

AUDITION for a new work by Efva Lilja

August 20, 1–5 PM

Audition will be held at Weld, Norrtullsgatan 7, Stockholm

Apply no later than August 16 to:

info@efvalilja.se – mark the email with AUDITION

The application should include contact details, a CV, and a short motivation letter.

Preparations: see below

Dear Dancer,

My collaborators and I are looking for dancers for a new work premiering on April 16, 2026, at Dansens Hus, Stockholm. We are looking for three dancers with different personalities and experiences, preferably between the ages of 18 and 45. A total of six people will be on stage. Applicants should be motivated to work with us and our artistic approach. Visit efvalilja.se to get a sense of our work. There you'll find links to documentation films on YouTube, texts, etc. Be sure to watch our latest work *"...and they both fell into the sky"*.

Work Process

Work will begin in October 2025 with a couple of days to establish the team. After that, I and the composer will work in parallel on the development of material. I will also have individual time with each dancer by agreement to best support personal approaches to the work's idea and content. The shared working period for development and rehearsals begins with a residency at MDT (Jan 12–16), then at Dansens Hus (Jan 20–29), and Riksteatern (Mar 16–29). In preparation for the premiere and performances, we'll work April 9–18 at Dansens Hus. You must be available for the dates mentioned. Other rehearsal times will be scheduled by agreement. Total working time: two months.

Background

In art, we can question (by looking back) and provoke (by looking forward). We can use memory to recall or interpret a situation but also use memory functions directly linked to the body, reactions, and actions in relation to the situations we live in and the values we uphold. Over an extended period, I've been working with composer

Åke Parmerud on memory functions, revealing what often remains hidden. The first stage, focusing on personal, relational memory, was developed with dancers Helene Karabuda and Per Sacklén, in the piece “...and they both fell into the sky”, presented at Weld in Stockholm in February, and later at Skånes Dansteater in Malmö and at Skogen in Gothenburg. Now we move into the next stage – a piece for six dancers, premiering at Dansens Hus, April 16–18, 2026.

The new work is titled: *A Life as Right as Rain*. It is about the struggle for a meaningful life, about love as a unifying force, and about recalling, interpreting, and deepening political perspectives on psychosocial relationships and descriptions of (our) time. We aim to interpret and embody images and sounds associated with relationships and society. To succeed, we seek forms of collaboration between choreography, space, and music, relating them to pressing questions of relevance. Together we will navigate ideas about what we long to see and hear, to experience something of what we don't yet know or understand, what we haven't yet seen or heard. We challenge ourselves to dare more — all in the effort to give the audience the best possible conditions to experience something meaningful in relation to their own experiences.

About the Choreography

To me, choreography is a tool for exploring the relationship between the mental and physical, the individual and collective, embodied through the dancers' movements and voices. The body is our residence and starting point as we move through memories and experiences, take off, and create new ones through life and work. My task is to choreographically restructure and reformulate our different experiences, realities, and the increasingly harsh conditions set by politics.

About the Music

The electroacoustic music will be composed in parallel with the development of the choreography. Its spatial design will be shaped by the dancers' movements and voices. The composer will also perform the music live, creating and guiding soundscapes in relation to the choreography. The music will be composed for an 8-channel audio system with advanced surround sound.

Efva Lilja – Choreographer and Dancer

Efva Lilja works with choreography as dance, image, and text, creating works that lead us through layers of consciousness, erotic episodes, contemplative stillness, or playfulness with a political edge. Her works have been presented in over 40 countries, often described as controversial and groundbreaking. These include works for Moderna Museet Stockholm, Baltic Art Center Visby, Centre Georges Pompidou Paris, and Guggenheim Bilbao, as well as for experimental forums, stages, and public spaces. She exhibits, lectures, and has published 14 books translated into several languages. Efva Lilja has received numerous awards, such as Gannevikstipendiet, Stockholm Honorary Prize, Prix D'Assitej, St. Erik's Medal, and HM The King's Medal Litteris et Artibus. She is a member of Disorderly Women, the European Cultural Parliament, and an honorary member of the International Centre for Cultural Relations in India. www.efvalilja.se

Åke Parmerud – Composer

Åke Parmerud is one of Sweden's most internationally acclaimed electroacoustic composers, with works presented worldwide. He has composed for many forums, including the UN in New York, where his piece *Grains of Voices* was performed on United Nations Day 1997. He has won 23 international awards, several national prizes, and received two Swedish Grammys for Best Classical Album. He has also been nominated for the Prix Italia and Nordic Council Music Prize. His ninth solo album will be released in 2025. Besides art music, Åke has worked with interactive art, dance productions, and film. His collaboration with Efva Lilja began in 2024. Åke Parmerud has been a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Music since 1998. www.parmarud.com

Helene Karabuda – Dancer

Helene Karabuda is a dancer, choreographer, and project leader. She graduated from the Ballet Academy in Stockholm in 1988 and began freelancing in the dance field. From 1997 to 2006, she worked as a dancer, soloist, rehearsal director, and assistant choreographer at E.L.D. in works by Efva Lilja. During this time, she performed in nearly 600 performances in about 20 countries, gaining significant public and critical acclaim. Since 2006, she has led artistic processes at Share Music Sweden, focusing on inclusion beyond conventional norms, resulting in public performances. As a dancer, she also performs with Kompani Nomad, and since 2024, she is once again collaborating with Efva Lilja.

Per Sacklén – Dancer

After completing his classical training at the Royal Swedish Ballet School in 1984, Per danced with the Royal Swedish Ballet and other repertory companies in Sweden, the US, and Canada. Since the mid-1990s, he has worked in contemporary dance on a project basis with choreographers like Per Johnsson, Örjan Andersson, and Cristina Caprioli. In 1997, he co-founded the dance collective Räserbyrån with Katarina Eriksson and Håkan Mayer. In recent years, he has focused mainly on Räserbyrån's projects, often shown at Fylkingen, where he is a member. In Räserbyrån, Per has also explored sound/music, creating soundscapes for several productions. Since 2014, he has been a member of Weld Company, focusing on choreography and various methods and practices in dance. *"...and they both fell into the sky"* was his first collaboration with Efva Lilja.

