

## REPORT

KIK MELONE Residency Zagreb (LLB / DANCEWEB)

by BÍborka Béres and Ádám Jeneses

21.03.2022-27.03.2022

We came to Zagreb to develop our first collaboration, Hungarotrópus, bridging dance with personal research into intergenerational female traumas, the use of multisensory elements in performance, and the presence of both digital and analog media on stage. The project is a multi-fold exploration, and we were incredibly happy with the diverse forms of support we received from our host organization, Kik Melone.

Our presentation space, the Contemporary Art Museum in Zagreb was a great location to show our work-in-progress, since we were able to blend the performative and installation elements of the piece in such a beautiful and huge space. It was exciting and challenging for BÍborka as a dancer to develop the choreography in a museum space, which resulted in a live installation-style audience setup. The technical and production support by Kik Melone was abundant and effective: we were assisted by people who were watching our every need, and were ready to create a framework for a piece as complex as ours, with numerous props and media. Being housed in the Museum itself was very helpful, as we were close to our performance venue, which made the logistics of rehearsal much simpler. TALA, the dance center which we had booked for rehearsal, was also an amazing space, with clean, large and well-equipped studios and the most cheerful staff to welcome us, and shops that sold materials necessary for our performance within a few minutes reach. One of the Kik Melone members lent us their bikes for the duration of our stay, which made it very easy for us to go around town and acquire props and costumes.

The most challenging part of the residency was the length of it: having four days of rehearsals and preparation before a work-in-progress showing was very short, and we could have easily used twice this much time, or even a month to develop our project in Zagreb before the showing. However, from the beginning, the Kik Melone people were extremely kind and acknowledged how short a time it is to put together our piece, and emphasized that there is no need to present a fully developed show, which created a low-pressure environment that we appreciated a lot. In addition, we were able to receive constructive feedback from Kik Melone member Sonja Pregrad, who was able to attend a run-through, and we are waiting for further feedback from members which will surely help us develop the project further and adapt it to different presentation spaces and circumstances, which is one of our current goals.

Both of us were drawn to the concept and goal of the ANTISEZONA festival, to bring dance into non-conventional spaces and expand its scope and form, and were glad to participate in an event so fitting to our project. The other performances that took place in the framework of the festival were exciting and informative for us to watch, and created fruitful conversations around the genre and themes of contemporary art and dance.

Kik Melone is an incredibly inspiring group of artists, who are creating an important influence and movement in the local dance and performance scene to expand the notions of dance, and find intersections between that and other art forms based on different media. Their festival ANTISEZONA brings together a diverse group of artists, from young makers of the local scene to international artists, creating meaningful exchange and dialogue. We were not only inspired by the content and presenting artists of the festival, but also by the organizational and infrastructural model of it. Our experience made us envision similar, artist-led approaches to create spaces for experimental, cross-disciplinary performance in Budapest, with as clear artistic profile and coherent goals as ANTISEZONA. We truly wish that Kik Melone continues bringing together artists, practices and genres, and receives the support necessary to grow into a well-established movement in the scene.

Sincerely,

Bíborka Béres and Ádám Jeneses

Budapest, 2022.04.05