

## CODE ART FAIR PERFORMANCE & TALKS PROGRAM 2018

### *Performing Identities*

Curated by Irene Campolmi

***Performing Identities*** is the 2018 performance and talks program curated by curator and researcher Irene Campolmi for Code Art Fair. The series of performances and talks ***investigate the body as a site for constructing and negotiating identities within a globalised socio-political context.***

The program is grounded in de-colonial and gender emancipatory thought and reflects on how new subjectivities are defined in different ways: from the contemporary extension of the body into the digital, to the creation of modern languages, modes of communications and everyday gestures. The body is seen as an archive, a territory with its cartography and its colonised zones. At the intersection of critical geography, queer and gender studies, the performances presented to create a poetic yet political space within which the body is defined as a microcosm and where forms of resistance and revolution are crafted.

**CODE 3 PERFORMANCE PROGRAM**

**Thursday 30th, August, @Bella Center, 17.30-19.30 (ongoing)**

**Jacopo Miliani, *Body oh boy nobody!*, 2018; Performer: Jacopo Jenna**



Jacopo Miliani, *Boy oh boy nobody!* 2018

Performer: Jacopo Jenna; Photo by Ivan Grianti. Courtesy the artist

**Body oh boy nobody!** Is a performance that stretches in time and space the act of dressing and undressing as a metaphorical gesture that addresses the many personalities and identities we choose to put on and take off every day. The repetition of this gesture emphasises the variations related to it and makes this everyday action appearing abstract. The performance creates a direct relationship with the audience and demands their active participation in assigning new significances to movements and gestures.

Friday 31st, August, @Bella Center, 18.00

Astrit Ismaili, *The New Body*, 45'' performance



Central to Ismaili's interest in performance is how identities are constructed and interpreted through contemporary mechanisms, but also how they are heard, asking what it means to 'sonify' a body (i.e. to make it sound something else, for example, a new melody or language) and what kind of political meanings would this imply. During the performance, sonic adjuncts installed onto the artist's body trigger different soundscapes as they move through the gallery. By translating each body's gesture into a sound, the artist aims at disrupting prevailing narratives around representation, imagining new and yet utopic ways of thinking about how bodies inhabit and occupy a context in time and space.

**Saturday, 1st September, @Bella Center**

**12.00 – Alfredo Aceto *Doc Gyneco: National Gallery of Art, Washington DC***

Aceto presents its first performance conceived as a one-act play that goes intermittently for an hour reciting a text on the rapper Doc Gyneco and his imaginary metamorphosis and change of identity into animal forms.

**16.00 - Esben Weile Kjær, *More Brilliant Than the Sun***



MORE BRILLIANT THAN THE SUN is a performance by Esben Weile Kjær celebrating popular cultural events (example), critically de-contextualising these from terms and expressions of their original context. The title draws from Eshun's homonymous book "More Brilliant than the Sun: Adventures in Sonic Fiction", a militant exploration on posthuman scenarios seen through science fiction. Inspired by the vital and revolutionary

energy of the book, Weile Kjær reflects on the highest euphoric high-voltage moment in which a community realises that their actions have exceeded the conventionally allowed limits. By mixing sound, choreography, clothes, a frivolous scene and copious amounts of confetti, the performance creates a mixture aesthetics, which is reminiscent of that experienced in stadiums, concerts, festivals or city celebrations. The piece strives to create a mood of a party among the audience that could explode at any time. Once the performance ends, people are left with a sense of abandonment that is perceived when an intense experience is undergone.

**18.30 Nora Turato, *I am happy to own my implicit biases* (2018)**



*Courtesy of the artist and LambdaLambdaLambda. Photo credit: Manuela Barczewski*

Nora Turato's performances are scripted pieces developed through the artist's omnivorous reading habits through which she browses various cultural outlets from literature to Instagram comments and marketing jingles. While formally her pieces are reminiscent of the late David Antin's "talk pieces," yet they are not improvised and have a very different pace and delivery. Her work captures the spirit of the contemporary cultural and social condition. It is a collage of the personalities and identities that we inhabit daily, both online and offline. Turato's scripts are dense of various kinds of information. They are decontextualised from a temporal moment, but still straightforward and truthful towards the schizophrenia of our time. Her research into performance constructs a verbal image, which results in a sort of literary collage. Turato's delivery is rapid, and one can easily miss more than one sentence throughout the monologue. Though, she performs the scripts the way she writes them: as a stream of consciousness. Turato's background in graphic design and its recuperation of language in the service of marketing lets her swiftly move from high-theory to romcom. It is hard to escape irony when cognitive capitalism equally treats Zen aphorisms and the Kardashians to sell yoghurt, yet no point to insist on language's naïve sincerity that makes consumers buy it.



**CODE ART TALKS- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd**

**1.00 pm -2.00 pm "Another Performance Turn: A New understanding of Performance."**

Cosmin Costinas, Director at Para/Site, Hong Kong

Marie Nipper, Copenhagen Contemporary Director, Copenhagen

Fatos Ustek, Director, David Robert Art Foundation, London

Manuel Segade, Director, CA2M- Centro de Arte Dos De Mayo, Madrid



**2.30 pm -3.30 pm "Politics of Identity: exhibitions and public programs."**

Sam Thorne, Nottingham Contemporary, Director

Lucia Pietroiusti, Curator of Live Programmes and General Ecology Project, Serpentine Galleries

Luca Lo Pinto, Curator, Kunstalle Wien



**4.00 pm - 4.45 pm "A Take Over: Performance Art in Non-Institutional Context"**

Iben Elmstrom, Former Curator at Heartland Festival & Director & Founder of SixtyEight, Copenhagen

Mette Woller, Independent Curator and Former Curator of Performances at Roskilde Festival, Denmark

Malene Dam, Curator & Founder, Vermillion Sands, Copenhagen (TBD)

Anna & Esben Weile Kjær, Curator of the 2018 edition of Alt Cph "Over-Existing"