

steirischer herbst 2009

Biographies

Lola Arias (AR)

Lola Arias was born in Buenos Aires in 1976. She is a writer, theater director, performer and song composer. She is the co-founder of Compañía Postnuclear, an Argentinean group of interdisciplinary artists. Her texts explore the boundaries between reality and fiction, using biographies and real documentation in a surreal or poetic way. In her plays she works with actors, non-actors, dancers, singers, children, babies and animals. Lola Arias has been working with Stefan Kaegi (Rimini Protokoll) on various projects, such as "Chácara paraíso", an installation in a skyscraper of Sao Paulo showing biographies of policemen and their families and "Airportkids" (2008), a play with nomad children. Her trilogy "Striptease", "Sueño con revolver", "El amor es un francotirador", directed by herself, had its European premiere at steirischer herbst 2007. For the short plays series "Saving the world" of steirischer herbst festival 2007, she wrote "China". In September her play "Familienbande" premieres at the Münchner Kammerspiele. Her work has been translated into English, French and German. Since 2007 she has been represented by the German publishing house Verlag der Autoren. Lola Arias lives in Buenos Aires.
www.lolaarias.com.ar

Antonia Baehr (D)

Antonia Baehr is a choreographer, director, performer and film-maker. Her work is characteristically non-disciplinary and employs a method of collaboration with different people, using a game-structure with switching roles: each person is alternately director / author and performer for the other.

In 1994 she co-founded the Berlin-based performance group 'ex machinis'. She graduated in Film and Media Arts at the Hochschule der Künste Berlin with Valie Export (1996) and obtained a DAAD-grant and a Merit Scholarship for the School of The Art Institute of Chicago. There she completed her Masters in Performance with Lin Hixson of the performance group Goat Island and began collaborating with William Wheeler. Since 2000 she is based in Berlin. She was co-organizing "Labor Sonor", experimental music and performance series, at KuLe from 2001 to 2003, co-hosted the December 2003 festival "Radioriff" that took place at Ausland, Berlin and is a founding member of Fernwärme im Ausland – The Making of Performing Arts series at Ausland Berlin. She is the producer of the horse whisperer and dancer Werner Hirsch, the musician and choreographer Henri Fleur, and the composer Henry Wilt. In 2006 she has been associated artist in residence at "Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers" in France.
www.make-up-productions.net

Berlin (B)

Berlin is Bart Baele, Yves Degryse and Caroline Rochlitz. Interdisciplinary work methods are characteristic of Berlin. Berlin collaborates with diverse artistic as well as academic fields and while focusing on a specific research question, she engages different media depending on the content of the project. Berlin chooses to present their work on a variety of different circuits: theatres, museums, festivals, on location ... In 2003 Berlin they started the series 'Holocene' (the current geological period), of which "JERUSALEM" was the first. On three screens we see a penetrating portrayal of one of the most complex cities in the world. For "Holocene 2 – IQALUIT", an Ivo Michiels text, a film and a live telephone connection depict the capital of the Inuit in Northern Canada. The film-installation "BONANZA" ("Holocene 3"), was shown at steirischer herbst 2008. This year in a special designed tent, "Holocene 4 – MOSCOW" will be performed at the festival.
www.berlinberlin.be

deepblue (B/N)

deepblue is a company and production structure for performance, dance, music, video and installation work, based in Brussels. The name deepblue refers to an immense microcosm as well as to that supercomputer which was the first to beat a human in an intellectual game. deepblue aims at balancing human and technological forms of communication. In all productions traces are left of this destroyed opposition between what is organic and what is artificial. Video, sound, light and distribution of space are equal elements in the development of creations, just as dancers, performers and audience are. Core members are Heine Røsdal Avdal, Christoph De Boeck and Yukiko Shinozaki. The Norwegian dancer Heine Røsdal Avdal and the Japanese dancer Yukiko Shinozaki met and worked together in Meg Stuart's Company 'Damaged Goods'. In 2000 they started to collaborate and founded the

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production structure deepblue together with Christoph De Boeck / Audiostore, who creates very specific audio dramaturgies for the performances. Projects of deepblue 'drop a line' (2007), the series 'timcodematter' (2005-2007), 'terminal' (2002) et. al.
www.deepblue.be

