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As an English person in Switzerland I'd like to talk about translation and transportation.

I've been on the move since I was 16 with many different homes in and around England including Derby, Liverpool and London, studying in Israel, working in India, and now living and working in between London and Basel. Through transition and travel your home becomes the place that allows you to be closest to your own clarity in thought. Most of the time my home becomes a choice between a taxi, an airplane or a train. Wherever I can see the place I'm Travelling through I feel the closest to it. The trains of Switzerland have transported me to the freshest air and water of my life, coming back to London's smoke is more difficult now. Even your tap water tastes great! Living in A big city like London and Mumbai gives me the feeling of being tiny and therefore un noticed I can test anything out of the blue or at any speed I want, I can lose myself within a pumping organ of a city and yet at the same time be unheard and get lost. Living in Basel quite like the Kibbutz in Israel helped me to find my people close to me and brought my creating closer to nature and...sauna's. I find that when I'm in a smaller city life goes slower and you can hover on a feeling for longer or even wash it off with a swim down the Rhein! I am a local and make myself at home in each new place, and what helps that happen is always the welcoming of locals and their customs, visiting a local bar always helps me get to know the local brewing scene and therefore the specific character of a place. So I have a collection of multi local empty beer bottles in London.

Translation when creating art and work in general when speaking a different language can seem an impossible task and I have had many struggles and yet it I have found that it pulls you deeper into your imagination to try to communicate which then results in a beautiful world you wouldn't have found alone. I hope we can communicate to you this evening with a language, which is the language of performance, light, sound and movement we chose together on the road to finding you.

These short moments of feeling local and the following question of origins were the motor for the preparation for this festival. The author Taiye Selasi says: "Don't ask where I am from, ask where I am local. We are all multi-local." She defines local



through the experiences that we have at different places and the people that we encounter in these places. Hearing these words, there is a big relief coming over me because the picture of an identity as a horizontal multi-local apposition of experience seems to be closer to me and maybe more contemporary than the fallback on one unique geographic place as characteristic of origins.

The thought of multi-locality is basically the core of TanzPlan Ost: every two years TanzPlan Ost is making a journey through the Ostschweiz and the principality of Liechtenstein. The thought is being extended and deepened by the choice of the program: multi-local are also the 15 people in the piece "Gala" by Jérôme Bel, which all of them live in the different places of Eastern Switzerland and Liechtenstein. TanzPlan Ost is additionally supporting the local dance scene by coproducing two productions, Panorama Dance Theater and Mir-Jam. In January all the companies expect Jérôme Bel met up for one week to get to know each other, exchange and work out the mediation program "Extra". The food in the break is all local products.

I see all of this as a seed in a very special garden, which is not making roots vertically in one single place but creates a horizontal net of invisible connections. TanzPlan Ost is in that sense a unique project, which is connecting long-term over the regions and brings people together.





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