

# BEYOND BORDERS- the call

**Bart van Rosmalen and Anouk Saleming March 25-27 (2019)**

**Make sure you can say: I was there!**

In ancient Greece music was not only music. What was practiced was called “Mousike” and joint music, language and theatrical aspects together in a natural way. And it was centre of society.

For this M&W we have found some very inspiring teachers. Artists that started their cooperation from an innovative view on making processes that came forward from their practice based artistic research, trying to give back their new insights to society.

You are invited by Bart van Rosmalen and Anouk Saleming on a journey beyond borders.

- 1- Exploring your own expressiveness and maker processes.
- 2- Exploring the “making-with-others”
- 3- Strengthen your commitment to society.

Furthermore Bart and Anouk facilitate inspiring forms of conversation, reflection and feedback that you can use in your own study/practice.

Bart van Rosmalen (Cellist, theater-maker and lector) and Anouk Saleming (writer and performer) are both working at the Lectorate Muzische Professionalisering from the Hogeschool voor de Kunsten Utrecht. You can read more about this special lectorate on [www.musework.nl](http://www.musework.nl)

# BEYOND BORDERS- preparation letter

To: Olaia Olaverri Aibar, David Louro Ribeiro, Christy Luth, Joao Varandas, Noemi Lak, Anna Csukly, Ibolya Vörösvary, Laura Vilela García, Erik Kranjc, Mariam Lominadze René Gutierrez, Martien de Vos, Aldo Lifaki. *From: Bart van Rosmalen, Anouk Saleming*

Utrecht 5-3-2019

Dear Olaia, David, Christy, Joao, Noemi, Anna, Ibolya, Laura, Erik, Mariam, René, Martien and Aldo.

What a wonderful opportunity that we will work together for three days on 25,26,27 of march. We are very much looking forward to that. Great that you said ‘yes’ to our call and challenge to work beyond borders. In this letter you find a bit more about the programme and a little preparation before.

## **Preparation before**

- 1- **Sources.** Bring *three sources of inspiration* with you. One might be a quotation from a book, another maybe a picture from art or elsewhere and a third one maybe an object. Bring sources that are really meaningful to you in your work and/or live. Of course you will have many sources of inspiration in music. But for this case we ask you to bring other artefacts as said.

- 2- **Question.** What *question or fascination* do you bring yourself to our shared working space and time? Think of this maybe as a kind of specific research-question just for these three days. We will dive into different ways of making, reflecting across borders of disciplines. Your own fascination or question (related to your person, practice, future or whatsoever) helps you navigating through.
- 3- **Friends.** Who do you *invite for the closing party* on 27 march 19.00-21.00? We'd like to finish the three day session with a public sharing of our work. In other contexts we call this type of closing session 'the party'. We want it to be different from a regular concert or theatre form. We ask each of you to invite some friends, family, relations. We share time, drink something and in between there are performative moments from each of us, solo, small groups, all together. We'll see what we end up with. So please invite!

With this preparation on board we will dive into the **programme-track** from start to finish consisting of five connected sessions.

## BEYOND BORDERS- the programme

1<sup>st</sup> session: Monday 25 14.00-1700h

In our first session we will start from sources. Making constellations of the material we brought with us. We will be working in two or three small groups. Hopefully some deeply rooted conversations will come out of this. We finalize by making a tour together along the constellations of the groups. Each group sharing results by talking and playing.

The second part we will pick up on questions and fascinations. We might use a surprising conversational form that we call the 'art of questioning'.

In a small closing part we will explore a working form by the Estonian pianist Anto Pett that is called a 'set of short pieces'.

2<sup>nd</sup> session: Monday 25 1900-21.00h

In the evening we (Bart and Anouk) will have prepared a stage for our recently made music theatre piece 'lang voor er woorden waren' (long before the existence of words). In this setting we will play some parts of that play to you. As a start for a making exercise in duo's. What could you use from our material to make a short performance back as a duo. Start form quotation and find your own voice/sounds/ gestures/ words to give back a short 3' piece.

3<sup>rd</sup> session: Tuesday 26 14.00-17.00h

The afternoon starts with what we call a 'theatrical dialogue'. It's one of our (Bart and Anouk) favorite sequences in a making process. Starting from high awareness of the balance between sending and receiving. Followed by a creative dialogue without words. Writing short stories coming out of strong experiences. And finding personal values that might connect to society at large.

The second part will focus on a makers- focused way of working with feed-back: Critical Response Process (CRP). Originally this method comes from the American choreographer Liz Lerman. Depending on the results of day one we will be on the floor with pieces we made and want to make better. We move back and forth form making to CRP- feed-back directly into the making again.

## 4<sup>th</sup> session: Tuesday 26 19.00-21.00h

This evening we will continue the track of improvisation with two strong exercises. The first one goes like this. A duo of any kind gives a short performance (with music, sound, maybe gestures involved) to the others. Just a few minutes. The stage is cleared and another duo arrives on the spot. Can they copy the first duo as precise as they can? Although instruments, gestures and whatsoever are completely different. Later the task will be to copy the character. Or to find one characteristic to enlarge.

In the second exercise we as an ensemble will improvise together. There's a meditative context created in which the music arises from silence. After a first piece (maybe 5-8 max 10 minutes) we exchange some words. But the restriction is that we only address bodily sensations that we have. And that each next person first repeats the one before him/her. After a while we play a second piece. We talk again like the first time. We play a third piece that concludes the evening. The very strong focus on silence, listening, feeling creates an excellent setting for co-creation with all its unforeseen qualities.

In the end we will look back to all sessions and see what we want to take with us in the final party.

## 5<sup>th</sup> session: Wednesday 27 19.00-21.00

The party is the title of our closing session. Hopefully we can arrange a drink. Each one of you is asked (already before- see preparation) to bring some friends to share the last time-slot with us. In between talking, drinking, celebrating the event the floor is open for contributions from the material we found or totally new.

Looking forward to see you all

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Anouk Saleming