and dance.
- 1997-1999 **Asomates Dynameis, Dir.: Machi Dimitriadou-Lindahl, Paris, France**
Participated in *4 Little Prayers* and *Persephone*, creations by choreographer Machi Dimitriadou-Lindahl.
- 1995-1999 **National Choreographic Center of Rennes (CCNRB), Dir.: Catherine Diverrès, Bernardo Montet, France**
First collaboration with choreographer Bernardo Montet as a dancer for *Marguerites de l'Oubli* and *Cirque* (1995). Performed also the choreography *Corpus* (1999) by Catherine Diverrès.
- 1993-1995 **Tolada Dance Company, Dir.: Josef Tmim, Berlin, Germany**
Dancer for the dance-theatrical productions *Le Vent* and *Eiserne Wille* for the Israeli choreographer Josef Tmim (from the Batsheva dance Company; Neo-expressionist with Limon influence). At the same period with the support of the Tolada Company, co-choreographed with Tamara Stewart Ewing the physical theater duet *Fish in the Bottle*.
- 1991-1993 **Dance Berlin Company, Dir.: Eleonore Ickstadt & Josef Tmim, Berlin, Germany**
Dancer for the choreographers Eleonore Ickstadt (Mary Wigman student) and Josef Tmim. At the same period, with the support of the company, and a subsidy of Neuköln/Berlin, co-choreographed with Anja Röttgerkamp *Ex-Gudrun* (dance theater), with a positive review in Berliner Morgenpost, and a participation at the festival Tanz Winter am Halleschen Ufer (1993).

Award

- 2003 **Dancer of the year in Greece, in Tanz Jahrbuch Magazine, Germany.**
Nominated by critic and dance historian Natassa Chasioti (MA, University of Surrey, UK) for outstanding choreography & performances in the XSOMA company productions.

Teaching Experience in Universities

- 2021-2024 **School of Midwifery, Regional University Hospital of Tours, France**
Somatic practices and Tai Chi : Courses pour for the university students.
- 2020 **Dept. of Arts & Performance, Paraná Arts College (FAP), Curitiba, Brazil**
Contemporary dance: Workshop for the students of the FAP and local artists.
- 2014 to 2016 **Dept. of Dance, St. John University in York, United Kingdom**
Contemporary dance: Master classes and a choreography for the graduating students (: *Moon Eaters*, premiered November 2015 and toured 2016-2017).
- 2007-2011 **Dept. of Sports, Francois Rabelais University, Tours, France**
Contemporary dance: Regular weekly classes and workshops for the university's students.
- 2009-2010 **Dept. of Sports, Poitiers University, Poitiers, France**
Contemporary dance: Master classes and a choreography for the participating students from diverse departments (: *Pertus*, presented at the À Corps Festival).
- 2008 **Dept. of Dance, University of Chile, Santiago, Chile**
Contemporary dance: Master classes for students of the dance department and invited artists.
- 2008 **Dept. of Sports, University of Munich, Germany.**
Contemporary dance: Master classes for the University professors and the students.

Teaching Experience in State Institutions

- 2016-2018 **National Choreographic Center of Orléans (CCNO), France**
Contemporary dance professor: elaborated a mixed level weekly workshop in contemporary dance and somatic education.

- 2012-2020 **National Conservatory of Music, Dance & Theater, Tours, France**
Contemporary dance classes, anatomy and dance kinesiology basics for the high school and college dance curriculum of the ballet, contemporary and jazz departments.
- 2016-2017 **National Conservatory of Music & Dance, Brest, France**
Anatomy and dance kinesiology basics for the high school and college dance curriculum of the ballet, contemporary and jazz departments.
- 2003-2011 **National Choreographic Center of Tours (CCNT), France**
Contemporary dance professor and director of educational programs: elaborated numerous courses, workshops and master classes in contemporary dance and somatic education for professional dancers, actors and musicians. Was assigned dance-educational missions in France, Morocco, Martinique, Germany, Serbia, Turkey, Chili, Kenya, Mali and Madagascar. Gained additional experience through experimental projects with children, health professionals, the elderly and the mentally ill.
- 1999-2000 **National Conservatory of Music & Dance, Brest, France**
Regular classes of contemporary dance for the high school dance curriculum.

Teaching Experience for Cultural Non Profit Organizations

- 2011 to present **Mawguerite, Morlaix, France**
Contemporary dance classes and somatic awareness workshops for dancers, dance professors and health care professionals. Reinventing class structure by occasional collaborations with a Gnawa musician, or a sculptor, or an Afro-contemporary dancer.
- 2011 to present **Omnivion, Tours, France**
Contemporary dance classes and experimental somatic awareness workshops.
- 2008 to present **France Shaolin, Chinese Martial Arts Association, Tours, France**
Teaching assistant of Tai Chi (Chen style) for the 34th generation Shaolin Master Shi Yan Jun (France Shaolin association). Responsible for the warmup and mentoring for beginners.