Forced Entertainment (GB)

2009 marks Forced Entertainment's 25th anniversary. Since forming the company on graduation from Exeter University in 1984, the six core members of the group have sustained a unique artistic partnership for quarter of a century, confirming time and again their position as trailblazers in contemporary theatre. The company's substantial canon of work reflects an interest in the mechanics of performance, the role of the audience and the machinations of contemporary urban life. The work – framed and focused by Artistic Director Tim Etchells - is distinctive and provocative, delighting in disrupting the conventions of theatre and the expectations of audiences. Forced Entertainment's trademark collaborative process – devising work as a group through improvisation, experimentation and debate – has made them pioneers of British avant-garde theatre and earned them an unparalleled international reputation. Tim Etchells solo project 'That Night Follows day', a play for adults, performed by children, was shown at steirischer herbst 2007.
www.forcedentertainment.com

Philipp Gehmacher (A) / Vladimir Miller (D)

Born 1975, Philipp Gehmacher grew up in Salzburg and Vienna. After spending ten years studying and working in London, he returned to Vienna in 2003. Since 1999 Philipp Gehmacher has initiated the choreographic works "in the absence", "Holes and Bodies", "embroyder", "good enough", "mountains are mountains", "incubator", "das überkreuzen beyder hände" and "like there's no tomorrow" in collaboration with, amongst others, the performers David Subal, Clara Cornil and Rémy Héritier, the composer Pedro Gomez-Egana and the pianist Alexander Lonquich, as well as the theorists Peter Stamer and Myriam van Imschoot. In 2007 he has collaborated with Meg Stuart on "MAYBE FOREVER" and in 2008 curated the series "STILL MOVING" for Tanzquartier Wien, within which he introduced the lecture performance format "walk+talk". Gehmacher developed the video installation "dead reckoning" together with the visual artist Vladimir Miller.

Vladimir Miller was born 1978 and grew up in Uljanowsk, Russia. He currently lives in Berlin. He studied graphic art and illustration at the University of Applied Arts Hildesheim. He developed installations and directed performances including "Doing Voodoo to Your Boy" and "Dead vs Dad", collaborating with the playwright John Birke on both of them. In 2006 Vladimir Miller co-founded the artist collective B.U.L.L. The result of their interventionist work in several European cities, the performance "Mascot for Soft Soul", was shown at the diskurs festival in Gießen. 2007 Miller collaborated as a video artist on "Cargo Sofia" by Stefan Kaegi (Rimini Protokoll). In 2008 he created, together with Meg Stuart and Philipp Gehmacher "the fault lines" for Sommerszene08, Salzburg and collaborated on "All Together Now" by Meg Stuart / Damaged Goods at the steirischer herbst festival. The video installation "dead reckoning" 2008/2009 continues his collaboration with Philipp Gehmacher.

Hooman Sharifi / Impure Company (IR/N)

Born and raised in Iran, Sharifi is now a Norwegian Citizen. He arrived in Norway solitarily in 1989 at the age of 15. His experience in dance started with hip-hop and street-jazz. Later, at the age of 21, came the technical training of classical ballet and modern dance. In 1997 he was accepted to the 3-year course in choreography with the National College of Ballet and Dance in Oslo, from which he graduated in spring 2000. He has always had an interest in the "cross-work" of dance and theatre, and after graduating he has worked with dramatic as well as visual art. In 2000 he established Impure Company. The statement "art equals politics" where social awareness and commitment defines the word politics, marks the outset for Impure Company and signifies what art is and should be. Productions amongst others: "Will be titled" (2006), "Meeting with Sofie" (2005), "We failed to hold this reality in mind" (2005), "Hopefully someone will carry out great vengeance on me" (2004), "No name, no premier, no and no and never will be repeated again" (2003).

