

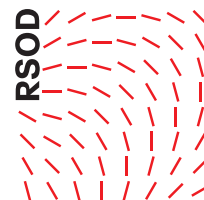
RICEAN SCHOOL OF DANCE

RSOD 2016

19-28 AUGUST; 2016; HYDRA, GREECE

WWW.RICEONHYDRA.ORG





RICEAN SCHOOL OF DANCE

19-28 AUGUST; 2016; HYDRA, GREECE

‘The body is that (...) by which we learn to register and become sensitive to what the world is made of’

BRUNO LATOUR

After its inauguration in 2015 The Ricean School of Dance will return to the island of Hydra. It is open to dedicated individuals of all ages committed to dance, performance and embodied practices for personal, professional or social development. The constituting principle of the school is self-actuated, in-depth research in a setting of aesthetic abundance. By establishing a milieu that facilitates formal and non-formal exchanges the school offers its students the opportunity to develop critical and artistic practice within a social context. RSOD engages no teachers or mentors but invites exchange that comes from the sharing of knowledge. It is hosted by a small organizing team, who themselves will be students of the school. A curriculum of neither led nor taught artistic research formats will be in place open to development. For the ten-day period the school seeks to provide a conducive setting for individual and collective practice-based discourse.

RSOD, is a place where ‘the one who speaks (or moves) teaches.’ Bare and sufficient conditions are provided for inspired individuals to learn for themselves through each other. Participants are trusted to contribute in meaningful ways to the determination of the school’s actions; to be interested in fundamental concerns; to allow for mistakes to happen; to initiate projects with no conclusion; and to fearlessly offer their intelligence. Situated and engaged in the interconnected spheres of Hydra’s social and natural environment, RSOD aims to form “a pattern of conversation and actions”; a mechanism for the cultivation of ethics; a choreography of humans.

The School’s direct resources are sparse. The island of Hydra however offers plenty to nourish the artist’s needs, inviting students to aesthetically adapt their practice to what is already present. Hydra is charged with a wealth of aesthetic possibilities, which RSOD seeks to engage. The 2016 school fees are 400 EUR covering the student’s basic needs. While there are no scholarships available, we will provide information and letters of support to any prospective students to raise funds themselves. If you seek out your own accommodation the fee reduces to 280 EUR. There might be additional reductions available to students living in Greece closer to the date.

‘There is a time when the operation of the machine becomes so odious, makes you so sick at heart, that you can’t take part; you can’t even passively take part, and you’ve got to put your bodies upon the gears and upon the wheels, upon the levers, upon all the apparatus, and you’ve got to make it stop. And you’ve got to indicate to the people who run it, to the people who own it, that unless you’re free, the machine will be prevented from working at all!’ MARIO SAVIO

FAQ

COULD YOU ELABORATE ON THE CURRICULUM?

The curriculum will cover various research formats that have been developed by R.I.C.E. participants and include 'Excavation Sites' and 'Personal Cosmologies' (as proposed by Klien), bench-talks (as proposed by Edward Schouten), as well as a series of other choreographic formats for embodiment, dialogue, and sharing. Shared dinners and talks with local and international guests will complement the curriculum.

WHAT DOES THE FEE COVER?

The fee covers your (shared) accommodation, daily dinner and general acceptance to the school.

WHAT DOES THE FEE NOT COVER?

The fee does not cover your travel, breakfast and lunch. We will send you all the information you need to book the ferry from Athens yourself.

AM I NOT TOO OLD FOR SHARED ACCOMODATIONS, WILL I BE COMFORTABLE?

The shared sleeping hall in the harbour of Hydra offers basic comfort. Sleeping in Greek's summer heat is a simple affair and after various other accommodation arrangements for past R.I.C.E. events this setup is deemed to aid the process of artistic research.

WHAT WILL BE THE MAKE UP OF STUDENTS?

We aim to primarily engage contemporary artists of considerable experience. However there will be a couple of places for enthusiastic novices to ensure diversity. Individuals with a personal practice in arts, culture, the social, innovation, entrepreneurship, or education, who wish to cultivate embodiment in a shared context are also welcome.

WILL WORK BE SHARED PUBLICALLY AND HOW?

The students are responsible themselves to (individually and/or collectively) decide whether and how to share their work. This includes the organization of all aspects of such performative situations. In the past R.I.C.E. events have included dancing in public and private spaces as well as well-planned public performances.

HOW IS RSOD GOVERNED?

RSOD has three members in its organizing team that also draw from the vision and work of other R.I.C.E. members.



FAQ (CONT.)

WHAT WILL THE ORGANISING TEAM DO FOR ME?

