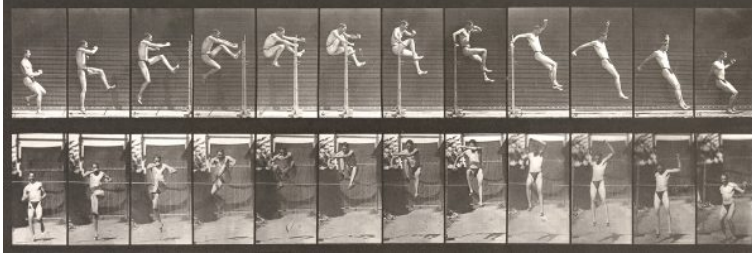


# Dance Digitalization

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— Animal Locomotion. An Electro-Photographic Investigation of Consecutive Phases of Animal Movements. Commenced 1872 Completed 1885. Volume V, Man (Pelvis Cloth)

Since the 90's dance knowledge production, similar to other processes of documentation, has shifted from a medium of representation. Digital media has turned dance into multimodal publications varied in formats such as: DVD ROMs, websites, interactive installations, apps, or softwares. A wide range of research projects arose focused on the pedagogy, cognition, analysis, notation, and dissemination of dance practice, including digital media as their medium of representation.

*(Capturing) Intention, Inside Movement Knowledge, R-research, Siobhan Davies replay archive, Labo 21, Motion Bank, Synchronous Objects, A choreographer's Score, Whatever dance toolbox and Contredanse series of DVD-ROM's*, are interdisciplinary research projects that share in common the use of digital media as medium to represent dance traces, together with the inclusion of artists' perspective as resource for dance knowledge.

Developed by a number of interdisciplinary teams of people, ranging from artists to scientists and scholars, these research projects acknowledge the performer's perspective as knowledge provider. This expansion of dance knowledge outside the dance studio or stage has been possible due to the openness dance artists have shown towards sharing their dance praxis. Choreographers and teachers like William Forsyth, Rui Horta, Emio Greco, Siobhan Davis, Wayne McGregor, Pina Bausch, Anne Teresa de Keersmaeker, BADco, Jan Fabre, Steve Paxton, and others have positioned the body of the dancer, the documentation, and safeguarding of choreographic processes at the center of dance discourse.

A commonality of these projects is the fact that they all share their roots on artistic questions, where the practitioners' knowledge is exposed. The multifaceted nature of dance, where words, sounds, and images mix, has found a perfect companion for the production of new dance representations in the nonlinear, multimodal, and dynamic nature of digital media. The creation of such repository of traces has socio-political and economical implications. It renders itself to the neo-liberal production and consumption of knowledge where, in this case, the dance document is detached from its praxis and the knowledge. Here, digital publications are a reference for disembodied interpretations, where the cognitive level of knowledge acquisition prevails but not in the full understanding of the praxis.

Websites, DVD's, and non-interactive digital resources act, after all, equal to a text. The hyperlinks, dynamism, and inclusion of other media within the potential of a digital multimodal environment are advances in the modes of dance representation. However, the embodiment of the experiences remains in difficulty of being understood. Only when the information is executed and becomes part of the individual's experience, then understanding takes place. If the inclusion of the body, as the source of dance, back into the traces dance creates was well considered, a new approach towards documentation and the use of digital media could arise as an interesting and innovative proposal for dance documentation.

## RESOURCES

1. [digitaler-atlas-tanz.de](http://digitaler-atlas-tanz.de)
2. [dance-archives.ac.uk](http://dance-archives.ac.uk)
3. [danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org](http://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org)
4. [europeana.eu/portal](http://europeana.eu/portal)
5. [bedfordinteractive.org](http://bedfordinteractive.org)
6. [dance-tech.net/group/meta-academy--bates-2013](http://dance-tech.net/group/meta-academy--bates-2013)
7. [code.on.ca](http://code.on.ca)
8. [eclap.eu/portal/?q=en-US/node/3261](http://eclap.eu/portal/?q=en-US/node/3261)
9. [danceheritage.org](http://danceheritage.org)
10. [dancevideos.childgrove.org](http://dancevideos.childgrove.org)
11. [blackdancearchives.co.uk](http://blackdancearchives.co.uk)
12. [digitalcollections.nypl.org/dancevideo](http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/dancevideo)
13. [digitalcollections.lib.uct.ac.za/islandora/object/islandora%3A13838](http://digitalcollections.lib.uct.ac.za/islandora/object/islandora%3A13838)
14. [sarada.co.za](http://sarada.co.za)
15. [archive.org](http://archive.org)
16. [collectiondeladanse.ch](http://collectiondeladanse.ch)