

THE MODULAR SYSTEM



Modul – Dance Project

EDN – European Dancehouse Network

supported by the European Union
(Culture Programme 2007-13)



Education and Culture DG

Culture Programme



Partners

- Arts Stations Foundation (PL)
- CDC Toulouse (FR)
- CND Paris (FR)
- Consorci Mercat de les Flors (ES)
- Dance-Gate Dancehouse Cyprus (CY)
- Dancelreland Dublin (IE)
- Dansenshus Stockholm (SE)
- Dansescenen (DK)
- DDRC Athens (GR)
- DeVIR, associacio de actividades (PT)
- Europäisches Zentrum der Künste Hellerau (DE)
- Kino Šiška Centre for Urban Culture (SI)
- Maison de la Danse Lyon
- Plesna izba Maribor (SI)
- Station Zuid (NL)
- tanzhaus nrw Düsseldorf (DE)
- Tanzquartier Wien (AT)
- The Place London (GB)



Vision

- To build sustainable structures of continuous cross-boarder dialogue communication with existing dance institutions
- Through a systematic research and development of moduels of best practice it will be possible that also a smaller institution who cannot offer all parts of support of preofessional art creation can participate as well as artists who get stuck with the limitations of structures and financial means within their local community



Aim

Independent dancers in most European countries lack adequate structures and financial means to develop their creations and to make possible to promote themselves meeting with new audiences

The Aim of the Modul – Dance is:

- To support independent dance artists through a cross-national and trans-institutional dialogue and cooperation, with best possible professional advice and offering facilities which they could not get within their local dance scene
- The Modul - Dance is one answer to this lacks as it is an integrative approach to developing new forms of systematic support to artists who are ready to be exposed for new and culturally diverse contexts
- To take care that the experiences through carefully prepared mobility will become an advantage to their international experience and career



Short Profile

- The promotion of emerging artists and freelancers
- The structural improvement of local and regional dance structures
- The development of „Modules“ as a collaboration method between Dance Institution in Europe of different structures
- The sustainable process of audience development
- The development of best trans-institutional structures in different regional areas



Why a Modular System?

- One significant determinant of quality in dance art creation is the length of time required for the careful preparation in accomplishing different phases of the process of art creation (reflection, research, try out, finding the most appropriate: co- artists; place to première and, promoters of the work)
- Most independent dance artists and companies, usually receive only a limited subvention locally for a production, often produce and present within a very short time frame
- Most countries do not have (yet) a fully developed structure to offer a comprehensive best practice model of support of dance productions of independent dance artists
- Some larger dance houses may have more complex support structures and experiences to share their knowledge cross borders, but still lack in one or the other way







The Modular System

- It is:
A systematic inter-regional and trans-institutional coordination of support for dance art creation, dissemination and audience development at pan European level and beyond
- Main Purpose:
To address the artist's needs in the process of artistic creation, to offer the best available resources to support dance creation and dissemination
- Considers about:
What would be best to enhance artistic quality and artists' careers whilst at the same time as increasing the economic effectiveness of intercultural cooperation?

