

# Round Table Dance Berlin

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Working Group 1: Infrastructure

**PROTOCOL 4**

30/05/2018

HAU 3

**Coordinators:**

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## **ABSTRACT**

During the fourth meeting of Working Group 1: Infrastructure the instantiation of a new dance institution was further imagined through the investigation of three different models. Building on the various approaches and ideas expressed in previous discussions, the working group was divided into three sub-groups, each representing a different model. The models were developed by means of taking the following points into account: (a) residencies, research and production space, (b) archive, discourse and theory, (c) performances and guest artists, (d) mediation and participative formats, (e) the next generation and ensembles. The first model carries the working title **(1) Hangar 5 - Centre for Dance**. This model is conceived as a means to elevate the status and interest in Berlin's dance scene internationally. However, as an independent institution for contemporary dance, it would also cooperate with the existing initiatives in Berlin and hereby contribute to and fortify the infrastructure of the free scene. Hangar 5 would have three main departments. Stemming from the need for a prominent stage for dance in Berlin, it would include a large stage and function as a (1) Production House. It would host two residencies at a time for a Berlin-based and an international choreographer with their respective companies. The residencies would be for a time-span of three years, with the possibility of extension. Aside from the stage and included in the architecture would be two large studios also suitable for performances, and four to five working studios which would house smaller research projects. The building would also include an extensive (2) Library, Archive & Research Programme. The library and archive would encompass video material, reviews, articles, programme notes, artist's notes and miscellaneous items. It would be accompanied by a Research Programme which facilitates artistic, journalistic and academic research. It would be a lively location, made accessible to the public by multiple event series and discursive formats. The Hangar 5's third department, (3) Community Dance, would initiate inclusive projects that engage the local community and encourage the participation of people of all ages, from children to seniors. The building would also include a café and a bar, open to the general public. The second structural model carries the working title **(2) Atrium**, as it advocates an open approach stemming from artistic practice. Artists would be given the responsibility over the production and curation of their own work. The house would not copy existing initiatives but instead intend to supplement them. Presentation, exchange and mediation would be supported by means of an open form of programming and curation. The organisation would be divided into three parts: (1) a classical structure of performance programming, (2)

process-oriented mediation and the connection between existing initiatives and (3) a strong critical faculty that aims to question the classifications that are already in place. The third model has the working title **(3) Moving Institution**. The foundation of this model is based on the channeling of funding into the current dance houses and initiatives in Berlin. With that in place, it is possible to imagine a nomadic structure, an institution that is not located in a particular building. Taking into account the recent developments in artistic work and production in Berlin, and by aligning with the current decentralised structure, the Moving Institution seeks to fulfil the needs of each dance house or initiative on a rotational basis. It would be led by an ever-changing, non-hierarchical team, which would work in collaboration with the existing dance houses and initiatives, from the inside out. It would counter competition by acting as a mediatory board and a strengthening buffer, offering support where support is needed and aiding in the realisation of ambitious projects. Furthermore, the Moving Institution would serve as a shiny solution in the realm of politics, seeking to win votes and gain support through good marketing and branding. The Moving Institution is a compact alternative that aims to meet the specific needs of Berlin's contemporary dance scene by means of a mobile, collaborative and decentralised approach.

#### Practicalities:

15th of June 2018

The usual time for the meeting of Working Group 1: Infrastructure has been amended from 6pm - 9pm to 1pm - 4pm at HAU3.

15th & 16th June 2018

From 5pm on the 15th and from 10am on the 16th the Akademie der Künste will host a conference on the future of the Volksbühne and its significance for Berlin.