

# International ChoreoLab Austria 2014

ICLA COUNTRYLAB FROM 24-30 AUGUST 2014

Further transdisciplinary research and staging at Tanz Atelier Wien, Vienna:

ICLA CITYLAB FROM 1-6 SEPTEMBER 2014



## *Sounding* MOTION\_MEMORY

Art-based research in the interface of body, mind & nature  
at the Art & Nature Sanctuary of St. Margarethen/Burgenland

Tanz Atelier<sup>Wien</sup>  
Sebastian Prantl

# STRUCTURE

## I. CountryLab: pivot point of memory

The theme is determined by the interface of body & mind through memory. Memory, which human beings cultivate as an ongoing process, will be investigated in various artistic formats. Research on memory is done as long as art-making exists. Memory structures serve as basis in various study fields such as medicine, psychology and anthropology.

We will focus on spontaneous memory (in form of memory flashes) which can be collected, cultivated and structured by various association techniques and consciously transformed into new contexts. Further, we will focus on ritualized group memory, which will be observed in specific spaces. Memory structures/clusters consist of sequential episodes and become condensed over time like a sponge. Through art-based research, memory can be (re) activated, enriched and implemented in new forms and contexts – flourishing within multi-dimensional realms: creating images, kinetic spaces, filmic episodes, sound clusters, kitchen aromas and manifold (e)motions.

Through day-to-day practice, the economic structure of body memory will not only be limited and cultivated by means of dance and field work but also extended into speech, sound, film, and scripture work. The (re)creation and expansion of such combined skills will turn into choreographic structures – storing the material, thus challenging and transforming physical and mental efforts.

## II. CityLab: (de & re)construction of memory

The findings of the CountryLab are being condensed, enhanced, and abstracted while transforming and relocating them into the "White Cube" of the Tanz Atelier Wien. The elementary experience collected in nature will be distilled and (re)charged in various artistic formats within the urban space.





## CONTEXT

As Europe faces a new challenge in the very present – seeing freedom increasingly crushed in various geographic regions and the increasing globalisation providing dissatisfactory answers – new forums need to be created.

ICLA's goal is to develop skills and to stimulate networks for mastering the present challenges – especially when art-making becomes more and more driven by markets and loses its process-oriented backbone. A decelerated atmosphere may provide stimuli for profound collaborative work. The daily lectures, exercises and meetings are taking place in and around the Sculptors' House (a unique landmark building from the 1960ies) and are being complemented by shared alternative cooking and site-specific excursions. The ICLA CityLab will provide a complete round-up of the experience and stage the findings.

TEMPORALITY (past/present)

ENVIRONMENT (rural/urban)

SPACE (local/global)

In a time where the majority of people “perform” their livelihood mainly in urban frameworks, an exemplary multilayered survey (rural & urban) provided by ICLA 2014: “**Sounding MOTION\_MEMORY**” bears a profound analysis of that matter.

## BACKGROUND

The International ChoreoLab Austria was initiated in 2009 by the dancer/choreographer Sebastian Prantl and the pianist Cecilia Li, both of them have been active as artistic directors of Tanz Atelier Wien (TAW) since 1988. The ICLA aims to study choreography beyond the confines of stage production and to expand it to the field of quotidian/life-related structures of movement, knowledge production and cultural techniques of body & mind. The ICLA is designed to stimulate the sharing of expertise beyond the confines of single disciplines in order to create a forum where new synergies may flourish.

International ChoreoLab Austria 2014 fosters art-based research by means of dance, field work and theoretical discourse. Protagonists of all generations are invited to step into an active exchange, featuring thematically inscribed issues on “memory” and “freedom” – thus commemorating the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the fall of the “Iron Curtain” (1989) in this summer of 2014.

## TARGET GROUP

The ICLA is characterised by a high level of internationality, motivation and enthusiasm of participants and experts. The target group includes protagonists of various fields – who take an interest in movement – such as the (performing) arts, architecture, humanities, (new) media, life sciences and pedagogy. The language of instruction is English (with spontaneous translations into other languages if needed).