Publications and presentations

- 2024 April Article on the 10 years of Newtopia, in the Art Brut Magazine: **Trakt #6, France & Belgium.**
- 2018 **19th Gathering Video & Mental Health/ Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie, Paris, France**
screening of the documentary by Bertrand Girard, Indigo Workshop / Danse in Psychiatry followed by a debate on arts and mental health. A testimony of the inclusive dance project of Dimitri Tsiapkinis in the CHU of Tours Organized by the nonprofit Mediapsy.
- 2018 **CNP - Studio Cinemas, Tours, France:** screening of the documentary by Bertrand Girard, Indigo Workshop / Danse in Psychiatry and debate. A testimony of the work of Dimitri Tsiapkinis at the Tours University Hospital and a debate on the place of the arts in a psychiatric environment.
- 2018 September Article on dance philosophy entitled ***Dance to Madness***, in the Art Brut Magazine: **Trakt #6, France & Belgium.**
- 2017 September Interview on dance and psychoanalysis entitled ***The Dance, The Body and the Gaze***, in the magazine: **Accès à la Psychanalyse, Issue 10, Angers, France.**
- 2016 March Invited talk on dance and somatics in a mental health institution at the: **Clinique B / Trousseau Hospital, Department of Medicine, University of Tours, France.**
- 2015 February Master Research work entitled: **"Relevance of a Contemporary Dance Pedagogy in the Psychiatric Context / Medical team survey of the University Hospital of Tours"**. Original title : *Pertinence d'une pédagogie de danse contemporaine en milieu psychiatrique / Enquête auprès de l'équipe soignante au CHRU de Tours*. Downloadable at the [UFP university website](#) (French language only).

- 2014 November Invited talk on my experience about dance and mental health, at the **3d Panhellenic Interdisciplinary Conference of Specialized Psychiatric Hospitals in Athens, Greece.**
- 2014 October Poster presentation of my research project Dance in Psychiatry at the: **WFMH 2014, International Congress of the World Federation for Mental Health & The Hellenic Psychiatric Association, Greece, Athens.**
- 2010 December Invited talk and a performance with patients, on dance and somatics in supporting patients to deal with suffering through dance: **Federation of Support to Mental Health Croix-Marine, Vinci Congress Center, Tours, France.**
- 2010 November Invited talk and performance with patients on dance and somatics in supporting patients to deal with suffering through dance: **18th Forum Health & HIV, University of Medicine, Tours, France.**
- 2008 December Performance & lecture on dance expressivity: **Dept. of Dance, University of Chile, Santiago, Chile.**
- 2008 October Invited talk on dance and somatics in a mental health institution at the: **Dept. of Medicine, University of Tours, France.**
- 2002 September Lecture on space perception through kinesthetic intelligence at the: **Dept. of Architecture, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece.**
- 2001 March Invited talk on dance and expressivity in a conference about explorations at the frontiers between art and science, at the: **Dept. of Art History, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece.**

Education

- 2015-2016 **National Joint Commission of Employment & Education, Noisy-le-Grand, France**
Professional Certificate / Sports & Leisure Instructor – specialization in Tai Chi.
Object: *Validation of acquired experience as assistant of the Shaolin Master Shi Yan Jun.*
- 2011-2014 **Fernando Pessoa University, Porto, Portugal**
M.A., Somatics - Pedagogy of perception / Social Sciences & Humanities.
Object: *Relevance of a Contemporary Dance Pedagogy in the Psychiatric Context.*
- 2005-2006 **Lisbon Modern University, Lisbon, Portugal**
A.S., Somatics - Pedagogy of perception / Social Sciences & Humanities.
Object: *Transmission of Kinesthetic Intelligence and Dance.*
- 2005-2007 **Graduate School of Somatic Education (ESSPP), Paris, France**
Professional Certificate / Movement Analysis & Somatic awareness.
Field: Anatomy of movement, Postural Reintegration, Sensitive Expressivity.
- 1999-2000 **National Center of Dance (CND), Paris, France**
State Diploma, Contemporary Dance Professor.
Field: Dance Pedagogy and Fundamentals of Contemporary Dance.
- 1988-1991 **University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Winston-Salem, NC, USA**
Professional Artist Certificate, Contemporary Dance Diploma (obtained in 1994).
Field: Modern and Contemporary Dance Techniques, Improvisation & Composition.
- 1985 **Baccalaureate in Social Sciences & Economy, at the 5th Lyceum of Thessaloniki, Greece**