

# Brenda Isabel Steinecke Soto



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1978 born in Medellin, Colombia. Early educated in classical ballet, after finishing school, Brenda went to Germany for educating. After 18 years learning, working and performing in Europe, she returned 2013 to live in Colombia, where she launched the Fundación Espacio Arte, a non-profit organization based in a rural region of Medellin (Colombia) and which approach relies on boosting dynamics of social transformation through multidisciplinary artistic and pedagogical projects. In Europe, parallel to her studies in philosophy and Literature (MA of the University of Hamburg), she attended classes, workshops and summer academies on contemporary dance techniques and contemporary choreographic work and got involved as a teacher and performer with Argentinian Tango. In numerous projects, participating as a performer, creator and doer, her artistic work emerges through the dialog between choreography and other disciplines, always having a singular relationship to the concrete space and social environment.

Brenda Isabel's artistic path has developed in an experimental context, exploring different approaches and methods through the body, the word and the image. Her academic background and her concern about the social and political dimension of artistic work have shaped her professional inquiries. She has been engaged with different artist's collective in Germany and Colombia, an experience which has foster a deep believe in the value of collaborative work, reformulating continually the concept of authorship. As a teacher, Brenda's pedagogical conviction relies in the intrinsic relationship of reciprocity underlying every learning process. She deeply believes that each person has a creative potential whose exploration generates processes of transformation and redefinition, with the potential to emancipate from each one's initial conditions.

Since she came back to live and work in Colombia, she has engaged and fostered artistic, as well as cultural and political processes in Medellin. Together with two other organizations in the region, she was a cofounder of the MOVIMIENTO CULTURAL SANTA ELENA and with dancer and choreographer Mercedes Pedroche she created the artistic collective ARBOL\_procesos creativos vivos. She is the president of the Cultural Council for Santa Elena and is part of the Dance Council and the Council for Cultural Heritage in Medellin. She also has have the opportunity to collaborate with several artists and to provide guidance and support to projects in the city. In collaboration with professor Jonathan Echeverri, in 2017 she started giving a course on anthropology and performance at the Universidad de Antioquia.

## Project Selection

- 2017: [things untold // como un cuerpo](#). Collaborative research process with plastic artist [Kirstin Burckhardt](#). The aim of this research is to take an explicitly corporeal perspective on the current social climate in Colombia following the peace agreement of 2016. Medellin, February – March 2017
- 2016: [Naturaleza de las Herramientas](#). Documentary Performance. Concept and artistic Direction: Brenda I. Steinecke Soto. Performance and Music: Adrián Ruiz Amariles. Musik: Pablo Ruiz. Medellín, 19.11.2016. Funded by the Secretaría de Cultura Ciudadana, Medellín.  
[PRIMER FOTO JUVENIL DE PATRIMONIO DE SANTA ELENA](#). A two month academic and recreational event around the rich cultural heritage of Santa Elena and the youth culture of this rural part of Medellín. Funded by the Secretaría de Cultura Ciudadana, Medellín  
[Árido. Seda. Un Camino](#). Concept und artistic direction: Mercedes Pedroche and Juan Felipe Caicedo. Dramaturgy and Production: Brenda I. Steinecke Soto. Medellín, 22. and 23.03.2016, Pequeño Teatro, Medellín. Funded by the Secretaría de Cultura Ciudadana, Medellín.
- 2015: [HABITAR](#). Movement and choreographic research around the concept of ‚Habitat‘. In Collaboration with Mercedes Pedroche (Spanien) und Cristóbal B. Corvalán (Chile). Showing: 3.12.2105, Parque de los Deseos, Medellín.  
[NEARLY THERE](#). Choreographic Trilogy in the context of the activities of the artist Collective Bassedanse Projec. Artistic Direction, production and performance: Brenda I. Steinecke Soto, Antoine Effroy and Swanhild Kruckelmann. 12.-13., 26.-27.6, 10.-11.7. and 24.-25.7.2015, Mojo Club Hamburg. Funded by Kulturbehörde Hamburg, Fonds DaKu, Bezirksamt Hamburg Mitte, ICPA Colombia, Institut Francaise.  
[BUTOH HAPPENING](#). Collaborative work with the Butoh performer and teacher Gyohei Zaitzu. 29.4.2015, Parque de los Deseos, Medellín.  
Together with dancer and choreographer [Mercedes Pedroche](#), co-foundation of the artists collective [ARBOL procesos creativos vivos](#), Medellín/Kolumbien.
- 2014: February – November: Co-Direction of the community-art project ‚[Convites Culturales Santa Elena](#)‘, which was designed to strengthen the cultural identity of Santa Elena, a rural region of Medellin.
- 2013: Founding of [FUNDACIÓN ESPACIO ARTE](#). Medellin / Colombia.  
Co-Founding of the [MOVIMIENTO CULTURAL SANTA ELENA](#), a group of interest composed by Espacio Arte, a youth group and the Corporación de Artes y Oficios Arcadia with the mean to promote the cultural development of the Santa Elena region.  
VERTICO. Choreographic Installation in the context of the performance cycle [Performing Arts onto the Dancefloor #1](#), 5.7.2013, Mojo Club Hamburg
- 2012: Co-Founding of the artists collective [BASSEDANSE PROJECT](#). Together with the dancers and choreographers Antoine Effroy und Swanhild Kruckelmann. Mojo Club, Hamburg.  
March - July: ICH BIN IM ESTRICH. Artistic research process in collaboration with Kirstin Burckhardt. Results presented at the arts academy HfbK (Hamburg) and in Galleries in Hamburg and Berlin.
- 2011: [Des Schalefs kleine Schwester](#). Site-Specific-Performance in Collaboration with video artist's collective *Inperspekt*. Premiere: 16.9.2011, Stubinz Kulturschiff, Hamburg

2010

- ALL1 FORUM: NO SECRET GARDEN. Interdisciplinary Festival. Co-Conception, Co-Coordination und Realization. Gruenspan, Hamburg. In collaboration with [Ursina Tossi](#) and Johannes Mietke. Funded by Bezirksamt Hamburg Mitte and Gruenspan.
- MISSING LINK. Choreography: Ursina Tossi. Co-Conception und Dramaturgy: Brenda I. Steinecke Soto. Sprechwerk Theater, Hamburg. Funded by the Kulturbehörde Hamburg.

2009

- DREI STÜCK SOLO. Choreografic Collage. Ursina Tossi, Brenda I Steinecke Soto (Dance and choreography), Johannes Mietke (Musik). Eigenarten Festivals. Sprechwerktheater, Hamburg.
- ALL1 FORUM FÜR ZEITGENÖSSISCHER TANZ. Co-Coordination und Realisation. Sprechwerk Theater, Hamburg.

2008

- WASHED AWAY. [Retina Dance Company](#) (Nottingham/UK).
- Assitenz des Choreografen [Philip van Huffel](#) während des Tanzfestivals Dancekiosk / Hamburg.