

# C.V.

## Marija Šćekić

choreographer, dancer, producer

Artistic director of Histeria NOVA Artistic organization

[www.histeria-nova.hr](http://www.histeria-nova.hr)

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### **BIOGRAPHY:**

Professionally trained in classical ballet, contemporary dance and butoh, Marija Šćekić studied choreography and contemporary dance at Concordia University in Montréal (Canada). Before returning to her homeland, she pursued her research in dance by traveling and learning different dance techniques in Canada, USA and Europe. In 2000, she returned to Croatia and began her professional career as independent choreographer, dancer, dance teacher and producer.

Her deep passion for analysis of movement energy transformation (human, air or planetary) fused into choreography as a common place in early 1996 during studies in contemporary dance, electroacoustics and planetary geology at Concordia University. Since that time, she has continued to work in the same direction and self-produced many original works, from full-evening group choreographies and solo performances to educationally designed programs and multimedia events. In 2005, she founded Histeria NOVA Artistic organization and collaborated with many artists, teachers and performers in Croatia and abroad.

At the moment she lives in a small village Petřčane (North Dalmatia) while creating her new 3-year project „The Gates of Velebit“ in collaboration with Paklenica National park (South Velebit). She also works as a teacher and program director at School for Ballet and Contemporary dance in Šibenik.

### **AWARDS:**

- 2007. **European Commission Special Acknowledgement for innovation, creativity and artistic expression for preservation of nature and environment** in dance piece „MODULATION shape 2“
- 2007. **European Commission Special Acknowledgement for promotion of the importance of the entrepreneurship of young people in Croatia**
- 2006. **Croatian Association of Dramatic Artists Award**, for dance piece „SJENA“ as the best dance piece of the year and 3 nominated categories (best creation, choreography and performance)
- 1999. **Concordia Contemporary Dance Prize, Montreal** (for outstanding academic achievement)

### **EDUCATION:**

- 1995-1999 **Concordia University Contemporary Dance Department**, (Montreal, Canada)  
**BFA in Contemporary dance and choreography**
- 1997. **L'Ecole de Danse de Quebec**, (Quebec City, Canada)  
Improvisation and creative process (2 semesters)
- 1993-1994 **Lewisham College** – London, England (Cambridge Certificate in English language)
- 1989-1993 **Gymnasium «A.G.Matoš»** - Đakovo, Croatia (orientation: arts and culture)
- 1981-1993 **Primary school Vladimir Nazor**, Đakovo, Croatia
- 1978-1993 **Classical ballet school of Štefanije Heller**/ Đakovo, Croatia (classical ballet)

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

### • **Artistic Creation, Direction and Management:**

#### **Full evening choreographies**

«Little Tragedy» vertical dance performance (2011) Zagreb Dance Center, Croatia  
«Human Error» / premiered at TNT Theatre in Zagreb (2009) interdisciplinary project  
«Modulation shape 2» / multimedia dance performance, Tresnja Theatre in Zagreb (2007)  
«Rhythm of low harmony» / premiered at 24th Music Biennale in Zagreb (2007)  
«Jedno - reconstructed» / performed at Zagreb Puppet Theatre (2005)  
«Sjena» / premiered at Osijek Summer of culture, Croatia (2004)  
«Jedno» / premiered at 19th Week of Contemporary Dance at Teatar Exit in Zagreb (2002)  
«Time...sindrom 4A» / premiered at 18th Week of Contemporary dance at Gavella Theatre in Zagreb, 2002.  
«Modulations» / ART.T.FAC Productions, premiered at Spectrum Theatre (1996-98), Canada

#### **Interdisciplinary projects:**

«The Gates of Velebit» interdisciplinary vertical dance project (2013-2015) Paklenica National Park, Croatia  
«Baccara» multimedia dance performance (2000) Center for culture Đakovo, Croatia  
«Free Fall-Slobodan Pad», premiered at Theatre La Chapelle in Montreal (1999), Canada

### • **Dance teaching:**

2012- current    School for Ballet and Contemporary Dance in Šibenik, Croatia  
Position: Program director and teacher

2011-2012        Iceland Dance Academy, Reykjavik (Iceland)  
Position: program director / contemporary dance teacher

2007-2011        LADO Dance Ensemble ([www.lado.hr](http://www.lado.hr))  
Position: sommatic approach body movement daily trainings

2007-2008        TALA Dance Centre ([www.tala.hr](http://www.tala.hr)) , Studio Body Element ([www.bodyelement.hr](http://www.bodyelement.hr))  
Position: BMC body movement and performance

2006-2009        „Studio for performing arts education“ ([www.studiokubus.hr](http://www.studiokubus.hr))  
Position: program co-creator and stage performance teacher

2004-2006        Ana Maletic School of Contemporary dance ([www.ss-suvremenogplesa-amaletic-zg.skole.hr](http://www.ss-suvremenogplesa-amaletic-zg.skole.hr))  
Position: profesor of choreography and creative process

2001-2009        Position: daily classes and workshops in choreography and performance  
Liberdance Studio ([www.liberdance.hr](http://www.liberdance.hr)), Action Dance Studio ([www.studio-action.hr](http://www.studio-action.hr)), Zadar  
Dance Ensemble, Vem Dance Studio, Stellium dance company ..... in Croatia

- **Personal research in dance:** (for more info: [www.histeria-nova.hr](http://www.histeria-nova.hr))

The human sensorium is made of interconnected system of various sinesthetic qualities such as sight, smell, taste and hearing, among others. "Sinetografija" is Marija's invented word as a synonym for her long-term research in the field of neuroscience and somatic approach body movement. The word, as an idea comes from two words: Sinesthesia (a neurological condition in which two or more bodily senses are coupled) and Choreography. Main partners:

**Byte Lab/ IT electronica** in Zagreb- creation of wireless motion capture system ([www.byte-lab.com](http://www.byte-lab.com))

**Paklenica National Park** in Starigrad-paklenica (South Velebit mountain) – for protection of endangered cultural and natural heritage of Velebit Mountain and related environment issues ([www.paklenica.hr](http://www.paklenica.hr))

## **DANCE COLLABORATIONS:**

**Position: Assistant choreographer, rehearsal director and creative adviser**

«**Chemistry Experiment**» /produced by Julie Duzyk & F.Effect Prod./ Montreal (1999)

«**Migration 1**» / produced by Ensemble Sauvage Public Productions, Montreal- Kanada (1999)

«**Priprema, Pozor, Sad**» / choreographed by Rajko Pavlič, produkcija: Liberdance/ Tvornica Zagreb, (2001)

«**She, Myself and I**» / humanitarian project, produced by Stellium Studio and Istrian National Theatre (2002)

**Position: Dancer**

«**Hara's Quest**» / author: Barbara Lewis, Cutting Edge Productions. (1996-1997)

«**Brownian Motion**» / choreographed by Ame Henderson., Studio 303/Montreal (1996-1997)

«**Tout Faux**» / choreographed by Julie Lebel, Amelie Langevin, Vitriol Ensemble Production (1999)

## **RELATED EXPERIENCE:**

**Organization and Management:**

OSCAR PETERSON CONCERT HALL- Montreal (1997-1999)

Concert Hall Assistant Director and Front-of-House Manager

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY - DANCE DEPARTMENT- Montreal (1995-1999)

Coordinator of annual student works production / Archives coordinator

ATHLETICS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT- Montreal (1995-1997)

Sales manager

LOYOLLA AUDIO-VISUAL DEPARTMENT- Montreal (1996)

Student coordinator and language lab supervisor

## **HOBBIES:**

Astronomy, Neuroscience and Nature