

Martin Nachbar | Jochen Roller

mnemonic nonstop

A cartographic duet

How can one express urban experience in choreography? This question stood at the beginning of the process of 'mnemonic nonstop', a collaboration project of Martin Nachbar and Jochen Roller. In 2005, they resided in five different European cities, for three weeks in each: first in Tel Aviv, then in Brussels, Berlin, Zagreb, and eventually in Graz.

In each city, the two choreographers/performers explored urban space, adapting the 'dérive', a technique of the French Situationists. The concept of the 'dérive' suggests an alternative form of movement through the urban space: instead of choosing the most effective - this is to say the shortest or fastest - way from A to B, one follows the traces of another kind of locomotion concept. This is either based on an algorithm (like 'first right - second left') or on decontextualized maps (like using an anatomical chart as city map). Choreographed movement functions similar to a 'dérive': In both, the 'dérive' and dance, the performer enjoys the non-efficiency of movement.

In the dance performance "mnemonic nonstop", the paths through the various cities are copied onto transparent foils and from there projected into the stage space. In their movements, the two performers follow these paths. Through spoken texts, they put the movements in the contexts of the specific city and experience. Layering in such a way, the cartographic material transforms itself: projections, text and movement create hybrid maps that come to being and vanish again in the performance.

Choreography / Performance:	Martin Nachbar, Jochen Roller
Technical Direction / Performance:	Marek Lamprecht
Visual Design:	Katrin Schoof
Light Design:	Marek Lamprecht, Sofie Thyssen
Sound:	Lars-Egge Müggenburg
Tour Management:	DepArtment / Harriet Lesch, Katharina von Wilcke

Duration: 70 min.

A production of Steirischer Herbst Graz in coproduction with Klapstuk #12 Leuven. Funded by Fonds Darstellende Künste. Supported by Suzanne Dellal Center Tel Aviv, mimecentrum Berlin, Tanzfabrik Berlin and EkS-scena Zagreb.

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