

Press Release

May 11, 2022

The festival We Are All Emotional has concluded

The show presented the Prague audience with contemporary approaches to performance art. The formally diverse program was connected by the theme of emotions, which are both personal and political. The performances reflected the topics of the pandemic, the war in Ukraine, and the experience of social hardship but also various more intimate and personal positions.

On May 5 and 6 at Divadlo X10, nine live performances, two film screenings with discussions, and two DJ performances took place, watched by nearly 300 spectators. The program's concept blurred the lines between the audience space and the stage—the performers moved freely among the audience, and different parts of the theater served as a stage. In addition to the main hall, the gallery and other rooms that normally serve as the backstage area of the theater were used.

The festival opened Friday evening with Slovak artist **Maja Štefaničiková's** project *Close Encounters*, which made use of the ordinary movements and movement methods of dancing people, accompanied by singing and speaking. In the next performance, **Helena Eribenne's** *Shadow of the Imago*, a pair of performers explored the relationship between narcissism and empathy. The evening was then capped off by a trio of parallel performances: In the project *F5. José Maria Sicre Chess Tournament, 2017/2021* by Cuban artist and dissident **Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara**, a set of six simultaneous chess matches could be watched in the theater as well as anywhere else in the world as the performance was live-streamed on the internet. In her vocal improvisation, **Zorka Wollny** incorporated performers from Ukraine, who imprinted their experiences from the war on the performance. The project *Dream Exchanges – The Casting* by Hungarian artist **Hajnal Németh** took place in the main hall of the theater and used the formats and methods of an acting audition. The evening then ended with a DJ set by musician mor wen, a member of the collective Glory Affairs.

Saturday's program began with the project *Sunsets* by Romanian artist **Ovid Pop**. The performance, which played out in the gallery of the theater hall, took the form of a manipulative dialogue revolving around themes of unequal and hierarchical relationships. This was then followed by a performance underneath the gallery—**Larisa David's** *A Watched Pot Never Boils*—in which the artist worked with the motif of waiting as moment when we are at the mercy of our emotions and the experience of time, which can be torturous. The evening also included two screenings of the film *Expressing the Desire for the Impossible*, a collaborative work by the women of the **Laundry Collective**. The film is a recording of a performance based on a script they

MATTER OF ART

Ve věci umění
Matter of Art
Biennale 2022

21. 7. –
23. 10. 2022
Praha Prague

@biennale.matterof.art
info@matterof.art
www.matterof.art

Dittrichova 349/13
120 00 Prague
Czech Republic

wrote using motifs of their own experiences of life in children's homes and on the streets. In their project *The Second Sense*, **Anetta Mona Chişa and Lucia Tkáčová** focused on the sense of smell, the perceptions of which transport the human mind to memories or another space-time. The audience was thus confronted with various aromas and odors. Austrian choreographer **Doris Uhlich** closed out the performance program with her project *Gootopia*. In the middle of the hall, a trio of performers manipulated and interacted with a variety of slimy substances in various ways. The fusion of the performers' bodies and the slime thus symbolically represented the emergence of new utopian forms of life. The musical conclusion of the festival was prepared by DJ liz wiz. During the program, parents with small children could make use of a supervised children's area.

The activities of tranzit.cz continue this year with the international biennale Ve věci umění / Matter of Art, which will take place in Prague from July 21 to October 23, 2022. More information can be found at www.matterof.art.

Attachment: Photographic documentation of the festival

→ Day 1 - Friday, May 6, 2022

→ Day 2 - Saturday, May 7, 2022

We Are All Emotional

Festival of Performance Art

Divadlo X10 (Charvátova 39, 110 00, Prague, Czech Republic)

May 6–7, 2022

Organized by:

tranzit.cz / Matter of Art, in cooperation with Divadlo X10

Curated by:

tranzit.org / Judit Angel, Dóra Hegyi, Livia Pancu, Georg Schöllhammer, Tereza Stejskalová, and Attila Tordai-S

Participating artists:

Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara (CU), Larisa David (RO), Helena Eribenne (AT), Anetta Mona Chişa & Lucia Tkáčová (CZ/SK), Kolektiv Prádelna/Laundry Collective (CZ/PL), Hajnal Németh (HU), Ovid Pop (RO), Maja Štefančíková (SK), Doris Uhlich (AT), and Zorka Wollny (PL)

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ERSTE Foundation

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Contact

Max Dvořák

max@tranzit.org

+420606381616