Editorial

It is our great pleasure to present to you the second 2021 volume of the Nordic Journal of Dance.

Almost two years into the pandemic, we had hoped to leave behind the unprecedented and severe challenges our field has faced. Instead, we are seeing yet another wave of restrictions and cancellations, and we can only continue offering our warmest wishes to everyone and hope that 2022 will be a better year.

This issue contains one practice-oriented article, a report from the national seminar arranged by the Nordic Forum for Dance Research (NOFOD) in Oslo in October, and a paper written by one of the seminar's presenters. We have also included a book write-up and information on activities organised by SANS.

The practice-oriented article is written by Annakarin Simonson, a teacher in contemporary dance, choreography, and improvisation at the Royal Swedish Ballet School in Stockholm. Her article «Deconstructing Contemporary Dance Discourses by Acknowledging Elderly Female Bodies» is based on her master's thesis from the master's programme in Dance Education in Contemporary Contexts at Stockholm University of the Arts. Through a project working with elderly women in a dance production, she aimed to change normative ideas about the body of the ageing dancer. By making use of improvisation, somatic practices, and decolonising methodologies, she found that acknowledging older women's resources contributes to new perspectives on the ageing body in contemporary dance discourses.

Birgitte Kaufmann Olsen is a dance teacher and the director of the dance department at Trøndertun Folk High School. Her paper «Dansens dannende potensial» [The Liberal Learning Potential in Dance] presents her master's project from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. In her project, she collected information from both students and her fellow dance teachers and investigated how an

education in dance may contribute to an education in human development.

Randi Frønsdal, former dancer, choreographer, and teacher, has written a book about Enrico Cecchetti's life, method, and impact on classical ballet. The book was presented at the NOFOD seminar, and we include a brief write-up by the undersigned.

The perspectives on the potential in dance presented in this issue's texts show examples of what dance can do for ageing women and for young students at the threshold of adulthood. These projects shed light on the importance of a continuous exploration of possibilities and, time and time again, challenge, evoke, and reawaken conceptions of the art of dance.

Be inspired and enjoy reading!

Elizabeth Svarstad
Issue Editor