

Your Name:

Olana Light

Project Title:

Participation in Bergen International Performance Festival (BIPF) 2026

Dates of Travel:

1 - 7 June 2026

Location(s) Visited:

Bergen and Manger, Norway

Did you achieve what you set out to do with your project?

Yes. I achieved what I set out to do through this project. I had valuable opportunities to research, collaborate with like-minded international performance artists, and develop site-responsive live performances in a unique natural environment in Norway.

As part of the Bergen International Performance Festival (BIPF) 2026, I took part in collective research, discussions, site visits, and performance-making activities that explored the relationships between movement, place, nature, and public engagement. These experiences led to live performances at Skageneset, Manger and Bergen in Norway, as part of *amongst others, nature*, presented during the festival from 3 - 6 June 2026.

The project helped me develop my performance practice, test new ideas in response to the landscape, collaborate with other performance artists, and exchange knowledge with artists from different countries and backgrounds.

Has your LUTSF-supported trip impacted you personally/professionally?

Yes. Receiving financial support from LUTSF made it possible for me to take part in this important international opportunity and greatly enriched my artistic practice.

Professionally, the experience increased my confidence as a performance artist working in site-responsive and collaborative settings. It allowed me to deepen my research into movement, ritual, ecology, and embodied performance while building new international connections that may lead to future collaborations.

I also had the opportunity to learn from international performance artists, spending time together researching, creating, and performing. We supported each other's work, collaborated on performances, and learned from each other's different approaches and experiences.

Personally, spending time in the Norwegian landscape and working closely with other artists was inspiring. It strengthened my commitment to nature-based creative practice and reminded me of the importance of connecting art, movement, and the environment.

Please tell us about any particular highlights in your travels.

One of the highlights was spending three days near Bergen, in Manger, where we explored Norwegian outdoor living and developed performances in direct response to the surrounding landscape.

This opportunity gave us valuable time for collaboration, experimentation, and reflection. Working with artists from different performance backgrounds and cultures encouraged new ways of thinking and creating. The opportunity to make and present live performances in such a beautiful natural setting was especially memorable and reinforced my interest in site-responsive and environmentally engaged performance.

How do you plan to share information about your project with others?

I will create a dedicated project page on my website with documentation, photographs, and reflections from the festival. I will also share images, videos, and updates through Instagram and other social media platforms.

The experience and research developed during the festival will also inform future performances, exhibitions, artist talks, and workshops, allowing me to share what I learned with local communities and wider professional networks.

Do you have any suggestions which could help future Awardees?

My advice would be to apply, even if you are unsure about your chances of being selected..