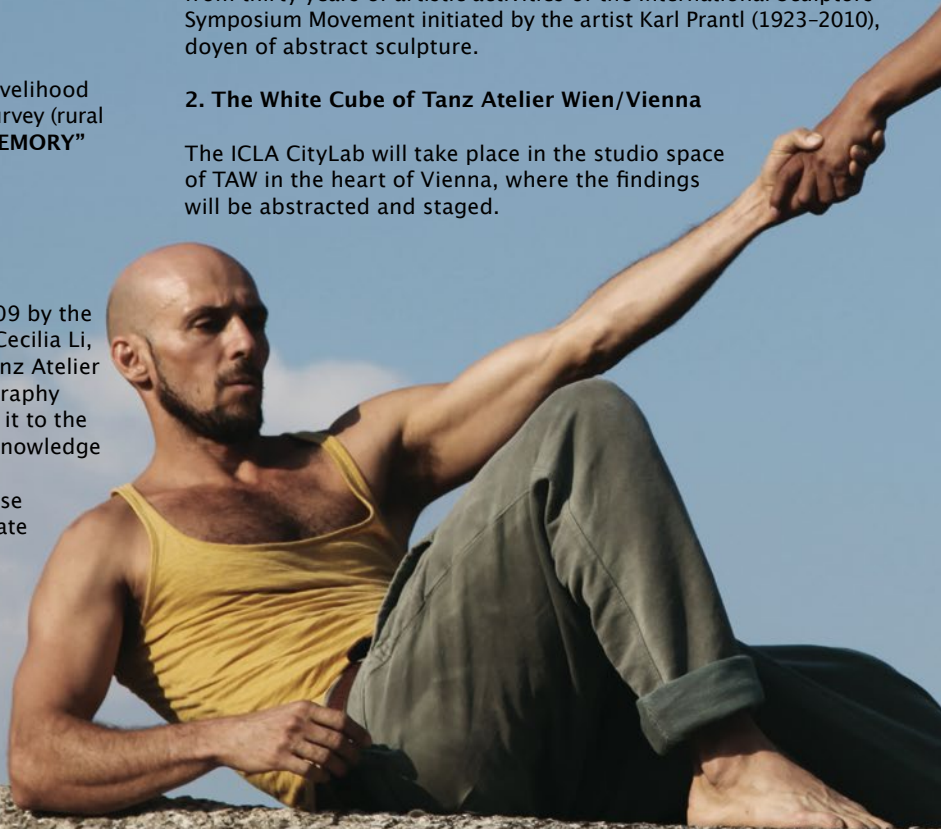
## LOCATIONS

### 1. The Art & Nature Sanctuary of St. Margarethen/Burgenland

The ICLA CountryLab will take place at the Art & Nature Sanctuary of St. Margarethen – near the Hungarian border. The magnificent rural landscape harbours sculptures and land art manifestations from thirty years of artistic activities of the International Sculptors Symposium Movement initiated by the artist Karl Prantl (1923–2010), doyen of abstract sculpture.

### 2. The White Cube of Tanz Atelier Wien/Vienna

The ICLA CityLab will take place in the studio space of TAW in the heart of Vienna, where the findings will be abstracted and staged.



## DETAILED PROGRAM ICLA 2014: COUNTRYLAB

### *Sounding* MOTION\_MEMORY

basic research – theory & practice in nature

#### Sunday, 24 August

11 am Optional Event: *“Literary Space at the Sculptors’ House”* – connecting themes of ICLA 2014 – curated by Beatrice Simonsen translated reading (English) by Elisabeth Dalman

5 pm Arrival/Registration for ICLA 2014: “CountryLab”  
6 pm “Welcome & Introduction at the Sculptors’ House”:  
Sebastian Prantl/Cecilia Li  
**7 pm\*** “Opening Dinner”: all participants/tutors

#### Monday, 25 August

9–12 am “Sounding MOTION Landscape”: Sebastian Prantl  
(movement parcours around the Art & Nature  
Sanctuary of St. Margarethen)  
2–3 pm “Memory Room in Nature”: Johanna Rainer  
(lecture at the Rainer House)  
3–6 pm “MOTION Memory”: Sebastian Prantl  
(theory/site specific practice)

#### Tuesday, 26 August

9–12 am “Sounding Breath in Motion”: Othello Johns  
(theory/practice)  
2–5 pm “A Moving Narrative”: Othello Johns/Martin Mayes  
(improvisation)

#### Wednesday, 27 August

9–12 am “Morning Motion”: Alessandro Guerra  
(movement studies after Feldenkrais)  
1–4 pm “Sounding Field Work”: Alessandro Guerra/  
Martin Mayes  
8 pm ... “Informal Presentation/Discussion of Participants’  
Work”: all participants/tutors

#### Thursday, 28 August

9–12 am “In Between Memory and Freedom”: Ming–Shen Ku  
(theory/practice)  
2–5 pm “Site specific Improvisation”: Ming–Shen Ku

