

# OPEN CALL

## Rural Movements - Two residencies in Östra Ämtervik, Värmland 2021



Silo next to Sjösalä, 5 Sept 2020. Photo Anna Asplind

### Background

RURAL MOVEMENTS- is a platform and residency where countryside and choreography meet in production and public events in Östra Ämtervik and its surroundings. RURAL MOVEMENTS is a collaboration between Riksteatern, Region Värmland, Riksteatern Värmland, Kultur på landsbygd and Alma Löv Museum of Unexp. Art.

Alma Löv Museum of Unexp. Art is a contemporary art museum in Östra Ämtervik which consists of a number of sculptures and pavillions spread out in the naturew area, plus the main building, 'Paleis Oranjestraat' a three-storey barn with a theater, exhibition rooms and a café. Alma Löv Museum of Unexp. Art has a permanent art collection and organizes annual temporary exhibitions and cultural events with both Swedish and international artists.

In the same area Alma Löv Museum of Unexp. Art operates Residency Gunnerud, which is an artists' residency and a meeting place for the community and artists working with culture in all its different forms. Apart from these two places, a community hall for rehearsals is being established at Sjösalä, in collaboration with Bydteutveckling i Emtervik.

Sjösalä has functioned as a meeting place for the area since the 1940s after it was rebuilt from a dairy to a cinema. The building, with a small traditional stage, a large hall with a beautiful wooden floor and a café area, has over the years been a well-visited place where ballroom dancing, revues and concerts have been arranged.

RURAL MOVEMENTS has established itself with local organizations, clubs and the area's residents. During 2020 an artistic inventory was completed in the area, which is the foundation for the residency's activities and focus.

# OPEN CALL RESIDENCY # 1 - CHOREOGRAPHY AND DANCE

## DANSBANAN - Choreography as movement and political power



A Dansbana / A Dance Floor, Collection Skellefteå museum, downloaded 200731

### Task

A choreographer is invited to examine Dansbanan - an open air dancefloor - as a concept; as a meetingplace, people's movement, a historical event, etc. An art project which will develop together with the local area and community.

The residency will start together with the opening of Alma Löv museum of Unexp. Arts annual summer exhibition. One of the pavilions will feature an exhibition about Dansbanan besides which will be a movable and adaptable dance floor which can be used as a stage or meeting place during the residency.

The purpose is to give space for an artistic process with the theme of choreography as both movement and political power in relation to Dansbanan. The process will first be initiated in a program of activities, conversations and workshops at Alma Löv museum of Unexp. Art. One part of the program is a guided walk around Askerudsberget, north of Östra Ämtervik, where a number of different gathering sites and ruins of old dance floors have been marked out. The residency's format gives the artist and the area an opportunity to find meeting points which can contribute to a social and political power.

During the residency there will be opportunities for public meetings and activities to test ideas and experiment with different methods. The residency will finish with an open showing in line with the relevant restrictions.



## Dansbanan / The Dance Floor

Dansbanan began as a simple meeting place which did not necessarily have a literal 'floor' where the surrounding villages would gather on Saturday nights to socialize and to dance. These dance areas could easily be moved from place to place depending on the need and the circumstances. From this beginning Dansbanan as we know it today started to be built with a literal floor to dance on. The dance floor had a major breakthrough between the 1920s-1940s, when dance floors popped up like mushrooms throughout the Swedish countryside and to dance were a normal part of everyday life. Many dance floors were built in social democratic 'people's parks', and as such were a part of the popular movements of the era. The dance floor encouraged movement of people from place to place, a movement which led to the possibilities but also challenges which have contributed to today's regulation of dance. There are many theories about why Dansbanan have slowly disappeared during recent decades, a dominant one being that the depopulation of countryside villages as a result of urbanization has cleared the dance floors. To work with Dansbanan as a theme is to see the symbiosis between city and countryside where urbanization during a long period has impoverished the countryside.

## Who can apply?

Both choreographers and dancers can apply to the residency.

## Time Period

The residency will take place during two different periods, totalling four weeks during summer 2021. First, a week from the 18th of June - 4th July together with Alma Löv Museum of Unexp. Art's opening on the 19th of June, and then three weeks between the 26th of June - 15 August 2021. The artists of the residency and the Rural Movements artistic project director can also discuss the time plan and arrange another agreement.

## Period 1 (Two weeks, 18-4 July)

The artist of the residency is introduced to the area and the Dansbanan through a program of activities, conversations and workshops. This first period will be an opportunity to explore Dansbanan as a concept, meet the other artists - both from Rural Movements other residencies and from Alma Löv Museum of Unexp. Art - and to get to know the physical area and the local organizations, choreographers, dancers, and other artists.



Dansbanan - modular and mobile. Here under construction 5 th of Sept 20. Photo Mikael Sonnsjö

**Period 2 (Two weeks, 2 Aug-15 Aug)**

The artists of the residency return to Östra Ämtervik to spend two weeks further developing their work with Dansbanan through an artistic production. The process will take its startingpoint from the area and from the program the artist has experienced during the first period.

**Project plan and budget:**

After the first period the artist will plan for the artistic process and the production which will take place during the second period. The artist of the residency will suggest a plan and a production budget within a given framework. The budget must include costs for materials, technology, fees, etc. The plan and budget will be submitted by the 19th of July and will be approved in consultation with the partners Riksteatern, Region Värmland, Riksteatern Värmland, Kultur på landsbygd and Alma Löv Museum of Unexp. Art.



The Gunneruds House when it was a nursing home, Ö Emtervik hembygdsfören. Photo Archive, downloaded 210322.

**Practical Information:**

During the residency, the artists will live and work in Östra Ämtervik at Residency Gunnerud. Sjösala community hall is the main workplace and stage. The artist of the residency will also have access to both Alma Löv Museum of Unexp. Art during the museum's opening hours and to an adaptable and portable dancefloor which can be used as a stage, platform, dividers or other spatial purposes. During 2021 the dance floor will be on the grounds of Alma Löv Museum of Unexp. Art.

From Residency Gunnerud it is a 20 minute walk to Sjösala where one can find a convenience store. It is advantageous to have a car and licence during the residency for increased freedom of movement. Transport to and from the local train station at the beginning and end of the residency can be arranged.



### The residency offers:

- Compensation fee 48 000 sek + vat (F-tax is obligatory) and production costs
- Housing at Recidency Gunnerud
- Workspaces for public gatherings
- An introduction to local organizations and stakeholders
- Hosting and project advice

### To be included with your application:

- CV
- A description of why you are interested in working with this format (max 1 A4)
- Short description of your artistic experience
- Attach a video or links to previous work
- Title your application "Rural Movements residency # 1 Dansbanan"

The application must arrive at Rural Movements no later than midnight on April 30th. Applicants can expect a reply to be sent by the 15th of May. Decisions will be made with the consultation of a selection group consisting of representatives of the partners and the community.

Rural Movements is a three year long regional dance residency which will establish and develop itself in Värmland during 2021-2023. The purpose of the initiative is to strengthen the ongoing development of dance and support existing and new arenas for public gatherings in the countryside.

### FOR REGISTRATION:

<https://riksteatern.varbi.com/en/what:registration/jobID:2985/>

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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Ruins of an old dansbana at Askeruds hill  
Photo Anna Asplind



Sjösala Community Hall  
Photo Anna Asplind



Sjösala Community Hall  
Photo Anna Asplind