

Jöbstl Marlène  
butōka  
<https://www.jobstlmarlenebuto.com/>

artist, teacher, researcher

Marlène Jöbstl is a French / Austrian double culture polyglot, born in 1975, she lives in Barcelona.

Marlène represents an unconventional and responsible art, where beauty and poetry triumph, where dance is a vehicle for complex depths.

Marlène plays with paradox, humor and provocation, she questions the established using a poetic and political background and framework. Her work is honest, sensual, grotesque, naive, always revealing an art "on the edge", in the thread of the sword.

Her specialties are stage direction and choreography, creation and interpretation, pedagogical and artistic research, as well as "site specific performance". She embodies a 30-year experience in the performing arts.

Dancer, director, researcher, pedagogue, coreographer, performance artist, polyglot and of double culture, **Marlène Jöbstl found her profession in the theater** with her first stage direction in Vienna in 1995. She then trained in theatrical art with Monsieur Jacques Lecoq in Paris in 1998 and with Philippe Gaulier in London in 2000. She studied dramaturgy with Michel Azama in 2001 and created her first monologue "LIMIT" for the Festival of Interdisciplinary Art of University in Salamanca. During its creation **in 2002 in Paris, she goes through a crisis of artistic identity. It is here that she discovers butō with Yumiko Yoshioka** and it is a revelation: butō is in between theater and dance, an underground path, unknown, that vindicates freedom, the authentic, that includes and not excludes. She creates her first dance solo «FEM.», which mixes text, butō, singing and theater. She keeps digging deeper into this mysterious art. She travels to learn, assist, work with the great masters of her time in various cities around the world such as Tokyo, Berlin, New York, Rome. Passionately dedicated for decades, she has created valuable ties with international references, especially with Yumiko Yoshioka, Yoshito Ohno sensei, Daisuke Yoshimoto and Atsushi Takenouchi, with whom she cultivates a deep friendship.

Marlène has a boiling creativity, **she has created more than 500 dance pieces**. Not only does she directs herself alone, her latest solo « Strange Strange Game » november 2025 en Mailuna, Barcelona. She also collaborates and creates duos like the last «Boots are Made for Walking» may 2024 in Teatro Metamorfosis, Barcelona, with world famous butō artist Yumiko Yoshioka.

As an artistic director, Marlène loves being at the service of the creativity of the other, she is passionate about directing and choreographing, for solos and for very diverse groups pro/amateurs/children, exploring to the root, valuing the detail and the why, revealing an authentic art and in the thread of the sword, as the last "Lilith" for the MotKidanse company that mixes disciplines and uncovers difficult issues such as, among others, the abuse of violence. Recently she created and directed Beauty Of Butoh cabaret, in Portugal, in june 2024 with 8 performers. BOB is a show about the importance of alimentating beauty in life, questions how we treat beauty, how we care it...

As a performance artist, Marlène knows how to sink into the present moment to dance at the service of life here and now, of emotions, of mysteries, of taboos; she likes to invest peculiar spaces in festivals and galleries, valuing the unique specificity of the moment.

**Pushed by Daisuke Yoshimoto, Marlène has become a professional in butō dance pedagogy** since 2007 in Paris, focusing her classes and workshops on artistic research, experiencing specific themes such as the Seven Elements, Beauty, Humor, Freedom, Death, Eroticism, the Soul... which opens in October 2019 on the format of one year of pedagogical process in "AbaniKo BuTō, formation of thinking creators" Barcelona, where she lives since 2014. Her aim is to reveal a new generation of free and responsible artists.

Radical Dance Research is the way Marlène questions limitations by initiating hybrid artistic practices, such as krump and butō, puppetry and butō, musicians and butō... She also collaborates with art therapists.

Initiator of « Butoh Birthday » ceremony festival held every year in Barcelona since may 2019, she is also the **co-writer of « Yumiko Yoshioka's Dance Handbook »** auto-published in january 2022 in german and in january 2024 in english.

She directs, creates and dances, gives butō dance workshops and conferences in Barcelona and this 2026 season also Tokyo and Mexico.

"My art is a peaceful warrior who, ready to dance, seizes the moment." M.J.