#### Friday, 29 August

9–12 am “Life long motion memory “: Elisabeth Dalman  
(theory/practice/improv.)  
**3–6 pm** “Moving Out/Off Memory”: individual participants  
improvisation with scattered audiences – open dinner

#### Saturday, 30 August

9 am–4 pm “Individual Coaching”: all participants/tutors  
9–11 pm “Dancing in the Dark”: site specific group improvisation  
**\*7 pm ...** Dinners at the Sculptors’ House – all week long

## DETAILED PROGRAM ICLA 2014: CITYLAB

### *Sounding* MOTION\_MEMORY

ongoing research – theory & practice in the “White Cube”

#### Monday, 1 September

10 am–1 pm “In the White Cube/Structuring Memory”:  
Sebastian Prantl (opening the CityLab at TAW)  
3–6 pm “Ongoing Lab”: Sebastian Prantl/Elisabeth Dalman/  
Alessandro Guerra/Ming–Shen Ku  
**7 pm** “CityLab Dinner” all participants/tutors

#### Tuesday, 2 September

10 am–1 pm “The Cage”: Cecilia Li/Sebastian Prantl  
(practice in homage to John Cage)  
3–6 pm “Outside the White Cube”: Alessandro Guerra/  
Ming–Shen Ku/Sebastian Prantl  
(theory/urban movement improvisation)

#### Wednesday, 3 September

10 am–1 pm “Memory Pieces”: Cecilia Li/Sebastian Prantl  
(theory/practice to the compositional oeuvre  
of David Lang)  
3–6 pm “Ongoing Lab”  
7–9 pm “Sounding Memory Space – an architectural  
survey”: Renate Hammer (lecture/discussion)

#### Thursday, 4 September

10 am–6 pm “Individual Coaching/Working Parallel”:  
participants/tutors

#### Friday, 5 September

10 am–1 pm “Structuring/Storing/Documenting”:  
participants/tutors  
2–4 pm “Ongoing Lab”  
**8–10 pm** “Open Showing”

#### Saturday, 6 September

**10–12 am** “Concluding Brunch” ICLA 2014:  
*Sounding* MOTION\_MEMORY





## TEACHING PROTAGONISTS

**Elizabeth Dalman** (Australia) is a pioneer of contemporary dance in Australia. She founded the Australian Dance Theatre in 1965 and was its Artistic Director for 10 years. She is currently Director of Mirramu Creative Arts Centre and its Dance Company.

**Alexsandro Guerra** (Brazil/Italy), Feldenkrais teacher, dancer and choreographer, studied physical therapy, theatre and dance in Brazil, where he was born. From the mid 1990s he has focused on artistic collaborations of investigation and design in contemporary theater and dance. He is based in Rome.

**Othello Johns** (USA/Germany) works internationally as a dancer, choreographer and dance instructor. He studied dance, choreography and design at the University of Louisiana after being awarded a Scholarship to the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance. He was rehearsal director of the Erick Hawkins Company. Othello Johns is co-founder and artistic director of KABAWIL dance theatre productions in Germany.

**Ming-Shen Ku** (Taiwan) choreographer and dancer received her modern dance education from the Chinese Culture University in Taipei and the University of Illinois. Since 1987, she is based in Taiwan to create and present her works as well as to engage herself in teaching internationally. Ming-Shen Ku also became deeply involved with Contact Improvisation. Currently, she is dean of faculty at the School of Dance Taipei National University of the Arts.

**Martin Mayes** (UK) is a professional hornist who started his career on the London experimental music scene of the seventies, where he was a founder member of the London Musicians' Collective as well as a performer with street theatre and visual arts groups. He was attracted at a very young age to the music based purely on sound. The writings of Cage in books such as *Silence* exerted a strong influence on the development of his ideas in general. Moreover he is interested in medieval and early classical music with particular emphasis on the traditional repertoire for the "natural" (valveless) version of the horn.

**Renate Hammer** (Austria) graduated in architectural studies at the Vienna University of Technology and took part in a postgraduate program at the University Tokyo and at the Danube University Krems (Solar Architecture). For years she was key researcher and executive director of the Department's research activities, before in 2011, she became dean of the Faculty of Arts, Culture and Building at DUK. As leading Austrian scientist on the topic of daylight and sustainable design, she is a member of the Council for Architectural Culture and the Cabinet of the Austrian Prime Minister in Vienna.