The organizing team will be responsible for managing your accommodation in a shared sleeping hall in the harbor of Hydra town, two additional shared private spaces to work in, daily evening dinner at a taverna (arguably serving the best Greek food on the island), the introduction of the curriculum and research-formats on day one, as well as helping out with general questions, problems and concerns. Alternatively you can choose to stay in a private accommodation which will have to organise yourself (we can also link you to some special deals with B&Bs)

WHAT WILL THE ORGANISING TEAM NOT DO FOR ME?

Organize performances, additional resources and/or participants to partake in your projects and everything else that is not covered under 'What will the organizing team do for you'.

WHAT TECHNICAL RESOURCES ARE ORGANISED THROUGH THE SCHOOL?

None.

WILL THERE BE INTERNET?

Internet is freely available in some of the most popular café's on Hydra. In 2015 we managed to have Internet access in one of the venues and we will endeavour to replicate this setup.

WHAT DO I NEED TO PREPARE?

Students will seriously engage with R.I.C.E.'s central theme 'the Choreography of Humans'. Everyone is encouraged to share dramaturgical material in the run up to RSOD to inform a loose relation of concerns between all members.

WHY NO TEACHERS?

We believe that contemporary choreography ought to be concerned with the 'setting of conditions for things to happen'. At this moment of time a collective situation of 'not knowing' seems more conducive to bringing forth long term cultural change. The questions addressed through movement and dance are age-old questions that each one of us has to permanently pose and answer.

HOW IS RSOD CONSTITUTED?

The school is an initial uttering of what an educational institution of the future can look like. How we can organize ourselves to progress, how knowledge does spread, how ineluctable questions continue to be asked and will be permanently answered afresh. RSOD currently has no official legal setup, enabling a free-flowing, adaptive organizational structure.



ABOUT R.I.C.E.

Abandoning art as mere entertaining commentator to the grand spectacle of our unfolding society, R.I.C.E. pursues new forms of civic life and social ethics that emerge from the basis of embodied reality: sensing and aligning demos—the collective body—within democracy.

Founded in 2013, R.I.C.E. is a cultural initiative on Hydra island (Greece), bringing together renowned artists, thinkers and local citizens. Dedicated to exploring the choreography of humans it aims to envision human relations (personal, political and social) with the sensibilities of an artist, poet, dancer. Throughout the year R.I.C.E. is active in maintaining a network of artists, researchers and partners, particularly linked to the Institute of Social Choreography (Frankfurt). Based on emerging dialogues and exchanges, R.I.C.E. entangles life and art, offering space and time to recursively observe, reflect and act. The outcome can be concrete (social choreographies, performance, texts etc.) as well as ephemeral. R.I.C.E. is manifesting itself in manifold ways such as summer gatherings on Hydra.

contact@riceonhydra.org

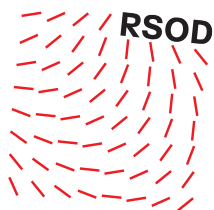
contact@riceonhydra.org

TO APPLY

Please note that this year there will be considerable interest in RSOD. Priority is given to individuals who have previously been part of R.I.C.E. activities. Send a very short statement (50-200 words) of why you would want to partake in RSOD together with a CV or bio to contact@riceonhydra.org

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS 15.5. 2016

all applicants will be informed within two weeks.



MORE FAQ

WHAT IS THE RICEAN SCHOOL OF DANCE AND HOW DOES IT DIFFER FROM OTHER SUMMERSCHOOLS/ DANCE-SCHOOLS IN GREECE AND EUROPE?

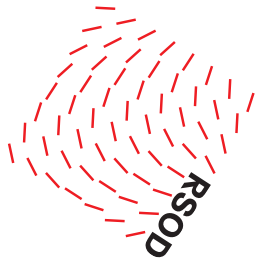
RSOD came out of an initiative we have been running for four years called RICE. During RICE artists and thinkers would gather to radically examine, re-evaluate and develop the fields of dance and choreography to identify new pathways for society and culture. In 2015 we founded RSOD to address the lack of radically new initiatives in the educational sector of dance reflective of the wider development in the arts that are pursuing directions of advocacy, politics, activism, social justice and imagination. Hence we proposed a format that can address this lack. RSOD is a social experiment that constitutes itself through its students. There are no teachers, no workshops and no centralized announcements or meetings throughout. Saying that the school obviously has a rather clear artistic direction...a multiplicity of visions that accumulate over time...

THAT ARE A LOT OF WORDS AND PLENTY OF VISION, HOWEVER, WHAT CAN I EXPECT IF I ATTEND RSOD?

