

Šeni! Balança

Maputo 16.02 2010

Sem balança
Dance and visual communication about global warming. Kristine Watten Sørensen and Soley Stefansdottir

Background:

There is a big difference between the amount of cultural activities in Maputo and the other parts of Mozambique. Maputo is a lively city filled with cultural events; festivals, exhibitions, dance, music and art of various kinds. That is normal and important in order to build a strong capital but it is also important to work in the rural areas. The policy of decentralization is still weak in Mozambique and there is very limited initiative and support for activities outside of Maputo.

Therefore we want to create a project where we travel to other parts of the country and work with the people there.

The title and subject of the project is in part a continuation of work already done by students of ENAV. There was a workshop where the students created an exhibition in relation to the citizen consultation meeting: World Wide Views on Global Warming here in Maputo. The artwork was created with recycled material and related to global warming in different ways. After that two of the students got funding to go for a study trip to Iceland and Norway. Their task was to observe the environmental affairs there and do a documentary/video art and animation about their observations. This work will partly be used in the Balance project.

The Project:

Sem balança. Dance and visual communication about global warming.

The subject matter of the project is environmental affairs and the title Balance will be the working concept in the creative process of dance and visual communication about global warming.

We will travel to two different places in Mozambique where there are different types of traditional dance. In each place we will work with the Culture house there and give workshops with local dancers and visual artists to create a **Balance** performance.

Choreography will be developed based on the traditional dance there and visual material and scenography from the local area and visual world there. The dance and the visual communication are integrated and thought of as collaborative elements that can together communicate in a strong way. The role of the visual is to bring context to the dance by communicating facts and thoughts about the environment as well as working esthetically. The dance uses its magical language to give the information depth and meaning.

Kristine Watten Sorensen (FK participant teaching dance in END in Maputo) and Vintany Nafassi (a local dancer from the National Dance Company in Maputo) will lead the dance part. They will give workshops and get workshops to learn from the local dancers and together create choreographies for the final show. Soley Stefansdottir (FK participant teaching graphic design in ENAV in Maputo) and David Aguacheiro (a graphic design finalist in ENAV) will have workshop with people interested in visual arts, film and photography in making the scenography for the final show, promotion material and material collection for the book and DVD that will be made after the project.

We will visit two places in rural Mozambique, from north to south of the country, where the traditional dance culture is strong. The places we have decided on are Pemba and Quilemane.

Objectives and goals:

- Learn traditional dances in different areas of Mozambique and bring back to Maputo.
- Stimulate a discussion and awareness about the environment using art and creativity as a medium.
- Giving the people in smaller towns of Mozambique a chance to participate in a workshop.
- Increase the FK-participants experience in project management.
- To give the FK-participants a chance to get a better understanding of Mozambique and its culture and by that bringing that knowledge back to the Norway.

Deliverables:

In the trip:

2 performances in the places we go to with choreography and scenography.

Promotion material for the show.

In Maputo:

- Workshops with students from ENAV and END.
- A book with a documentary DVD about the project with a mixed focus of traditional dance and culture and the environment.
- This work will be a valuable source for the final show we want to do as FK participants in Mozambique and in our after-work in Norway.

Project management:

- Dance: Kristine Watten Sørensen and Vintany Nafassi
 - Visual communication: Soley Stefansdottir and David Aguacheiro
- On behalf of Mono project: Kulturskolen i Fredrikstad, ENAV and END