

Sensitive mapping and disorientations of CI with Alexis Pauline Gumbs

How can the words of Alexis Pauline Gumbs help us transforming our ways of practicing CI, an experimental dance form that carries a deeply poetic and political message?

While translating the queer Caribbean diasporic Black feminist writer Alexis Pauline Gumbs into French (« Undrowned. Black Feminist Lessons from Marine Mammals » and « Dub:Finding Ceremony »), Myriam Rabah-Konaté has dived into the Black Atlantic and the Dub poetry and music. She has then felt the necessity to map the disorientations that these stories and memories have caused her.

This class will explore the interaction between poetry, rituals, movement, imagination, ancestrality and sensitive mapping. It will question the margins of CI, the possibility to practice it from our critical perspectives and to propose a counter-perspective on touch, improvisation and anchoring.

Myriam Rabah-Konaté is a dancer, radio documentarist maker, translator and author based in Marseille (France). She started and discovered CI with Lisa Dali in Morocco in 2017. Since then, she has been developing a reflection on the micro-political issues of this form of dance, especially through the sensitive cartography. She is a contributor of the book La perspective de la pomme : histoires, politiques et pratiques du Contact Improvisation (2022).

She is currently working with the Moroccan choreographer Radouan Mriziga on his piece Libya. Her translations of Alexis Pauline Gumbs work's will be publish this autumn in France.