

# Maja Karolina Franke, BA

DANCE – CIRCUS – PERFORMANCE ARTIST

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Date of birth: 22.07.1988

Nationality: Austria

Based in Vienna



## Work | Performance and Choreography

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- 2026            the whale and the dandelion - fragment I: affect  
in the framework of an MA-research about relational vulnerability  
Arnhem, NL  
*creator and performer*
- Zoé  
Future Narratives for Planet Earth/Creative Europe / Lisa Horvath  
*choreographer and performer*
- 2025            Aging Trouble  
Follow the Rabbit, Graz / Nadja Brachvogel  
*choreographer*
- Der Prozess Pelicot  
Wiener Festwochen / Milo Rau, Servane Dècle  
*performer*
- Burgtheater (E. Jelinek)  
Burgtheater and Wiener Festwochen, Director: Milo Rau  
*performer (role: Mitzi)*
- 2024            contours of constraint  
research  
*creator and performer*
- Mission Mutter Theresa  
Kollektiv KRA, Vienna/Graz  
*choreographer*
- Wir.War – Wütenden Weiber\* wollen die Weltmenschenschaft  
research, Director: Ariane Oechsner  
*choreographer and performer*
- Stand.Punkte

Research / recipient of BMKÖS Arbeitsstipendium  
*creator and performer (with Nina Dafert)*

Ein Ring hat vier Ecken a wrestling piece  
Forum Stadtpark, Graz Director: Victoria Fux  
*performer*

Home Parcour Reloaded  
Company Two in One / Choreography: Ákos Hargitay  
Dschungel, Vienna  
*performer*

Member of the artistic jury for curating Residencies and Performances  
at Red Sapata, Linz  
*curator*

articulated – back then we were always naked  
Das Planetenparty Prinzip  
*choreographer*

Saltice  
SILK fluegge / European Capital of Culture Bad Ischl, Salzkammergut  
*performer*

Nosferatu Burgtheater Wien  
*performer*

2023 Universal Waschgang in collaboration with Waschsalon Records  
*choreographer and performer*

Passagieren  
Musiktheatertage Wien in collaboration with Studio Dan  
*performer and choreographic advisor*

Shibari and Circus  
Research  
*creator and performer (with Sabine Maringer)*

mOthers.beasts  
Choreography: Anna Knapp, Semmelweislinik-Kunst- und Kulturzentrum  
*choreographic assistant*

2022 RE/ACT!  
2020-21 research  
2021-2023 Festival Tour (e.g. Imaginarius Festival, Krapoldi, Kultursommer Wien,  
Zirkustheater Festival Dresden)  
*creator and performer (with Ralph Öllinger)*

Am Galgen  
Das Planetenpartyprinzip / Director: Simon Windisch  
*choreographic support*

- Fear the Women in the Dark*  
 Follow the Rabbit / Director: Simon Windisch  
 La Strada Graz – International Streetart Festival  
 performer
- About the Carsonys*  
 Wohnpartner Wien  
 creator and performer (with Nina Dafert)
- PLAY*  
 research with Fausto Tenorio and Ralph Öllinger  
 creator and performer
- 2021 recipient of Startstipendium (grant for research) on gender roles and gender stereotypes in partnering and partner acrobatics
- Hold me, baby!*  
 On the edge-Festival / WUK performing arts Vienna  
 creator and performer
- Memory – an expedition: circus in national socialism*  
 Ariane Oechsner, Vienna  
 performer, co-choreographer
- Spectacle müssen seyn* a performative city walk in Vienna  
 Arne Mannott  
 performer
- Über Piratinnen – Geschwestern der See*  
 Töchter der Kunst / Director: Nico Wind  
 Dschungel, Vienna  
 performer
- 2020 *Wiener Teppich* art movie  
 KreativKultur  
 performer
- 2019 *OUT-SIDE-IN*  
 2018-19 research and showings  
 2019-2020 Festival Tour: e.g. Winterfest, Salzburg, Tanzhafen Festival Linz  
 creator and performer (with Ralph Öllinger)
- Les Valses des Vienne*  
 St. Denis-Théâtre, Montreal/Canada / Choreography: Sharon Booth  
 performer
- 2018 *Lust-voll*  
 Momomento / Director: Victoria Halper  
 Theaterland Steiermark Festival, Kristallwerk Graz, Theater Brett Vienna  
 performer