**Johanna Rainer** (Austria) is an architect who focuses on residential buildings, heads various projects and is active in the field of interior and exhibition design. She was working together with her father Roland Rainer (1910–2004) – doyen of Austrian architecture – for many years. Johanna Rainer had teaching assignments at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna as well as the University of Technology Vienna and Graz. Since 1996 she runs her own office.

**Cecilia Li** (Austria), pianist and co-founder of ICLA, was born in Taipei/Taiwan. At the age of 14 she continued her concert class studies at the University of Music and Performing Arts Mozarteum Salzburg. She received various awards and high honours. Besides her solo/chamber music concerts she is also a distinguished teacher. In 2004, Cecilia Li founded her own CD label shiuling records and she is musical director of the Tanz Atelier Wien – Trans Art Works.

**Sebastian Prantl** (Austria) is choreographer, dancer and artistic director of the Tanz Atelier Wien. Since the 1980s, he is engaged in pioneering work in the field of contemporary dance. His father, the sculptor Karl Prantl (1923–2010), initiated the International Sculptors' Symposia movement. Sebastian Prantl received his education in dance/theatre, performance and vocals in New York in the early 1980s, where he studied at Dance Theatre of Harlem, Martha Graham School, Juilliard School, Whitney Independent Studio Program and took part in NY's post modern dance milieu. He is a key figure for independent dance initiatives in Austria and teaches and choreographs in various formats around the world. He received several Austrian and European prizes for choreography and staging. Within the context of Tanz Atelier Wien, Sebastian Prantl, together with his wife, the pianist Cecilia Li, has realised more than 40 project series and continuously has been expanding interdisciplinary positions (Trans Art Works).



## Dates

ICLA CountryLab: 24–30 August 2014

ICLA CityLab: 1–6 September 2014

## Location

Art & Nature Sanctuary in St. Margarethen (CountryLab)  
Tanz Atelier Wien in Vienna (CityLab)

## Registration & Tuition

Week 1: St. Margarethen EUR 590,-

Week 2: Vienna EUR 350,-

Week 1 + 2: St. Margarethen and Vienna EUR 790,-

The above fee includes lectures, workshops, materials, camp-site, dinner at the Sculptors' House and 2 meals in Vienna. Please note that participants are responsible for their personal travel expenses, extra daily meals, accommodation, and medical insurances.

**There are scholarships available for the participation at the ICLA 2014!**

The maximum number of participants is 25 persons. Please fill out the application form and email it to [office@tanzatelierwien.at](mailto:office@tanzatelierwien.at). Participants will receive a confirmation email from TAW after sending out complete applications. The payment has to be proceeded in one week after receiving the confirmation of TAW.

Participants can cancel their registration due to any cause; 50% of the registration fee can be refunded before August 10th. Please inform TAW at the earliest convenience if there is any amendment. Due to administrative preparation there is no refund for cancellation after August 10th.

## Contact

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## Accommodation in St. Margarethen

Participants can stay in their own tents in vicinity of the house and use its sanitary facilities. Alternatively, participants can also stay in several B&B in the village of St. Margarethen. Supermarkets, restaurants, a swimming lake are in walking distance. **Please check out our list of accommodation at our website [www.tanzatelierwien.at/Internationalchoreolab](http://www.tanzatelierwien.at/Internationalchoreolab)**

## Accommodation in Vienna

**The Levante Laudon Hotel Vienna**  
(Official partner of ICLA & TAW)

Address: Laudongasse 8, 1080 Vienna

Tel.: +43 1 535 45 15-51 or +43 1 407 13 70

Fax: +43 1 407 13 71

Email: [reservationlaudon@thelevante.com](mailto:reservationlaudon@thelevante.com)

(Subject:ICLA/TanzAtelierWien – Name)

[www.thelevante.com/laudon/en/home.html](http://www.thelevante.com/laudon/en/home.html)

## Information

[www.tanzatelierwien.at/icla-2014-sounding-motionmemory](http://www.tanzatelierwien.at/icla-2014-sounding-motionmemory)

[www.facebook.com/InternationalChoreolabAustria](https://www.facebook.com/InternationalChoreolabAustria)

[www.twitter.com/ICLA2014](https://www.twitter.com/ICLA2014)



**Tanz Atelier** <sup>Wien</sup>  
Sebastian Prantl

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Editor: Tanz Atelier Wien

Responsible for content: Tanz Atelier Wien

Design: Marlies Kirchler, Atelier Am Stein

Photography: Lukas Dostal, Silvia Grossmann,  
Susanne Senekowitsch