

TRACING ECHOES- RE-STAGING IN COPENHAGEN, ODENSE, RINGKØBING

What do we carry with us when a sense of home starts to dissolve? Where does tradition end, and transformation begin?

Tracing Echoes is a 45 minute long contemporary dance duet, choreographed and performed by Giorgia Reitani and Paulína Šmatláková, produced by Gipali Productions and co-produced by Nordisk Teaterlaboratorium. It explores how memory, cultural roots, and displacement shape our sense of identity. The piece portrays character transformation and reflects the fragile balance between honoring the past and letting go of outdated traditions. Set against the backdrop of rising nationalism and social polarization, *Tracing Echoes* highlights challenges in shaping identity and redefining oneself in today's Europe. The performers move through sculptural installations made from MC cassettes, creating a playful yet unstable world where something is always at stake.

With its premiere in Holstebro in November 2026, the piece is planning further presentations in spring 2027. We hold a letter of interest from Dansekapellet in Copenhagen and have an agreement in place with KOMA Ballet in Odense. We are also in dialogue with Vestjyllands Højskole in Ringkøbing regarding a potential collaboration. Each presentation will be accompanied by a dance workshop and a discussion with the local community, offering an opportunity to share artistic methods behind the performance and engage emerging dance artists in an exploration of the work's themes.

Rather than presenting the work as a one-time production, the touring supports its continued evolution and sustainability through new performance contexts and artistic dialogue. By connecting performances with educational outreach and cross-institutional collaborators the project supports the long-term life of the work and aims to build lasting connections with audiences across Denmark.

During our production period in Copenhagen (August 2026) we organized two successful work-sharings with Efterslægten HF-Centret and Danseuddannelsen by Sara Gaardbo. The teachers considered the topic very valuable for the students and expressed interest to engage more with the performance in the future. The requested support from København Kommunen covers the Copenhagen part of the touring period: two weeks of rehearsals and technical preparation at Dansekapellet, followed by three performances at the venue. The total stay in Copenhagen will be approximately two and a half weeks.

Relevance-Target group

Tracing Echoes speaks to anyone who feels the struggle and pressure of finding their place while carrying the cultural and emotional weight of the past. The core audience group includes adults and young adults aged 14-35, particularly from multicultural backgrounds, who face challenges of cultural displacement, generational expectations, and the search for belonging in new environments.

The team (for restaging)

Choreography & Performance - Giorgia Reitani & Paulína Šmatláková

Production assistance - Linn Fletcher

Scenography & light design - Aleksandra Lewoń

Technicians - Provided by the venues