

## Bettina Hoffmann - Process of creation

My work is located at the intersection of photography, film, sculpture, dance and theatre that results in video tableaux and performances using 'displaced movements' to facilitate the examination of the underlying mechanisms of social relations, conflicts and communication.

I am starting with movement improvisations based on everyday movements with a small group of dancers. In the process, rules are introduced that limit the range of body movements that does not allow for habitual or instinctive movements and consequently force the dancer to work against it, unlearn and relearn (e.g. not being allowed to use hands to hold a falling person in *Hold On*). These improvisations lead towards unusual, sometimes slightly unsettling movements with contradicting elements. They result in ambiguous movements that can shift back and forth from violent or passive-aggressive movements to those that could be interpreted as caring or caressing.

The process reflects similar mechanisms that form a community - adopting behaviour, obeying rules while demonstrating its arbitrariness. Sculptural and spatial parameters like verticality and horizontality are used to reflect on power and vulnerability. The ability to move independently or only with the help of others suggests the interdependence of people in a system, visualises social (dis)engagement, but also the conflict between the mental and the corporeal. Through this work I am interrogating our notions of subjectivity, interiority and exteriority, as well as reality and its construction.