

## BABEȘ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITY



## HUNOR VARGA

Associate professor

### 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Contact information
  - **Email:** hunor.varga@ubbcluj.ro
  - **Phone:** +0756582742
  - **Institutional address:** No. 4 Mihail Kogălniceanu Street, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- Website or academic profiles
  - **ORCID:**
  - **ResearcherID:**

### 2. RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Contemporary dance and choreographic practices
- Practice-based and artistic research in choreography
- The body as archive and site of knowledge in performance
- Performativity of gender and queer embodiment in dance
- Gender studies, queer theory and political body in performing arts
- Somatic practices and embodied methodologies

### 3. ARTISTIC STATEMENT

My artistic practice is situated at the intersection of contemporary dance, choreography, and performance, with a strong interest in queer culture, gender studies, and the political dimensions of the body. Working from a practice-based and autoethnographic perspective, I explore the relationship between the subjective body and the collective body, investigating how identity, artificiality, and social norms are constructed, embodied, and contested through movement. My choreographic work often operates as a form of performative critique or manifesto, engaging with current socio-political contexts and questions of visibility, power, and resistance. I am particularly interested in collective creation processes, group dynamics, and the sustainability of choreographic structures over time, as well as in pedagogical and compositional strategies that challenge normative representations of the performing body.

#### 4. EDUCATION

2024-present **DLA in Theatre and Performing Arts**. Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania. Thesis: Identity Move. Coordinator: dr. Habit. Prof. University. Miros Bacs

2021-2023 **MA in Theatre Directing** Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania. Dissertation: dirActor.

2022-2023 **Academy of Dance and Performance**. National Dance Centre Bucharest

2016-2019 **BA in Acting**. Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania. Dissertation: Under Construction.

#### 5. ACADEMIC POSITIONS & EMPLOYMENT

2024 – present **Associate professor**. Faculty of Theatre and Film, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania.

#### 6. PUBLICATIONS

##### 6.1. Books

##### 6.2. Edited books

##### 6.2. Peer-reviewed journal articles

##### 6.3. Book chapters

##### 6.4. Other publications (reviews, essays, blogs, etc.)

#### 7. ARTISTIC PRACTICE

##### 7.1. Artistic Production Credits

2025

**Richard III** – *Choreographer*, theatre performance; director: **Andrei Măjeri**; production: **Teatrul Regina Maria**

**Metanoia** – *Performer, Choreographer, Concept*, solo dance performance

**Amprente** – *Performer*, theatre performance; director: **Delia Gavliţchi**; production: **Asociaţia Refugiu de Creaţie**

**On the Poetics of Touch** – *Performer*, dance performance; choreography: **Mariana Gavriciuc**; production: **Asociaţia Delazero**

2024

**Unstable Comrades** – *Performer*, dance performance, Stanica, Belgrade; choreography by **Igor Koruga**

**Jinx, Nevasta** – *Performer*, video installation, Eigen+Art Lab, Berlin; exhibition by **Catinca Malaimare**

**Mă împart la zero** – *Choreography*, theatre performance; director: **George Zamfir**;  
production: **Reactor de creație și experiment**

## **2023–2024**

**Bodies on the Line** – *Performer and text*, dance performance; choreography by **Ioana Marchidan**

**Who Killed My Father?** – *Performer*, theatre performance; director **Andrei Măjeri**

**Her+Her+You** – *Performer*, video installation; concept by **Catinca Malaimare**, London

## **2021–2023**

**The 6th Day** – *Performer and Director*, dance theatre performance, Váróterem Projekt Theatre

**Sculpting Space** – *Performer*, dance performance; choreography by **Oana Mureșan**

**Terrain of Meeting** – *Performer*, street performance and live streaming; Shoshin Theatre Association & Academia Ruhu (PL); directors **Zbigniew Olkiewicz** and **Jaroslav Sie**

**(In)Dependent** – *Performer and choreography*; director **Marius Lupoian**

## **Previous Years**

**Zarvă** – *Performer*, street performance; Shoshin Theatre Association; directors **Köllő Csongor** and **Györgyjakab Enikő**

**Streetwalker** – *Performer*, open-air ready-made gallery performance; KUD Ljud Theatre Company, Ljubljana

**Under Construction** – *Performer*, theatre performance; director **Sipos Krisztina**

**Fishez** – *Performer*, theatre performance; director **Sipos Krisztina**

**Un apartament cu cinci camere** – *Performer*, performative installation, collective creation

**Elysium** – *Performer*, theatre performance; director **Benedek Zsolt**

**Carol mica cioară** (Bertóti Johanna) – *Performer*, educational theatre performance; director **Visky Andrej**

**Vorbe** – *Performer*, educational theatre performance; director **Visky Andrej**

**Alcestis (Apollo)** – *Performer*, adaptation after Euripides; director **Visky Andrej**

**Little Prince** – *Performer*, non-verbal performance; director **Vadas László**

**In Between Homes** – *Director's Assistant*, immersive theatre performance; director **Andreea Iacob**

## 7.2. Artistic Residencies & Workshops

### 2025

In 2025, I led four professional workshops focused on embodied research and performative practices. Three workshops titled **Thinking Flesh** explored somatic awareness, corporeal thinking, and compositional strategies: a four-day intensive workshop, a five-day intensive workshop, and a four-day private workshop developed for an emerging dance company. In addition, I facilitated a one-week workshop titled **CTRL+ALT+POSE** in Cluj-Napoca, addressing gender performativity, embodiment, and movement dramaturgy through practice-based research.

