

# PRESSE

KUNSTVEREIN BIELEFELD

# PRESS

Welle 61  
33602 Bielefeld

Do, Fr, 15:00–19:00  
Sa, So, 12:00–19:00  
Mo–Mi, nach Vereinbarung

PRESS RELEASE

26.07.2022

## *WHEN IT MOVES, STRENGTHENING ITS SKIN*

30.07.2022, 16:00

The Kunstverein Bielefeld is delighted to present *When it moves, strengthening its skin*, a programme of installations and performances featuring the work of the artists Elisa Barrera, Bitsy Knox, Nils Amadeus Lange, Mira Mann, Sveta Mordovskaya, PRICE, Margaux Schwarz and Noemi Weber, curated by Paolo Baggi and Florentine Muhr within the framework of Residence NRW<sup>+</sup>, a practice-oriented scholarship programme for artists and curators in the field of contemporary art based in Münster which is associated with the Kunsthalle Münster.

How does specific spaces shape the way we relate to each other? *When it moves, strengthening its skin* that takes place over two consecutive Saturdays in the surroundings of two exhibition institutions in North Rhine-Westphalia: in the courtyard of the Kunstverein Bielefeld and the public Bunnemannplatz as well as a multistory parking garage located in the immediate vicinity of the Dortmunder Kunstverein. They share a careful attention to the way we inhabit spaces in the context of their respective symbolic and visual particularities and explore the conditions of communal experience. The invited artists explore the links between relationships and interactions in movement and spatial appropriation, allowing the spectator to question his own belonging to the audience with its shared narrative, cultural and esthetic codes.

The kick-off will take place on 30.07.2022 in the courtyard of Kunstverein Bielefeld. At 17:00, Bitsy Knox will open the afternoon with a performance staging itself in the fictional future of the institution. Her contribution anticipates a time when everything is in ruins, sinking into the ground and being digested by worms – an image for transience, death and recycling, and thus a confrontation of the audience with its individual experience of the present. At 18:00, Mira Mann presents a choreography in collaboration with the K-Pop dance group *Iridescent Wings*, opening with an introductory speech that plays on a well-known story to locals; the displacement of the Merkurbrunnen from Alter Markt to the nearby Bunnemannplatz. The universal quality of the local tale, with its struggles for power and figures of authority, is put into consideration with other symbolic notions that appear through the ritualization of the dance.

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At 19:00, the public is invited to return to the Kunstverein's courtyard. Nils Amadeus Lange will conclude the program here. Through acts of lament, whose object of despair remains unknown, with the audience the effects of exuberant sentimentality will be probed together: do we open ourselves to others when we collectively manifest sorrow?

On August 6, the second part of *When it moves, strengthening its skin* with Elisa Barrera, Sveta Mordovskaya, PRICE, Margaux Schwarz and Noemi Weber will take place at the Dortmunder Kunstverein, starting at 4 pm.

Visitors are invited to perceive the artists' contributions, some of which were developed especially for the two venues, outside of a conventional exhibition context and to question them about their effect and meaning in an environment that is often architecturally and spatially unfamiliar to art.

Text: Paolo Baggi and Florentine Muhr

Kooperationspartner:

DORTMUND FR  
KUNSTVEREIN

Residence  
NRW<sup>+</sup>

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an institution of the City of Münster

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## PRESS CONTACT

Leonore Spemann

T +49 (0) 521.17 88 06

[presse@kunstverein-bielefeld.de](mailto:presse@kunstverein-bielefeld.de)