

PRESSEINFORMATION

- May, 2022
- Performance Festival

THE NON-FUNGIBLE BODY?

Performance and Digitalization June 17–19, 2022

OK Linz, in cooperation with the Landestheater Linz

Linz has a new performance festival. The new format is dedicated to the latest developments in performance art and will bring international artists to Linz each year under a specific theme. This year the summer festival looks at the topic of performance and digitalization. Artists have been invited whose work explores the intersection between body and archive, using live performance and documentation as well as performance in relation to internet cultures and NFTs.

The OÖ Landes-Kultur GmbH is organizing and presenting the festival in cooperation with the Landestheater Linz and its new dance director, Roma Janus. For three days, more than 20 international artists will put on performances at the OK and the Music Theater. The performances at the OK will in some cases take place on the roof and in the voestalpine open space.

The program has been conceived and curated by Freda Fiala and River Lin.

Featured artists: Cibelle Cavalli Bastos (BR), Marita Bullmann (DE), Yun-Chen Chang (TW), Beatrice Didier (BE), Jan Hakon Erichsen (NO), Sara Lanner (AT), Sajan Mani (IN), Boris Nieslony (DE), David Henry Nobody Jr. (US), Yiannis Pappas (GR), Jianan Qu (CHN, in cooperation with students at the Institute for Dance Arts of Anton Bruckner Private University), Xavier Le Roy (FR), Sarah Trouche (FR), Rong Xie (CHN, Echo Morgan).

Non-Fungible Body connotes a body that cannot be copied, substituted, or sub-divided. The title is programmatic but at the same time highlights the singular, physical coming together of performers and audience as an essential quality of performance. The title Non-Fungible Body invites associations with NFTs (Non-Fungible Tokens), which in the art world, especially in the last two years, have led to calls for a paradigm shift in art production, sales, and collection. At first glance, this digital format, utilized mainly by media artists, may appear to have little to do with performance. And yet it is through NFTs that the discussion of immaterial, generative art, the determination of its social and monetary value as well as its ephemerality, has been successfully anchored in public awareness. Based on observations and reflections on these developments, the Non-Fungible Body project explores how NFTs and blockchain technologies can also shape and change performances. The online self-dramatization of the individual that is so prevalent in the age of social media has expanded the horizons of artistic performance as well. The festival therefore poses the question of how performance artists deal with the living body and its relationship to the virtual economies of our day.

The festival will be followed by an exhibition of the performance documentation at the Digital Francisco Carolinum (DFC).

Freda Fiala is a researcher, writer, curator, and dramaturge for performance art, digital and new media dramaturgy, and interculturality. Her current research project as a fellow of the Austrian Academy of Sciences deals with contemporary performance in East Asia and its cultural networks. She has worked for the Salzburg Festival, the Vienna Festival, the Taipei Fringe Festival, and as a theory mentor at P.A.R.T.S., among other positions.

River Lin (b. 1984 in Taiwan) lives and works in Paris and Taipei. He is a performance artist and curator working in the visual arts, dance, and queer culture. His ongoing curatorial projects "perform" cultural infrastructures, for example the Asia Discovers Asia Meeting (ADAM) and the Camping Asia Festival, while dealing with cross-cultural and interdisciplinary collaborations and social engagement. His current projects as curator also include the BLEED Biennial in Australia and the Indonesia Dance Festival.

At a glance ... Performance Festival

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Opening: June 17, 2022, 7 p.m.

OK Linz

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