

NOFOD

nordic forum for dance research

The Dancer and the Dance: Practices, Education, Communities, Traditions and Histories

**Report from the 16th NOFOD Conference,
Oslo, April 23–26, 2024**

Author: Irene Velten Rothmund

The international NOFOD conference was hosted in Oslo for the first time in April 2024, in close cooperation with Kristiania University College.

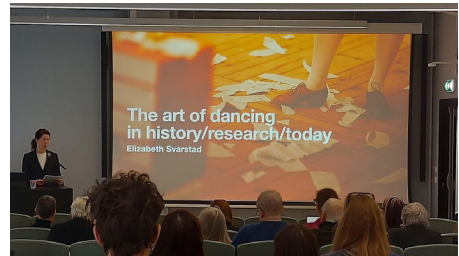
The aim of the conference was to accommodate encounters and exchanges across borders, encompassing different dance genres and styles, research methods and geographical origins. The program highlighted the diversity within academic and artistic research: 120 participants from 18 different countries across five continents conducted 68 presentations in different formats, discussing themes like accessibility, agency, artistic choices, embodiment, bodies as archives, community dance, inclusive education, health, dance medicine, dance and technology and traditional dances and dancing.

The three keynote speakers addressed important and diverse topics: Rose Martin with ‘What difference can a dance make? Dancing our way out of crisis and collapse’, Leena Rouhiainen with ‘The co-embodiment of dancers in language-based site-specific choreography’ and Elizabeth Svarstad with ‘The art of dancing in history/research/ today’. Other highlights included the performances ‘Digital Footprints’ by Gunn Lund and ‘Love-dans’ by Elizabeth Svarstad and Anne Grete Eriksen as well as the launch of the book *The Nordic Minuet: Royal Fashion and Peasant Tradition*. This was followed by a dance evening featuring Finnish and Swedish minuets.

Planning and executing this conference has been both a pleasure and a challenge for me as chair, along with the NOFOD board. We are grateful to all

participants for contributing to four inspiring, busy and bustling days filled with shared research and new connections. We now look forward to the next NOFOD conference, set to be held in Iceland in 2026.

For information about the Nordic Forum for Dance Research (NOFOD) and the upcoming conference in Iceland, please visit www.nofod.org. The



Elizabeth Svarstad starting her keynote.



Keynote speakers Elizabeth Svarstad, Rose Martin and Leena Rouhiainen.



The NOFOD board: Petra Hultenius, Kirsi Heimonen, Irene Velten Rothmund, Lars Dabl Pedersen, Tuire Colliander, Ami Skånberg and Hilde Rustad. Katrín Gunnarsdóttir and Sarab Pini were not present.