

# Final report from the residency

Date: 8. – 26. 8. 2024

Venue: Comoedien-Haus Kuks

Project: The Rite of Spring

Participants: Hila Nachshonov, Noga Aharonof, Mor Puterman, Noa Steinberg

---

## OBJECTIVE OF THE RESIDENCY

The residency aimed to further develop Hila Nachshonov's dance piece The Rite of Spring, drawing inspiration from the baroque heritage of Kuks. The residency culminated in a performance of the piece at the foot of the hospital.

## CONTENT AND PROGRESS OF THE RESIDENCY

The creative process began with a guided tour from the Theatrum Kuks Festival organizers, where we visited the museum, the puppet gallery, and explored the village. This introduction gave us insight into Kuks's history, its Baroque philosophy, and how the town's layout and architecture reflect these ideals. Following this, we took time on our own to visit the hospital and gardens, further immersing ourselves in Kuks's environment and absorbing its unique atmosphere.

We delved into research on Baroque music, art, and architecture, and then, as a team of dancers and the choreographer, came together to explore which Baroque and Kuks-inspired elements could enhance our piece. We integrated these influences in several ways:

- **Music:** The Baroque principle of polyphony resonated deeply with us, paralleling Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring, which incorporates similar layered textures. This connection strengthened our musical foundation.
  - **Characteristics:** Baroque complexity, its play of contrasts, and its dramatic intensity inspired us to heighten moments of contrast and tension in our choreography, reflecting both Kuks's architecture and the Baroque ethos.
  - **Philosophy:** We were particularly moved by Kuks's meditations on life and death, reflected in its architectural symbolism. Inspired by this, we added a scene representing the "afterlife" to deepen the philosophical layer of our piece.
  - **Sculpture:** Drawing inspiration from the sculptures spread throughout Kuks, we embodied these forms with our bodies, animating them within our dance.
- 

Nová síť z.s., Komunardů 885/28, 170 00 Praha 7, Česká republika

# ART/ IN/RES

The days leading up to our performance included an immersive experience at the Theatrum Kuks Festival, where we attended a musical show at the church and met with Baroque enthusiasts. These exchanges enriched our understanding and connection to Baroque themes.

On the 22nd, we performed our enhanced piece. Dancing with the village, river, and hospital as our backdrop was a truly remarkable experience, adding a powerful sense of place to our work.

## THE SPECIFIC BENEFITS AND OUTCOMES OF THE RESIDENCY

Overall, the residency experience at Kuks was incredibly meaningful to us. The environment provided an ideal setting for our creative process: a calm atmosphere, close connection to nature, ample time free from other responsibilities, and a refreshing distance from home. As artists, we need sources of inspiration and motivating anchors, and Kuks offered us these in abundance.

The organizers and hosts were exceptionally welcoming and supportive, always ready to assist when we needed anything. We were also grateful for the opportunity to perform and celebrate the culmination of our work in this inspiring setting. Hearing positive feedback from the audience was a wonderful and fulfilling conclusion to our residency experience.

## FUTURE VISION

Thanks to the residency, we are now touring our dance piece across Israel, celebrating the outcome that has become so meaningful to us.

## CONCLUSION

The residency at Kuks was an invaluable experience, providing an inspiring environment that allowed us to dive deeply into Baroque themes and translate them into our dance piece, The Rite of Spring. With the serene setting, generous support from the hosts, and the opportunity to perform, we left feeling creatively fulfilled and enriched by the community's positive feedback. This meaningful time in Kuks now fuels our tour across Israel, where we continue to share this work that resonates so deeply with us.

5. 11. 2024

Hila Nachshonov

---

Nová síť z.s., Komunardů 885/28, 170 00 Praha 7, Česká republika



# ART/ IN/RES



Nová síť z.s., Komunardů 885/28, 170 00 Praha 7, Česká republika



Financováno  
Evropskou unií  
NextGenerationEU



NÁRODNÍ  
PLÁN  
OBNOVY



MINISTERSTVO  
KULTURY



# ART/ IN/RES



Nová síť z.s., Komunardů 885/28, 170 00 Praha 7, Česká republika



Financováno  
Evropskou unií  
NextGenerationEU



NÁRODNÍ  
PLÁN  
OBNOVY



MINISTERSTVO  
KULTURY



# ART/ IN/RES



Nová síť z.s., Komunardů 885/28, 170 00 Praha 7, Česká republika



Financováno  
Evropskou unií  
NextGenerationEU



NÁRODNÍ  
PLÁN  
OBNOVY



MINISTERSTVO  
KULTURY



# ART/ IN/RES



Nová síť z.s., Komunardů 885/28, 170 00 Praha 7, Česká republika



Financováno  
Evropskou unií  
NextGenerationEU



NÁRODNÍ  
PLÁN  
OBNOVY



MINISTERSTVO  
KULTURY