

WITHOUT BORDERS



1.



2.



1, 3: *White*—A devised performance by SPA students. Directed by Mario Frenco and Lucía Piquero.
2 and main image: *inFragments*—A devised performance by SPA Dance and Theatre students. Directed by Mario Frenco and Lucía Piquero.
Photos by Darrin Zammit Lupi.

Bridging (through) the performing arts

Theatre, dance, and music are changing at the University of Malta. Recently, three new research groups were launched by the School of Performing Arts (SPA) with the aim of bridging different disciplines through the development of shared work processes and research areas. Through interdisciplinary research, these groups want to look outwards towards new concepts.

The groups cover three themes. First, 'Twenty-first-Century Studies in Performance', which is committed to the locating, reimagining, and development of performance practices in the 21st century. Second, 'Culture and Performance', which is guided by the premise that culture and performance refer to complexities that emerge from the multitude of phenomena these terms describe. Third, 'Performing Arts Histories and Historiographies', which investigates and archives material related to historical events across the performing arts. These themes are possible thanks to a web of local and international collaborations, ranging from the Digital Arts and Humanities to Cognitive Science and Intelligent Computer Systems.

These new research platforms seek to facilitate dialogue between scholars and practitioners, academics and citizens. **T**

SPA has an upcoming conference featuring some of the above topics called *Interweaving Cultures: Theory and Practice* in March 2017. For more information contact Dr Stefan Aquilina (stefan.aquilina@um.edu.mt) or, on the conference, Prof. Vicki Ann Cremona (vicki.cremona@um.edu.mt).

3.

