

## DZIECI PRINCIPLES

The totality of Dzieci's work is in service to a question: how may we evolve? Joining the group as a member, a guest, or a workshop participant is equally an invitation into this question - an inquiry demanding the highest potential from each other and ourselves, rigorously, compassionately.

To assist our mutual arising, we have committed to following twelve basic principles:

**1** - We do not work alone. Only through the strength of community are we able to break through personal barriers and venture beyond self-perceived limitations.

**2** - We wish to be brought to a more complete awareness of ourselves, even if that awareness shows us what we are not. In community, through the efforts of others, we can be reminded to remain attentive and awake.

**3** - Dzieci is a school, and transmission is fundamental to our practice. We are all teachers, and we are all students.

**4** - Here there are no labels, no divisions - whoever you are, wherever you came from, we share a common aim, to be able to be.

**5** - We make a commitment to be responsible for each other together in the workspace. All struggles are accepted and integral to the working of the group. However, should anyone step away during a period of personal struggle, they are on their own.

**6** - We do not abandon ourselves for the sake of changing others, nor do we become lost in self-absorption. Rather we strive to direct our attention equally - without and within, whether speaking or in silence, in action or stillness, that we may simply see and be seen.

**7** - Our preference is to lead non-verbally through action and gesture. Silence is a quality to be honored, and a practice not only for our outer work, but for our inner work as well.

**8** - We begin from where we are.

**9** - Our endeavors are self-initiated. We establish conditions, which may appear insurmountable, in order to expose our fear, refine our attention, and strengthen our resolve. The group can only provide guidance and bear witness, not help.

**10** - We are not interested in what someone knows, only in their willingness to leap into the unknown.

**11** - If there is a way to do something more humanely, more organically, or more adventurously, we make every effort to do so. We welcome the participation of tricksters and fools.

**12** - The form of our work is not the work; it is only a context for revealing what is true.