



Peter Aerni

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Workshop Titles:

1. Gestures; translating the mind
2. Improvisation in dance and drawing
3. Tracing with the body - dance and drawing gestures

Teaching Proposition:

In this class I will focus on the relationship between the body and the gesture – from the inside and the outside. A physical warm up leads towards more specific questions of room awareness and self awareness.

Our position in space and time is in a permanent dialogue with everything else. The complex body – mind system of our perception is part of what we look at. We will approach dance and drawing with simple exercises to deepen our understanding for translation processes.

Improvisation will be a tool for exploring a process of feedback in moving in space and tracing on paper, back and forth from inside to outside. We will investigate different scores and get to know the possible roles that serve different purposes. Examples from contemporary artists both in dance and visual art will serve as inspiration and will give a point of reference. Enlargening the possibilities of your self-expression is one of the goals of this class.

*Short version 1:*

*"I offer teaching on the gestures of the body. In dancing and in drawing we will explore the state of the body on different levels. From spatial awareness in the emptiness of the dance space to small-sized drawing work on paper, we will touch the notion of composition in space and time."*

*Short version 2:*

*This class focuses on the relationship between body and gesture. The linearity of the gesture takes form as well in dance as in drawing. With an adequate physical warm up we get ready to investigate the pathways into and out of the body through our senses. Perception is always a process of translation and opens up complex questions with many ways to go.*

**Bio:**

Peter Aerni is a visual artist. And a dancer. He works with drawing and improvised dance. That is his practice. He is trained as visual artist focusing on drawing, sculpture and photography. His studies in dance made him travel in Europe and the US to meet many of the CI teachers of the first and second generation. He studied intensively for two years at Tanzfabrik Berlin and followed Nancy Stark Smith in the Development of the Underscore. In Europe he is engaged in the annual exchange of CI teachers. He is one of the Co-Organizers of the Bern Jam. He has the experience of teaching regular weekly classes and longer workshops in German, French and English. He is a part time teacher at the Bern University of Arts in the departement of Art Education.

*Short version:*

*Peter Aerni: Studies at ECAL Lausanne, Tanzfabrik Berlin and Basel (teacher training)/ he is as much dancer (Contact Improvisation) as visual artist (drawing, photo, sculpture) with a focus on perception and its analysis in space in function of the body/ Assistant teacher in Art Education at Bern University of the Arts*

