

## Artist Bio: Lilia Gaab

Lilia Gaab is an interdisciplinary performer and facilitator specializing in physical theater and contemporary clownerie. Her work is deeply informed by her background as a structural ethnic German who moved from Kazakhstan to Germany in 1996. This personal history of cultural transition sharpened her focus on identity, "strangeness," and the profound search for genuine human connection.

Her artistic path began with acting education in Munich, reaching a pivotal turning point in 2018 when the poetic world of Slava Polunin's *Snow Show* inspired her to dedicate herself to clownerie. Over the years, Lilia has refined her craft under the guidance of twelve international masters, including Peter Shub and Jango Edwards, and served as a long-term assistant to Ashwath Bhatt.

Lilia's unique methodology bridges the gap between the stage and the soul, integrating 15 years of professional experience as a psychological counselor and somatic practitioner into the theatrical space. Since 2019, she has channeled this expertise into her authorial training format, **PlayFool**. She facilitates intensive workshops and international online courses (DE/EN/RU), collaborating with institutions such as acting studio and theater group to help others transform personal drama into liberating tragicomedy.

Her artistic research culminates in the non-verbal solo performance **MISSION**, directed by Carlo Mò, which premiered in Barcelona in 2025. For Lilia Gaab, the clown is more than a character - it is an ethical stance and a radical invitation to remain transparent, unvarnished, and fully alive.