# EXPLAINING DANCE Toni Jodar

# Modern dance speaks



Beatriu Daniel \_Toni Jodar beatriu@explicadansa.com - T. +34 678 420 020 www.explainingdance.com Toni Jodar explica...



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### presentation

The **Explaining Dance** project began in 2002 after sensing the audience's need to know and understand dance in general better; especially modern and contemporary dance.

Toni Jodar and Beatriu Daniel, together and each using their individual abilities (artistic first and foremost and later management), have developed this educational activity with the aim of explaining dance history from the perspective of real stage experience of a professional, in this case Toni Jodar, one of the most significant contemporary dancers in Catalonia and the Spanish State.

Over the ten years throughout which this project has been constantly developed, we have achieved the following:

- To put words to a dance and a mature dancer's experience (something generally difficult for dancers to do).
- To prove that a dancer can remain active on stage in another way: the need to perform and stage presence does not get lost with age, though physical resistance may wane.
- To explain dance to people in a friendly and pleasant manner; contribute a tool to compliment and bring dance represented on stage closer to the audience; a strategy to participate in the creation and education of audiences.
- To lay out history in a different way, adding stage experience, and stretching beyond strictly theoretical norms.
- To create different applications and formats according to various commissions and audiences, as well as opening and sharing the process with other professionals, with the aim of using knowledge from dancers who are hardly or no longer on stage.
- To work around a small format, so as to obtain greater flexibility to adapt to the various needs of programming, context and space.





### aims

#### Distribute

the language of dance using tools and content that facilitate the interpretation and identification of the different elements that make up a choreography and a performance.

#### **Explain**

basic knowledge of modern and contemporary dance history to understand how other vocabulary has been developed on a parallel to ballet.

### Get to know

movement and choreography as intelligible and significant language, be it narrative or abstract, with the aim of familiarising the audience with contemporary concepts.

#### Perceive

the possibility of expressing social and personal ambitions through dance. Recognise that we all own a body and that it is susceptible to movement.

#### Transmit

different values of dance. **Educational value**: the search for creative solutions, inventiveness, flexibility, resistance, discipline, effort, constancy, dedication, concentration. **Social Values**: respect, help, gratitude, silence. **Emotional Values**: survival, complex-free, trust, confidence, personal development, self-esteem. **Spiritual values**: happiness, silence.





# what does the activity consist of? what are the tools that we use?

We start off with a basic format that we later adapt to suit each commission and collects the following information:

### **1.-** Theoretical information

following information:

1 - Theoretical information ("spoken –action" Historical chronology, Dance Styles, Relationship between dance and other art forms)

### 2.- Kineseological Knowledge

(physical demonstration of a concept through static and moving images demonstration inserted into a choreographic phrase)

**3.- Visual information** (through the dancer/performers body photographs video images)

#### 4.- Practical Information:

a workshop where the aforementioned concepts are incorporated. The general need within cultural society to obtain information about dance lead us to develop this project. We have created and formalized different applications, which now form part of our flexible repertory and are modified upon the demands of each client.



Activity for children of 12 years and over

## credits

Concept and script: Toni Jodar and Beatriu Daniel

> Performance: Toni Jodar

Stage adaptation and support: Víctor Molina and Ana Teixidó

> Image: **Toni Roura**

Management: Silvia Lorente / Nats Nus

> Production Assistant: Mariona Galter

Project director: BdDANSA-Beatriu Daniel



### **Biography Toni Jodar**

**Artist** and dance teacher for over 25 years. He broadened his studies through several stays in the USA. He combines physical training of actors, work on postural awareness, speciality in jazz dance, and the holding of different movement workshops for students, professionals and artists from all spheres.

During his artistic career he has given over 900 performances worldwide. As a **dancer** it is important to highlight his collaboration with **Gelabert-Azzopardi (1989-2000, 2005-12)**. One of his particularities are his interventions as a **performer** in shows directed by: **Albert Vidal (1978-83), Carles Santos (1984-85, 1998-12), Jerome Savary (1986-87), Magda Puyo-Marta Carrasco (1997-98)**, Joan Baixas & Jordi Sabatés **(1998)**. He has also collaborated with **Dagoll Dagom**, **Comediants** and **La Fura dels Baus**, among others.

He is currently assistant director with the Gelabert-Azzopardi dance company and has collaborated, since 2000 with the Companyia Carles Santos, for which he has taken on choreographic responsibility.

He habitually collaborates with the Auditori de Barcelona's Education Service. He has choreographed Metàl·lics for Spanish Brass Luur Metalls, as part of the "L'Escola va a l'Auditori" and "Concerts en Família" cycles. He has acted as narrator at the "Orquestra per a joves" concert by Britten. In 2006 he was stage director for the project "El poble de vent i de fusta".

He combines his choreographic work with interventions as a performer. He created the spoken action: **Toni Jodar, Explains: modern and contemporary dance**, designed to raise awareness about dance and for which he received a Stage Arts Special Mention at the Ciutat de Barcelona Prize of 2002 and the APDC Prize of 2006.

# moviment-performer-dancer



### **Beatriu** Daniel

Arts producer and cultural manager, specialized in dance.

B.A. In Philosophy-Fine Arts by the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. She gets her skills as cultural manager through experience and training with the Group Xabide (Vitoria), among others. She broaden her knowledge with studies of coaching and NLP (Neuro-Linguistic Programming). In the 1970s, as co-Director of the Magazine DANSA-79, she had an key role in the development and creation of a contemporary dance scene in Catalonia, documenting all the activities of that period.

She has worked with Gelabert-Azzopardi, Dance Company (she started the company together with Cesc Gelabert and Lydia Azzopardi in 1985), among others. Together with Catherine Allard, she started the project for the IT Dansa (Young Dance Company of the Institut del Teatre de Barcelona). Also, she coordinated the project **TotDansa** for the Bureau for Arts Promotion of the Diputació de Barcelona (City Council), as well as Ballarins a Palo Alto for TV3, Catalonia National Television.

She has been Director of Administration of La Caldera; Centre for Dance and Stage Arts (2005-11), and member of the board of the Association of Dance Professionals of Catalonia (2005-11).

As a producer she has worked on projects by La Fura dels Baus; on the Olympic and Paralympic ceremonies of Barcelona'92 (Ovideo-Bassat-Esport), and on the International Puppet Festival (Institut del Teatre de Barcelona).

In the visual arts field she has worked with the artist Frederic Amat. She has also worked in cinema and TV for Ovídeo Productions.

Currently she is co-Director with Toni Jodar of the project Explaining Dance and is a member of the management group **Umésdos** www.umedos.com

# artists management



# A teaching tool, specialising in dance, for educational programmes and training audiences highly flexible adaptable to all spaces and situations. todos los espacios y situaciones. The explanation in this "spoken action" is made accessible for diverse audiences

Suport Generalitat de Catalunya Departament de Cultura

In Collaboration with

La Caldera, centre de creació de dansa i arts escèniques; "Danza a Escena-circuito de Danza" Red de Teatros de España; Mercat de les Flors; Biblioteques de Barcelona.

itanitanaudiovisuals; liquidDocs; UmésDos; Nats Nus.