

# FOCUS CHILI

by MARCELA SANTANDER CORVALÁN

## RAISING THE BODY

When Le Quartz offered Marcela Santander Corvalán the opportunity to create a program for DañsFabrik Festival with Chilean artists, the necessity to transform this offer into a collective project became evident. The offer had been conceived as an exercise of thought and collaboration, including the Chilean artistic context within the creation process. NAVE, a creation centre and artistic residency based in Santiago close to the artists and sensitive to the current needs of local and international modern dance context, was included in the project.

« This exercise of collective vision is for us an answer to the current necessity to recover, through dance, common spaces which promote more democratic collaboration relations in the society. The collective practice of programming would enable, in a way more transversal and interactive, to open a bigger diversity of the positions and dialogues on the choice of the invited artists.

The selection of the focus comes as a result of this interactive method of observation. The invited projects are close to the problematic about the question of the common and the place of a collective body in a present of isolated corporal facets.

Chili lives a complex post-democratic period after 17 years of dictatorship. Despite the independence of the citizens, the economic and political models of this new democracy are built according to a capitalist vision from North America. Thus, art and culture are nowadays determined by these same economical systems.

How to think the body as a place of rebellion? Can a ritualized body be a poetic means to resist a specific system? What does it mean to look for a link with an archaic body? Can we think about it as a poetical means of opposition? All the invited projects try to give an answer offering to think the common in the artistic practice and also imagining the body as a possible place for uprising.

These artists think about breathing, words, gesture, signs, language and endangered dances as invention of new dynamism of relationship with the other. The group performances which are part of this focus imagine the body as an organism able to represent and create new systems of interaction and positioning in a collective environment. Others put in tension the communicative logic and the presence of the body itself. The body sometimes disappears and loses itself among a poetic of objects, or it becomes language and thoughts when becoming words.

We would like to look at this focus of Chilean artists as a multiple space which diversifies, links and builds itself with the attentions and criticism of a context. A place, inhabited by the ghosts of our own story, which is transformed by a logic of invention of places less normative. These artists and their offers skip time, perception and create a place which enables us to dream new collective relationship. »

**Maria José Cifuentes, Javiera Peón-Veiga, Marcela Santander Corvalán, curatrice du focus Chili**

*This Chilean participation, supported in association with the Direction of the Cultural affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, confirms our commitment to our artists and the future of their work, without forgetting their international performance. All the artists presented in this festival reflect the artistic diversity that we have in our country and we are convinced that, thanks to the artistic and human exchanges which will take place in the festival, these artists will come back with new tools to continue creating other worlds.*

*We thank you for what is offered to us and we wish a long and successful life to DañsFabrik!*

**Ernesto Ottone Ramirez**

Minister of Culture



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## NAVE

**NAVE** is a creation and residency center whose mission is to support, collaborate and nurture processes of creation and investigation of the Live Arts –dance, performance, music, theater and all of its imaginable crosses- opening dialogue with other disciplines.

We define ourselves as an experimentation center that, from the movement and with the body as its axis, wants to reflect on the new ways of making art at present. It is our priority to facilitate the creative work and the artistic investigation providing for it a place, through the residency programs, in order for these practices to unfold and to transform.

Our approach on the area transcends the concept of traditional scene. That is why we make sure that NAVE is a versatile territory, constantly moving, in such a way that the creative possibilities are able to expand.

We understand the art and its patrimony as a source of experience, reflection and knowledge, that's why, we believe its value and transmission to society are necessary.

Artistic & Managing Director : **María José Cifuentes Miranda**

Co-Artistic Director : **María Vial Solar**

Co-Artistic Director : **Javiera Peón-Veiga Petric**

Programme Manager : **Dalal Leiva Egnem**

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