

iIDance Professional Development Program - Information Sheet

About iIDance

iIDance is an international and independent contemporary dance company and organisation which initiates and operates several pioneer and international projects. The company was founded in 2012 by Artistic Directors Israel Aloni and Lee Brummer and it is based in Gothenburg, Sweden.

iIDance supports and produces the artistic work of Aloni and Brummer. It also invests in supporting the evolution of artists at all stages, from education and through to professional practice by facilitating a variety of activities and projects throughout the year.

iIDance was established after Aloni & Brummer worked in Sweden and internationally as independent artists as well as having been involved in each other's work for many years. They wanted to create an entity which would enrich and cultivate both their creative practices as individual artists and offer them the possibility to co-create and develop an additional voice as an artistic duo.

While structuring iIDance, Aloni and Brummer identified numerous challenges and voids in the existing systems in which artists like themselves strive to express their artistic voices. With this discovery, they choose to form new opportunities and original platforms to assist and support contemporary dance artists to excel. As a result, iIDance organically evolved and furthermore became a platform and infrastructure for the implementation of Aloni & Brummer's beliefs in terms of contemporary dance production and facilitation. These beliefs emphasise inclusion, sharing and linking between individual artists and communities.

At iIDance, our activities and productions vary in size and content from intimate and personal to large and global. We mount original contemporary dance productions as well as work with other international choreographers and continually collaborate with other organisations on projects that enhance and stimulate the visibility of contemporary dance and its impact on our society. By doing so, iIDance bridges and connects between numerous aspects of contemporary dance on local, regional, national and international scales.

iIDance operates on a hybrid model which has been uniquely developed by its directors. The creativity, bravery and agility that are so strongly felt in iIDance's choreographic practices also guide the company's operation and production methodologies. Aloni and Brummer believe that the innovation

and flexibility of artists does not end within the realm of a creation process but can and should also inform the practices of production and management.

Since 2013, iIDance have had a significant history of engagement with artists and arts organisations in Australia and are committed to discovering further opportunities for collaboration both nationally and in Sweden. In 2015 they were the Artistic Mentors for the Mill's Choreographic Futures Residency program, and since then have regularly returned to Adelaide, Australia to create works at the Adelaide College of the Arts and to continue developing collaborative programs with the Mill and other Australian organisations.

<https://www.ildance.se/>

About iIYoung

Lee Brummer & Israel Aloni established iIYoung in 2012 with the ambition to support excellent young and emerging artists who are at the early stages of their professional careers. The project offers professional experience, mentorship and a nationwide touring opportunity.

iIDance initiated and operates iIYoung with the goal to prepare young and emerging dancers for the ever-changing and progressing professional contemporary dance sector both in Sweden and abroad. The project creates the space and offers tools for young artists to discover more about themselves and their own practice and supports them in finding and using their own artistic voice in a professional context.

Over the years directors Aloni and Brummer have developed particular methods in which they work with young artists, some of which are specific and tailored to the iIYoung experience. These methods include different perspectives and approaches to oneself, body and community as well as physical exploration which is embedded in both choreographers' practices and works to enhance artists individuality encouraging the young artists to unfold their potential to the fullest.

The 2023 Residency & Tour

The selected dancer will join the company in Sweden for the full time creation process in a professional setting. The program will expose the selected dancer alongside other cast members to expert international mentorship from iIDance.

During the creation process, the selected dancer will work with the directors of iIDance and/or international guest choreographers and teachers in workshops and company classes.

The creation process will be hosted in creative residencies in various regions across Sweden where the cast, choreographers and the creative team interact and engage with the local community in various satellite activities. The cast will research, develop and co create a new full length work.

This is a remarkable opportunity for a young and emerging SA artist to create strong and meaningful connections with both artists and organisations across Sweden which would potentially become a platform for future creative opportunity and cultural collaborations.

Following the creation process, there will be a break from the project (between 1-2 weeks), during which, it is recommended that the artist design their own program for development. They can use this opportunity to travel to other European dance cities, or continue networking and strengthening relationships with the Swedish dancers in the program. The Mill and iIDance can provide support and advice for this process.

After this break iYoung tours with the new production performing to both young and adult audiences across Sweden. The company presents work both in remote communities that do not experience and encounter contemporary dance on regular basis, as well as mainstream audiences in the metropolitans of Sweden. iYoung occasionally presents work in the artistic programs of existing festivals in Sweden and promotes both the work of the emerging artists and the unique collaborative dimension of the project.

The performances of iYoung are always presented in high professional level with all the necessary supporting elements and team. By maintaining a high standard iIDance promotes the voice of emerging artists in the general contemporary performing arts field as a valuable, significant and inspiring one.

Feedback from previous iYoung participants:

Israel and Lee have been exceptional mentors throughout these weeks. They have taken the time to not only create a piece with us but also helped us gather tools to evolve as the artists and people we choose to and want to become. Talking to the other young artists in the group and reflecting together on the things we experience has been a meaningful part of this process as well. **Malva Sanner, iYoung 2021**

iYoung is an opportunity to travel through a borderless landscape, where no mountains seem too high to climb nor no water seem too deep to swim through. It takes so much care of the process of becoming and of the the

actual becoming. Through iYoung I realized the necessity and the gift of not knowing. Of not looking for sense as a way to simplify the complexity of what we are and what we do as movement artists. I learned more about how to trust the unknown and not having all the answers. Questions are all reasons to continue. And the continuation itself, it's what it's all about... iYoung is simply truly a beautiful chance for emerging artists to realize that their own individual voice does exist, and that it must be listened to. **Emilia Fridholm, iYoung 2021+ 2022**

Being constantly exposed to new methods and approaches to movement everyday has been so invigorating and inspiring. I feel as though this process has introduced to me many different facets of the art form and of myself, widening my perspective of dance and performance and what may be available to explore beyond this experience. **Mieke Kriegesvelt, iYoung 2017 The Mill/Helpmann supported participant**

iYoung was an incredibly rich and rewarding experience which will remain embedded in to my heart well into my career as a dancer and an artist. It was so much more than just a creative process and series of performances; It was a completely immersive adventure of constant discovery filled with many challenges and questions, and I leave filled with joy, wonderment, and a burning passion for movement and life. I feel privileged to have been able to connect with other dancers at similar stages in their career from the other side of the world, as well as working professionals in the dance field from around the world. I really began to realise how small the global dance community is and how important it is to support and nurture each other to help our community and art form thrive. The opportunity to perform and tour in a foreign country was just a wonderful bonus. iYoung is a truly invaluable experience for any emerging dance artist. **Tyson Olson, iYoung 2016 The Mill/Helpmann supported participant.**