RSOD is very much self-directed in many ways, so you have to think on your toes. We will be between 50-60 diverse people, with various backgrounds and interests, ranging from top-professionals to novices. Once you step off the boat, you will probably have already met other participants through social media, we will welcome you and show you the sleeping quarters that are literally 100m from the port. On the first day everyone will be introduced to the curriculum of various research formats. Each day will have hours dedicated to dance-research, sensing, theory, pondering, discussions, etc. and we will propose concrete templates that have proven successful in the past, such as sensing-propositions, dance and discussion formats. The schedule leaves plenty of space for so called 'mushrooming' activities – additional formats proposed by anyone during scheduling hours that might be joined (or not) by other students. Of course none of the activities are mandatory resisting the 'tyranny of the collective' at all times. We do encourage everyone however to turn up to the communal dinners. We also expect former RSOD participants to introduce novices to the ethos and workings of the school.

WHO WILL OVERLOOK THIS PROCESS?

The vision is that we are ALL students, there are no teachers, no mentors, just different people with different backgrounds. There will be an organizing team ensuring that everyone has a bed and enough food but generally RSOD exhibits self-organizing qualities. So if some aspects are not fit for the purpose, we the students can probably change them. It shall remain to be seen what aspect of the curriculum will still be in place at the end, if any and what new formats have been added.



SO IS IT REALLY A SCHOOL?

Of course it is a school. It's also a university, a temporary tribe a theatre and a hive. But first and foremost it is a school. It's a place where we can utilize our surroundings to re-define and extend our individual practices, to learn in exchange with others. However, we are proud to offer no credits or certificate at the end, just the fact that you have been an integral part of RSOD will be enough. In fact, we hope that RSOD will be able to constitute the way we look and perceive schools in the future.

WILL STUDENT GIVE WORKSHOPS?

We are somewhat discouraging traditional 'I teach, you learn' setups. Not that RSOD is 'against' it – but we offer a break from this model, a suspension for 10 days to try something else. Everyone is welcome to offer frameworks for learning and experience though.

WHO IS BEHIND RSOD AND WHY GREECE?

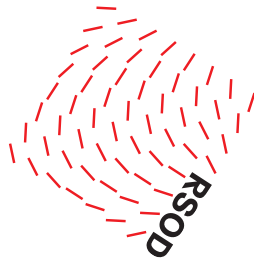
It's the brainchild of choreographer Michael Kliën and dance-artist Vitoria Kotsalou, who together with associate artists of RICE (Steve Valk, Edd Shouten, Zoe Tsavdarides, Lizzy Le Quesne, etc.) formulated the idea of a school. We are in constant communication with a wide-ranging team of artists, and thinkers to further develop the concepts behind RICE and RSOD. The Institute of Social Choreography in Frankfurt has been an important partner in this venture. RSOD also wants to utilize the current global and local crisis as a catalyst to sketch the way forward, to be profoundly inspired and motivated to move ourselves into a new paradigm, to let new aesthetics emerge that have the potential to contribute to a new way of moving, producing, relating and being in the world. Hence, in Greece we are exploiting its privileged position of urgency to address contemporary social, political and hence cultural issues with a sense of pioneering spirit, which would be difficult to achieve anywhere for that matter.

WILL THERE BE A LOT OF PHYSICAL DANCING AND PERFORMANCES?

There will be a lot of dancing (if you want to dance a lot). On rooftops, in ports, on terraces and even in studios. There are no pre-conceived performances or performance opportunities planned. However, the entire island is your oyster so dancing is likely to happen in many ways, to be conceived by each student.

WHAT DOES IT COST AND HOW MUCH MONEY WILL I NEED TO PARTICIPATE?

RSOD 2016 costs 400EUR and it covers a lot: admission to the school, 10 day accommodations in a shared sleeping hall in the harbor and a daily dinner at a taverna as well as the basic supply of water in the sleeping and working quarters. You will have to cover the boat (50EUR) as well as breakfast and lunch. We have set the price as low as possible to prevent the economic reality separating you from a great experience. We are happy to write letters of invitations for national funding applications or crowd-funding.



CAN YOU SUM UP WHAT RSOD STANDS FOR?

We have to radically and thoroughly revisit dance and choreography for our times, for these disciplines to be able to make meaningful contribution to the unfolding spectacle of our society. The strategies applied to date weren't overly successful or are no longer sufficient. We believe the world is in urgent need of the dancer in her/his dance and for choreographers who understand and sense the context of movement, embodied or social. RSOD recognizes that observing personal, social and environmental patterns is an act of authorship that co-produces choreography; that dance, dancer and choreography are entangled aspects, or rather differently framed views, of one phenomenon. Foremost we think that not knowing, acknowledging the vastness of the unknown, is a better place to start this process with than knowing. RSOD is the first step that RICE takes to address this through an education project, and invites everyone to engage and contribute their own unique perspective and sensibilities



