

Urban Space as Stage for Performance Stimulating Performance in and by Space

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ABSTRACT

The cultural life of a city does not lie in a purposely built and detached complex of buildings. It has to reach out to general public, interact with and penetrate in the daily events of city life. The paper sets out to explore new opportunities providing different modes of performances in the urban fabric. To create transparency between 'high culture' and 'general public' is to popularize the awareness and appreciation of general public towards contemporary arts as well as regenerate the spirit of urban life.

Architecture becomes the tangible reality of 'being' in performance and 'being' the performer. It should 'be' a stage for performance, the back stage, the rehearsal studio, the thinking space, the critic and the audience. It should partly or wholly be each of its sum and also be the sum of its parts.

The paper is a theoretical investigation into how 'high culture' confronts the general public; while the high culture refers to the contemporary dance form, general public refers to the urban context of New Delhi.

Keywords: City | Contemporary Dance | Architecture