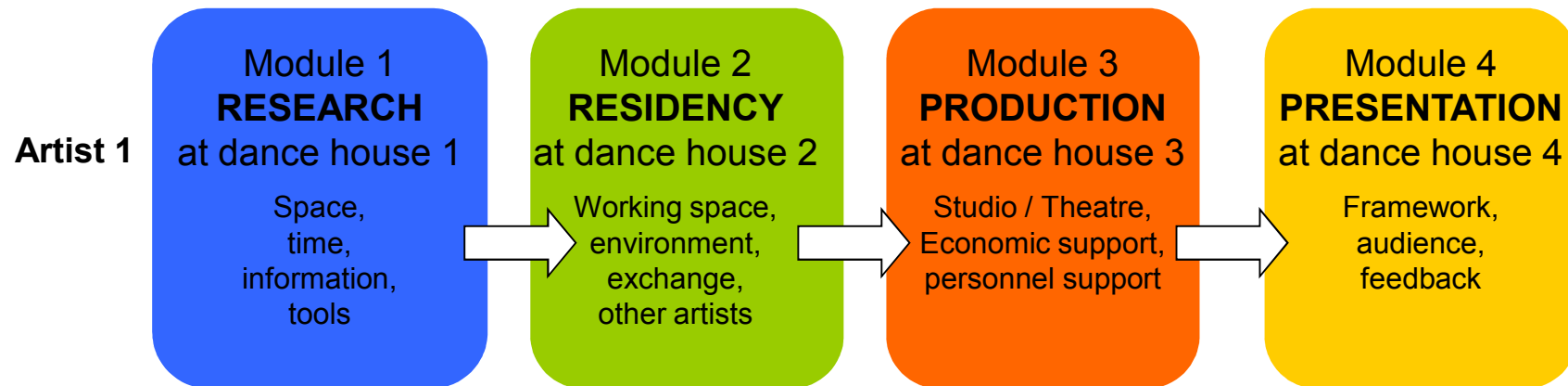


The Structure: 4 Phases

The Modular system contains of 4 basic phases, which is offered to selected artists for a max. time period of 2 years:

-  1. Research
-  2. Residency for work-in-progress
-  3. Production
-  4. Presentation and dissemination

The Modules





Phase 1: Research

- **Aim:**
To create/develop a concept; gather materials, partners; information exchange with local communities, looking at locations, venues, at political aspects
- **Description:**
The project artist and/or company are offered a 2-4 weeks research period based with one of the project partners



Phase 2: Residency for work-in-progress

- Aim:
To play with ideas, not yet focused on final solutions
- Description:
A residency of 3-8 weeks for the project artists and staff involved in a new art creation. (This is best undertaken in a dedicated space for residencies, not necessarily with the full production team.)



Phase 3: Production

- **Aim:**
Within a fixed time frame, the result will be the development of a production / stage presentation version
- **Description:**
A period of 4-8 weeks, based with a 3rd partner, in a studio or production theatre, with the full company



Phase 4: Presentation & Dissemination

- **Aim:**
Presentation of the production developed during the project, audience-related, and with special resources for PR and press material, documentation, video filming, dissemination and touring co-ordination
- **Description:**
Presentation of 1-3 performances at the venues of hosting partners as well as at venues of other project partners



Possible Benefits for the Artists

- The artists will benefit from working within the different dance houses in various ways:
- from meeting different audiences
- from experience of different work teams of the different houses
- different communications and organisational cultures
- specific legal and tax issues,
- forms of documentation, technical information, PR, etc.

Selection of Artists for Participation

- Addressed to emerging artists some who may attain recognition at European level
- Each project partner may make an initial proposal for participation by presenting the artist's request and profile; this will include:
information on the potential for other supporting and hosting partners, the presentation of the suggested modules, the timeframe, structure and, approximate costs of participation of the proposed artist

Basic Criteria for Selection of Artists

- The nominated artists should show documented evidence of previous work
- Being part of the modul-dance project should make a meaningful difference to the participating artist's career
- The artists should research and develop a new work idea through their participation in the modul-dance project
- The artists should show a clear commitment to participating for full the duration of their modul-dance involvement (a period of up to 2 years)



Evaluation

- The aim is to introduce the modular system into the regular collaboration process of partners to this project
The evaluation will be focussed on 4 basic questions:
- **1. Artist:**
Did they - and if so, how - benefit from the modular system?
- **2. Partner:**
How did the development of structure and collaboration/ communication and exchange impact at European level?
- **3. Mobility – artists in Europe:**
Did development of a tracking system / overview of artists' mobility throughout the European states work?
- **4. Regional development:**
How do the various artistic communities and audiences profit from the project?

More information:
www.ednetwork.eu



EDN – European Dancehouse Network

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