Alongside my pedagogical activity, I initiated and curated a series of public conferences on the cartography of contemporary dance, bringing together invited artists and practitioners from the Romanian dance scene and beyond, including **Ioana Marchidan**, **Anca Stoica**, **Eva Danciu**, and **Camelia Neagoe**.

Furthermore, I curated and organized a contemporary dance showcase featuring local productions, aimed at strengthening visibility, dialogue, and networking within the local dance community.

### 2023-2024 WORKSHOPS

- **Workshop based on Jooss–Leeder Method, Choreutik and Eukinetic**, with **Lucas Viallefond** – Practical exploration of movement analysis, spatial dynamics, and expressive qualities rooted in European modern dance traditions.
- **Reflection on European Dance Histories**, with **Miriam Althammer** – Critical engagement with historical and contextual perspectives on contemporary European dance practices.
- **What Kind of Body Do I Imagine? Pre-techniques of Contemporary Dance (Pilates, Yoga)**, with **Andreea Belu** – Somatic approaches to body awareness, alignment, and preparatory movement practices.
- **Translating Action. Situating a Practice**, performance art workshop, with **Irina Buca Botea** – Investigation of performative action, context, and authorship through performance-based research.
- **Between Effort, Space and Form / Dance Images and Artistic Preferences**, with **Galina Borissova** – Exploration of movement qualities and compositional choices informed by effort and spatial awareness.
- **My Body**, ballet workshop, with **Carmen Coțofană** – Ballet-based training focused on body placement, coordination, and technical clarity.
- **Power Sources and Playful Body**, with **Laura Aris** – Research into physical energy, playfulness, and performative presence.

- **Living in Toxicity**, with **Iva Svetshtarova** – Performative strategies addressing vulnerability, endurance, and socio-political themes.
- **Fountains of Expressive Flow**, with **Sigal Zouk** and **Jan Burkhardt** – Development of expressive movement flow and embodied musicality.
- **Movements for Physical Optimism**, with **Marco Milic** – Practice focused on vitality, movement efficiency, and positive physical engagement.
- **Tools for a Thinking Body**, with **Marta Coronado** – Methods for integrating cognition, perception, and movement research.
- **Repertory Workshop**, with **Noa Zuk** – Learning and embodying contemporary dance repertory.
- **Playing with Possibilities**, with **Gisela Müller** – Improvisational strategies and compositional experimentation.
- **Body-Image Exploration Techniques**, with **Simona Deaconescu** – Investigation of body perception, image, and transformation in contemporary choreography.

## 2022 WORKSHOPS

**International New Circus Workshop**, with **Varga Heni**, **Döbri Dénes**, **Nicola Fraiseau**, and **Robert Benz** – Interdisciplinary training combining contemporary circus techniques, movement research, and collective physical practice.

**Masterclass / Pre-audition BCDA**, with **Dóra Furulyás** and **Várnagy Kristóf** – Professional-level training focused on contemporary dance technique, performative readiness, and audition practice.

**Mechanics of Distance**, with **Mészáros Máté** – Research-based workshop exploring spatial relations, proximity, and distance as compositional and performative tools.

## 8. GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2025 AFCN Grant – *Project Initiator / Artistic Director*, *Pre-Hysteria* – Dance. Public. Community, 50,000 EUR

## 9. CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

2014

Nume, Prenume. “A Examination of the Citation Habits of College Students.” Paper presented at the EasyBib Information Literacy Conference, New York, NY, July 2014.

## 10. TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **Education of Bodily Expression. BA Level.**

Designed and taught a practical course focused on bodily awareness, movement expressivity, and foundational physical training for stage performance. The course addressed coordination, balance, spatial perception, and embodied presence through structured exercises and creative tasks.

### **Research and Creative Workshop: Physical Theatre. MA Level.**

Designed and taught a practice-based research workshop exploring physical theatre, movement composition, and embodied dramaturgy. Students developed individual and collective performance materials through somatic practices, improvisation, and research-driven creation processes.

## 11. THESIS AND DISSERTATION SUPERVISION

## 12. SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

### 12.1. Journal editorial roles, peer review experience

### 12.2. Conference organization

### 12.3. Memberships in professional associations

**Member, co-founder and artistic director.** HYSTERIA COLLECTIVE (2024-)

**Member of the board.** Waitingroom Project (2019-2022)

## 13. OUTREACH & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

### 13.1. Public lectures, interviews, media appearances

### 13.2. Community engagement projects