

AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING DEVELOPMENTS IN DANCE Sophia Neises

Short biography - Sophia Neises

Sophia Neises is a freelance performer, choreographer, access-dramaturg, theater educator (MA University of the Arts Berlin) and disability rights activist in the field of culture. She has lived and practiced in Berlin since 2015. Among other things, she has been developing the dance form "Nonvisual Dance" with choreographer Zwoisy Mears-Clarke since 2016. In 2019, she collaborated with Jess Curtis/Gravity in the performance "(In)visible" to explore an accessible dance aesthetic for blind and visually-impaired audiences. Since then, she began exploring the spectrum of audio description as accessibility and audio description as an art form. Thus, she collaborated with Ursina Tossi in 2021 and with Michael Turinsky in 2022 in dance performances at Kampnagel Hamburg to create a poetic audio description embedded in sound. She identifies herself as a disabled artist and encourages us to value people's individual ways of perception to the fullest and to create unconditional access to art already in process.