

PRESS INFORMATION

3 June 2022

Moving the Forum. Our Bodies – Our Position – Our Dance.

Dance and performances on 11 June 2022 at the Humboldt Forum, free admission

***Moving the Forum*, our dance research project, ends on Saturday 11 June 2022 with a series of public performances presented by five groups of artistes.**

Since summer 2021, as part of the *Moving the Forum* project, around 40 dance creators from Berlin, working in thirteen artistic teams, have been exploring and investigating the Humboldt Forum, and presenting the results of their work to the public. The fourth and final presentation day of this dance and performance project *Interacting*, will take place on Saturday 11 June 2022, from 2pm to 7pm at the Humboldt Forum, free admission.

Each of the four presentation days was preceded by a 6-week residency phase: after approaching the Humboldt Forum in *Approaching*, listening to, and investigating, history in *Listening*, exploring various aspects of occupying and taking ownership of the site in the *Inhabiting* chapter, the fourth presentation day will see the guest artists, each working with 10-15 participants, engaging with the structures of the Humboldt Forum under the title *Interacting*. Their performances seek to establish a dialogue between the inner and the outer world of the institution.

In their intervention *Bio-Diverse-City*, **Gabriel Galindez Cruz** and **Akemi Nagao** will transform the Forum's Hall 1 into a spiritual place. In a five-hour healing ceremony with ritual actions, collective movement, and autobiographical solo performances, the nine participants will invite the audience to participate by using their own knowledge and backgrounds to reinterpret the space and ask questions.

The **PRUSAKI CORPS** collective will engage in a satirical and critical exploration of the Forum and the reconstruction of the Berlin Palace, staging a 'dance rebellion that calls into question patriarchal, imperial and hegemonic power structures'. The artists regard the location of their intervention, the Humboldt Forum's Passage, as the 'digestive tract of the building'. "Whatever is useful and relevant is processed and absorbed here. Anything that is not useful, or even harmful, is eliminated. We want to promote a critical digestive process in respect of ideas and 'knowledge'.

In their work *FLOOD*, director and choreographer **Sebastian Blasius**, choreographer **Felix Dompereh** and composer **Ferdinand Breil** present a durational performance at the intersection of choreography, installation and sound art. Together with five young Berlin performers, they will explore the theme of 'flooding' as a form of protest in the context of globalisation and climate change. In their work, they will also touch on a particular form of protest in the history of the Berlin City Palace: In the 15th century, Berlin citizens protested against the construction of the first palace by smashing the dams on the Spree and submerging the

construction site.

RE-Inventing Memories, a performance by author and choreographer **Nora Amin**, musicians **Adham El-Said** and **Ehab Abdellatif**, and dancer **Michiyasu Furutani** promises to leave its mark, both in the Forum space and in the memories of visitors, who will also be invited to participate. Ceremonial movement and vocals create a ritual of self-liberation and togetherness 'that can create a new spirit of space beyond its material nature'.

In his work *Decolonization and Memory of Living Masks*, dancer **Ahmed Soura** explores the theme of masks – something which can be found in abundance in the Ethnologisches Museum's exhibitions at the Humboldt Forum. "A mask is an object inhabited by spirits – a body without a soul. A mask which loses its head loses its identity." This is how Soura describes the object of his artistic research. His performance will take the audience on an imaginary journey of identity for bodies, encountering 'strong images, light, shadow and modernity'.

About *Moving the Forum*

Moving the Forum is a dance and performance project initiated by dance curators Jana Lüthje and Jo Parkes, and will enable four residencies entitled *Approaching, Listening, Inhabiting* and *Interacting*. They will take place in thematic blocks from summer 2021 to summer 2022, and will be scattered in various areas of the exhibition spaces and walkways, the grand Foyer, the Schlüter Courtyard and the outdoor areas of the Humboldt Forum. The concept revolves around unexpected, direct encounters and exchanges between the various participating members of Berlin's dance community and participants of all generations and backgrounds, set within the surroundings of the everyday activity of the Forum. 'Moving the Forum' enables both participants and audience to formulate individual, collective and critical viewpoints regarding the Humboldt Forum's core issues, profile and exhibitions.

From the very beginning, the artistic research has involved dialogue between the dance creators and the Humboldt Forum staff, including curators, as well as organisational and visitor services. There will be regular open calls inviting people to take part in the artistic activities. Throughout this opening year, these participatory forms of art intervention will use choreographic and performance methods to activate the Humboldt Forum's spaces, and create unexpected public events, as well as new perspectives for engaging with the Forum's content.

The website www.movingtheforum.org collects voices, texts and images and presents the artistic works in the course of the project.

Artists

Joy Alpuerto Ritter, Nora Amin, Sebastian Blasius, Adrian Marie Blount, Telmo Branco, Ferdinand Breil, Jason Corff, Viviana Defazio, Felix Ofosu Dompseh, Adham Elsaid, María Ferrara, Michiyasu Furutani, Gabriel Galindez Cruz, Emilio Gordo, Itamar Gov, Tamar Grosz, Marie Hanna Klemm, Nitzan Moshe, Akemi Nagao, Rieko Okuda, Marcelo Omine, Hagar Ophir, Yotam Peled, Tamara Rettenmund, Gabriele Reuter, Marcelo Schmittner, Diana Sirianni, Susanne Soldan, Ahmed Soura, Lukas Steltner, Jolika Suderman, Charlotte Virgile, Antti Virtaranta Dana Yahalomi.

Curatorial Team

Overall concept – Jana Lüthje, Jo Parkes

Public presentations – Jason Corff, Michiyasu Furutani, Jana Lüthje, Susanne Soldan

In conversation: Bodies, objects and actions – Nora Amin, Jana Lüthje, Marcelo Schmittner, Marie Yan

Documentation and communication – Telmo Branco, Jana Lüthje, Susanne Soldan | Hagar Ophir, Yotam Peled

Collaboration partners

Mobile Dance, TanzZeit e.V. Berlin, Kulturagenten für kreative Schulen, Hochschulübergreifendes Zentrum Tanz Berlin (HZT Berlin), Feld – Theater für junges Publikum

No tickets necessary for the presentation on 11 June. For general ticket bookings and information on all aspects of visiting the Humboldt Forum, or to contact Visitor Services, visit humboldtforum.org

One building, four partners: our diversity is founded on the collaboration of our partner institutions. The Humboldt Forum is a collaboration between the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss; the Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz for collections from the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin; the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin for the Humboldt Lab; and Kulturprojekte Berlin with the Stadtmuseum Berlin for the Berlin exhibition.

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