The Magic Flute

Salzburg Festival / Director: Lydia Steier  
performer

Meeting Point

ego portrait – a circus-dance perspective  
Festival Tour 2018-2023  
creator and performer

Um zwei beginnt die Revolution

Theater Ansicht / Choreography: Christina Rauchbauer, Dschungel Vienna  
performer

Plan B - Sechs Personen suchen eine Arbeit

theater t'eig Graz / Director: Thomas Sobotka  
choreographer and dance coaching

2017

Co-founding of ego portrait – a circus-dance perspective with Ralph Öllinger with focus on partner acrobatics, dance and object manipulation

Cross the Line

Showings in Germany and the Netherlands  
creator and performer

Aphrodite's faces

Dance CharActers Vienna  
choreographer

2016

The Queen of Colours

Theater Feuerblau Graz  
Kindermuseum Graz and touring 2016-2020  
performer

Philoktet (Heiner Müller)

theater t'eig Graz / Director: Thomas Sobotka  
Joanneumsviertel, Graz  
performer

Final Season

Spielraum Ensemble / Concept and Stage: Lisa Horvath  
La Strada Graz and national touring  
performer

Identity Taken – a circus show

Akrosphere Graz  
director and choreographer

Are you Awake?

Final presentation show ‚Day and Night‘ of BG/BRG Wels Dr. Schauer Straße  
choreographer

- 2015 *The Gruffelo*  
Theater Feuerblau Graz  
ongoing touring 2015-now
- If I could...then I would*  
tanz.coop Vienna  
Tribüne Linz  
performer
- Sunset – Sunrise*  
Town hall Vienna  
creator and performer (with Danilo Campisi)
- apart-ment<sup>3</sup>* video project  
director and choreographer
- 2014 *I wanna be a supernatural rocket*  
tanz.coop Vienna  
Brunnenpassage Vienna and touring  
performer and choreographic assistant
- Ein Sommernachtstraum - eine dekonstruktion*  
Spielraum Ensemble / Concept and Stage: Lisa Horvath  
Theater am Lend Graz and touring  
Award-winning piece: BestOFFStyria-Festival  
performer
- 2012-2015 Member of *flowmotion dance company* / Director: Florian Berger  
National and international touring  
performer
- 2012 *Hold*  
research  
creator and performer
- Passion Plays* Mettmach  
Director: Otmar Wenzl,  
performer and choreographer
- 2011 *Six Degrees of Separation*  
Some Moments in the Dancers' Bodies Linz / Choreography: Johannes Randolf  
performer
- 2010 *The Dharma at Big Sur*  
Kons goes Proms, Museumsquartier Vienna / Choreography: Darrel Toulon  
performer
- DIEopheliaMASCHINE*  
Tanztheater Homunculus / Choreography: Manfred Aichinger

Kosmos Theater Vienna  
*performer*

Wandlung - Revisiting Susanne Linke  
Short Pieces / Theater Akzent Vienna  
*performer and choreographer*

## Work | Teaching and Facilitating

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Workshops | Partnering, Contemporary Upside Down,  
Stage Fighting, violence on stage - real and unreal

Burgtheater Vienna (2025)  
Impulstanz Vienna / Public Moves (2024)  
MUK University Vienna (2024)  
Dschungel Wien (2024)  
Pro Dance Vienna (2022-2024)  
Red Sapata, Linz (2019)  
Circustrainingszentrum, Salzburg (2019)  
amongst others

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since 2026: part of the facilitator team of raw matters

since 2025: building an approach for facilitating peer-to-peer feedback, facilitating informal sessions for peers

2024/2025 member of the artistic jury for residencies and performances at Red Sapata, Linz

## Education

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since 2025	MA program Performance Practices ArtEZ University of Arts, Arnhem
2011 - 2012	BA program Dance Pedagogy/Movement Studies Anton Bruckner University Linz
2006 – 2010	BA program: Modern and Contemporary Dance Conservatory Vienna University
2006	school leaving examination in Wels, Austria

## Additional Skills and Interests

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Shibari  
Kink and Consent Practices  
Partner acrobatics, Hand-to-Hand

Handstand  
Trapeze (aerial work)  
Vipassana Meditation Practice  
Kink and Consent Practices  
Wrestling Training  
Voice and Acting Training  
Competitive ballroom dancer (Professional Division) in Latin American Dances  
Kalarippayat (Indian martial art)