

IF I CAN'T DANCE, I DON'T WANT TO BE PART OF YOUR REVOLUTION

16 July 2026

Open Call for Supervisory Board Members

As the terms of office of two current members have come to an end, If I Can't Dance, I Don't Want To Be Part Of Your Revolution is seeking two new members to join its Supervisory Board.

Interested candidates are invited to submit their application by 1 September 2026. Questions can be directed to both office@ificantdance.org and Christa-Maria Lerm Hayes, Chair of the Supervisory Board, at c.m.lermhayes@uva.nl.

Further information about the roles, the application process, and the selection procedure can be found in the document below.

Who we are and what we do

Founded in Amsterdam in 2005, If I Can't Dance, I Don't Want To Be Part Of Your Revolution is an art organization dedicated to exploring performance and performativity in contemporary art. We work with artists, researchers, and activists to address the urgencies of the present through the many languages of performance. Our approach is rooted in intersectional feminisms, queer ecologies, disability justice, and decolonial methodologies. We understand performance not only as an artistic medium but as a mode of inquiry and as a form of social and political imagination.

If I Can't Dance operates through long-term collaboration with artists and researchers, and under thematic fields of inquiry that span several years. Up until 2024, If I Can't Dance's core business was centered on the production and presentation of artist and research commissions. Working out of a production office, final outcomes were presented in a wide range of collaborative institutions within the Netherlands and internationally. At the end of 2023 we found a home at the *Collegezaal* on the WG-terrain in Amsterdam Oud-West. The space—formerly the medical theatre of the Women's Clinic of the Wilhelmina Gasthuis—is a designated *Rijksmonument* with a complex history and distinctive architecture that informs our ongoing research and programming. Since moving into our new space, we have made a significant transition, becoming a more site-responsive and embedded organization. Alongside our commissions, we now host ongoing collaborations with scholars, artists, and researchers as well as one-off events organized with members of our communities.

In addition to our public programme, we maintain a library and archive open to anyone interested in performance within the visual arts, with a focus on feminist, queer, and otherwise marginalised perspectives, histories, and practices. Across all our work, we remain committed to engaging with our historical, material, and political context through experimentation with embodied knowledge, pedagogy, and performance-based research methodologies.

Education is another key channel through which we share in, and contribute to, the field of performance. We teach yearly courses at the Dutch Art Institute (ArtEZ), the School of New Dance Development (Academy of Theatre and Dance in Amsterdam), and, soon, we will launch a two-year temporary Masters in Performance entitled *Phantom Scores* at the Sandberg Institute in Amsterdam (to begin September 2026). Alongside these courses, we are also advisors at the Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten in Amsterdam.

If I Can't Dance is a non-profit foundation with an artistic team of three co-directors that works with a small group of colleagues and collaborators. Currently, If I Can't Dance is structurally supported by the Mondriaan Fund, and is funded on a project base by several other public and private funding bodies.

Governance structure of the Executive Board

With the stepping down of Founding Director Frédérique Bergholtz in April 2026, If I Can't Dance has recently entered a new phase of horizontal, collective governance. Anik Fournier, Sara Giannini and Annick Kleizen have assumed the roles of Co-directors, with responsibilities distributed across three focus areas: Anik Fournier leads Archive & Education, Sara Giannini leads Programme & Communications, and Annick Kleizen leads Governance & Finance. The new team will guide If I Can't Dance into its next phase, devoting the coming months and years to strengthening and repositioning If I Can't Dance, and ensuring that it can continue to operate with renewed structural funding under the Kunstenplan 2029–2033. The new supervisory board will play an important advisory role in this process.

This new structure has been gradually taking shape through everyday processes, conversations, and workshops, and will continue to evolve and deepen in the years to come. The question of how to institute, and what it means to do so in this particular moment in time, is also a question of artistic imagination, and remains at the heart of If I Can't Dance's commitment as a feminist institution dedicated to performance, performativity and their political potential.

Management and philosophy of the Supervisory Board

The Supervisory Board has three principal roles: oversight, advisory, and employer of the executive directors, and carries these roles in a professional and independent manner. The Supervisory Board ensures that the foundation is managed in accordance with its mission, statutes, and programme and in such a way that it

delivers excellent outcomes. If the Supervisory Board questions the actions and management capabilities of the Executive Board, it does so in a helpful guiding way.

The Supervisory Board meets in accordance with a fixed schedule four times a year and carries out a self-evaluation review once a year. Members are unpaid, however, travel costs are reimbursed.

Composition of the Supervisory Board

The Supervisory Board comprises a mix of ages, experience, genders, and backgrounds, with members complementing one another in terms of knowledge, experience, and networks. Members should have a strong understanding of the field of contemporary art, with a particular interest in performance and performativity in their broadest and most expanded sense. They should also have relevant professional experience, an affinity with the foundation's mission and responsibilities, and a sound understanding of the role and responsibilities of a supervisory board member.

The Supervisory Board carries out its role effectively and responsibly, each member bringing its own talents, area of expertise, situated position and perspectives, offering a specific and unique contribution. Members must be able to make a critical and independent contribution to decision making, so they must not have any conflicts of interest.

Other requirements include: experience in engaging social and political urgencies through art and culture, knowledge of cultural institutions, and, potentially, a wide-ranging network of contacts in the business, charitable funds, and culture sectors.

Attributes we're looking for

Arts:

Practicing artists or curators who have a distinct artistic sensitivity and who can demonstrate creativity and experience in institution-building, thinking through accessibility and infrastructures, and alternative forms of governance.

Finance and legality:

Knowledge and experience of finance and management with small scale institutions, a creative approach to alternative financing structures, a commitment to accessibility, bringing a broad network of contacts in public, business, charitable funds, and culture sectors. Experience with public law and legalities in the arts sector.

Education:

Experience with arts education and a commitment to institution building through the lens of cultural diversity and accessibility, and an interest in alternative forms of governance.

Selection process

If you are interested in being a member of If I Can't Dance's Supervisory Board, please send a CV and letter of interest to both office@ificantdance.org and Christa-Maria Lerm Hayes, Chair of the Supervisory Board (c.m.lermhayes@uva.nl).

Applications are open until September 1 2026. The interviews will be conducted by the Chair of the Supervisory Board and all three members of the Executive Board. Interviews will take place on 14 September 2026 at If I Can't Dance in the WG-Terrein, Amsterdam, or online.

Any questions can be directed to both office@ificantdance.org and c.m.lermhayes@uva.nl.