







Re-membering our commons

Reclaiming empowerment through movement:

A participatory and intergenerationnal approach for people with/out neurodegenerative diseases

This ongoing research explores the potential for individuals living with neurodegenerative diseases, specifically Parkinson's, to reclaim empowerment through body movement as a means of interaction and communication. In a world marked by uncertainty and vulnerability, these individuals often bear the weight of stigmatized perceptions. Starting with conventional deficit-focused narratives of care, this study centers on the abilities and creative potential of these individuals, exploring how body movement can serve as a powerful vehicle for self-expression.

The research draws insights from participatory observations within inclusive dancing workshops. The study focuses on addressing feelings of insecurity linked to both comfort and discomfort. By exploring participatory spaces and envisioning forms of expression, the aim is to enhance the well-being, self-esteem, sense of security, and dignity of those involved. Considering body expression as an essential way of communication to understand a set of desires and needs, this approach aims to promote positive aging, cultivate caring communities, and contributes to a more inclusive society through design.

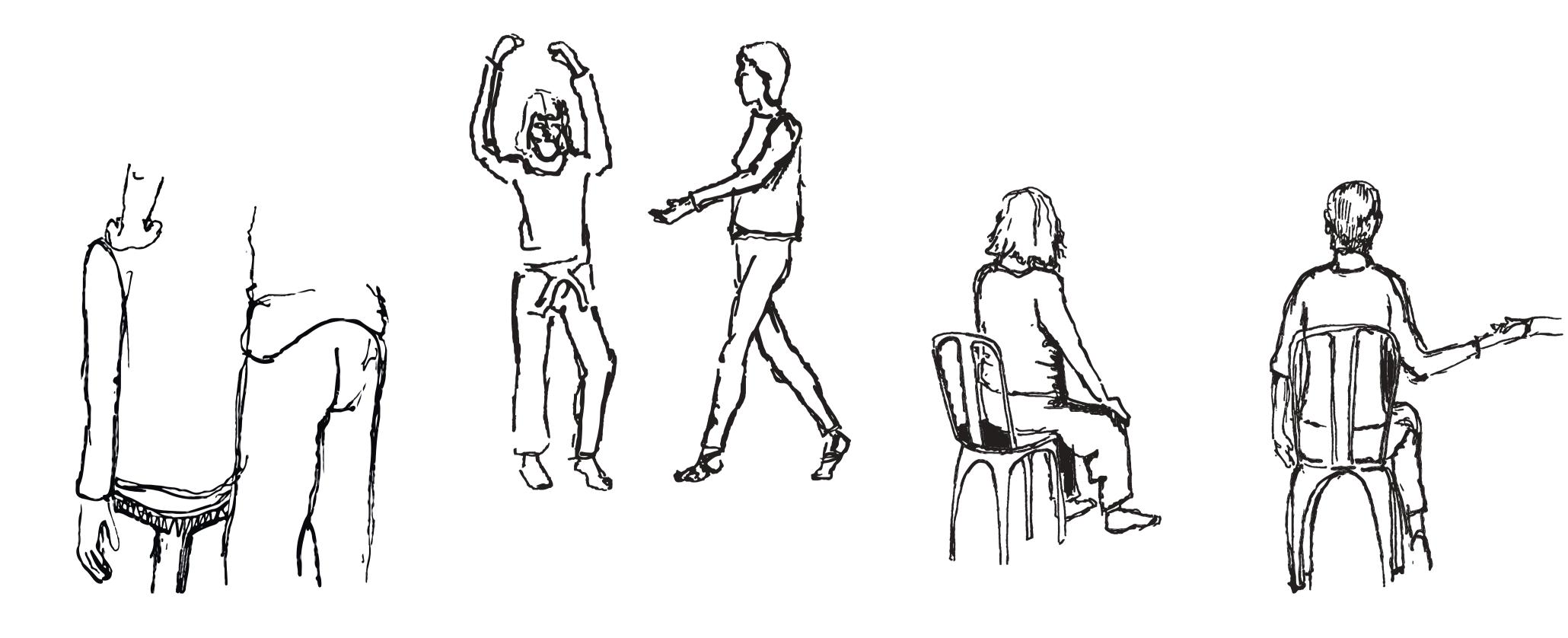
Keywords: Neurodegenerative diseases, Ageing perceptions, Inclusive design, Participatory design, Behavioural design, Restorative design, Care design.



During a DaPoPa workshop in Chambéry (Photography by Holly Bartley, February 2024)

Acknowledgements

In appreciation of the meaningful collaboration with DaPoPa Association based in Paris and Grenoble, founded by choreographer and dancer Clint Lutes, actively engaged in participating in this project. Many thanks to Gisèle Bessac, the treasurer of DaPoPa, for her support and valuable contribution of expertise in social innovation to the project. I am supervised by Stéphane Safin, teacher-researcher in cognitive ergonomics at Télécom Paris - Institut Polytechnique de Paris, his guidance throughout the project has been essential.



Observation sketches drawn by Holly Bartley during a DaPoPa workshop in Paris (February 2024)