

CC-HD Residency Report for **“No Room 4 (MIS)takes”**
October 9 - 21, 2023

Choreographie: Luches Huddleston, jr.

Dramaturgie: Angela Wendt

Dancers: Giovanni De Buono

Ayako Kikuchi

Julia Headley

Miriam Markl

Light: Damian Chmielarz

I am very happy and honoured to have been accepted to research my newest work in the Choreographic Center Heidelberg. Since the founding of my dance company, **lil'luke**, in 2021 I have been on a journey of finding a place for my voice in the dance world. Having this opportunity allowed me to dig deeper into my work and understanding how to express myself through my choreography.

“No Rooms 4 (MIS)takes” is part of a bigger project that will premier on November 26, 2023 at Felina-Areal Theater in Mannheim. The project is about “Privacy” and how we look at it today after the great pandemic. The evening will start with a Parcour that will deal with the senses (taste, smell, hearing, etc.) The public will encounter different rooms that will question their attention to their own privacy. The second part of the evening will be a performance. The set up in the theater is very close, the audience will be onstage with the dancers and will be involved in the performance. Of course, the goal is to underline how we view performances. Will we allow our private self to be a part of the situations offered, or will we pull ourselves out of the situation to protect our private space.

In the dance world “Privacy” almost doesn’t exist. The distance from one another is not much recognised because we are accustomed to being very close together and working close together without feeling our space is being attacked or we are overwhelmed with closeness. After the pandemic I paid more attention to the distance in which people take from one another, almost as if, “Privacy” became a hypersensitive part of people’s lives. Before, people would stand close to you in the cue, or walk pass very closely, without thinking that they may be invading your “Privacy”. Now they began to notice when their own “Privacy” is taken away.

At the beginning of the residency I asked the dancers particular questions about Privacy.

1. What falls under Privacy
2. What is an attack on Privacy
3. Where does Privacy start, where does it stop
4. When does it start to feel hurt
5. How can I protect my Privacy
6. Why is it so important

Our daily work started with a training in ballet cause the style of dance I work with is a form of Horton crossed with neo-classical techniques.

Here are some task I set for myself:

1. Heads moving in sharp movements creating an image of a private conversation
2. How is the movement conversing privately with the music
3. Movements from the heart and from the brain
4. To wash someone
5. To undress
6. Pictures of body parts using as a light source

I was able to work out very quickly some movement phrases because of the space offered. But the actual challenge was to make these spatial expansive movements become more intimate and to express a more private situation. So, lighting became an important part of the process after researching with Damian. This gave an inspiring aspect in the research because I could play with the intimacy of the space and create many moments of Privacy.

I decided to work musically with “Goldberg Variations”. These variations offer many different short movements that can easily express a situation to be told and quickly understood. In the research I realised making short sequences may be more interesting to have a flow. Also, in the world of Tik Tok and Instagram, ones attention span is shortened and I want to play with that idea of making short clips.

We ended our 2 weeks residency with a showing of approximately 45 minutes long. The audience gave me some very nice feed-back that I definitely can be consider.

Some audience feed-backs:

1. Seating of the public
2. Why do the piece with 4 dancers and not 1, if it's about “Privacy”
3. Having the audience change their seat within the performance.

In all I am very happy to have been accepted to be involved in such a creative process with amazing and inspiring dancers and artist.

A million thanks to Jai and Bernhard!!