Mette Ingvarstsen (DK)

Mette Ingvarstsen is a Danish choreographer and dancer. From 1999 she studied in Amsterdam and Brussels where she graduated from the performing arts school P.A.R.T.S. in summer 2004. Since 2002 she has made several

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performance works among others "Manual Focus", "50/50", "to come" and "Why We Love Action". Her practice includes writing, making, performing and documenting work. Her most recent performance works are "IT'S IN THE AIR" (2008) a collaboration with Jefta van Dinther and the YouTube project "Where is my privacy" (2008/9). "GIANT CITY" and "evaporated landscapes" will premiere at 2009 steirischer herbst festival in Graz.

Besides her performance work, she is engaged in research and in questioning modes of production within the performing arts. In 2008 she participated in "6Months1Location" confronting questions around education, structures of production and research within the performing arts. Since 2005 she has been working on "everybodys", an ongoing collaborative project based on open source strategies that aims at producing tools and games that can be used by everybody in order to develop work. She is part of the collective COCO's who recently presented "Breeding, Brains and Beauty" and has collaborated with Jan Ritsema and Bojana Cvejic on several theater performances.

Stefan Kaegi / Rimini Protokoll (D/CH)

Stefan Kaegi studied visual arts in Zurich and drama, theatre and media at the Institut für Angewandte Theaterwissenschaft in Giessen, Germany. Together with Helgard Haug and Daniel Wetzler, Stefan Kaegi is part of Rimini Protokoll. They are recognized as being among the leaders and creators of the "Reality Trend" (Theater der Zeit), which has exerted a powerful influence on the theatre scene. They have attracted international attention with their dramatic works, which take place in that grey zone between reality and fiction. In Argentina, Brazil, Graz and Poland Kaegi worked with local performers in urban contexts, producing motor cycle tours, chasing channels, pet ceremonies or bus trips. His Argentinian piece Torero Portero toured Europe and South America. In 2005 his "mini train world" for Theater Basel - Mnemopark - was awarded with the prize of the jury at "Festival Politik im freien Theater", Berlin and invited to the Avignon Festival. Since 2006 his mobile audience room "Cargo Sofia" – a truck with two Bulgarian drivers – has been touring all over Europe. Since 2000, Rimini Protokoll has brought its "theatre of experts" to the stage and into city spaces, interpreted by funeral speakers, Call Centre operators, ambassadors, truck-drivers or politicians whom they call "experts". In 2007 he started collaborating with Argentinian writer and theatre-director Lola. Their latest common project is "Airport Kids" has been touring Europe since 2008.

www.rimini-protokoll.de

Federico León (AR)

Argentine actor, director and filmmaker Federico León (1975) despite his young age has been the leading figure of the aspiring Argentine theatre scene for ten years now. He is the author and director of "Cachetazo de Campo", "Museo Miguel Angel Boezio", "1500 metros sobre el nivel de Jack and El Adolescente". In 2001, he wrote and directed his first film, "Todo Juntos", in which he also acted. His second film "Estrellas" (2006), created in collaboration with Marcos Martinez, will be screened at this steirischer herbst festival. Federico León has won numerous awards, including First Prize for Dramatic Literature from the Argentine National Institute of Theatre, the 2004 Konex Award of the National Arts Foundation and the Argentine government's First National Prize for Dramatic Writing 1996-1999. His plays have been performed in theatres and festivals in countries around the world, including Germany, France, the Netherlands, Austria, Italy, Denmark, Scotland, Canada, Belgium, Brazil and Australia.

MVD Austria | frank, rieber (A)

Since 1997 MVD Austria and frank, rieber have been collaborating along the borders of architecture, art and design, with a focus on installations, exhibitions and interactions in the public space. They have created temporary installations, exhibitions, flats, gastronomic environments. Michael Rieber was born in 1965 in Brixen and studied architecture at the Technical University Graz. He is founding member of MVD networks and was lecturer in Housing and Design at the TU Vienna for nine years. Since 1997 he is working as freelance architect in Italy and Austria and cooperates with Siegfried Frank. Projects "SELFWARE.politics of identity" Graz 2002-2003 (with Reinhard Braun); "Aiola am Berg" Graz 2003, "add on. 20 Höhenmeter" Vienna 2005 (with Peter Fattinger, Veronika Orso and students of TU Vienna); "BELLEVUE. The yellow house" Linz 2009 (with Peter Fattinger and Veronika Orso). The project team for "Schauhaus 09", the festival centre of steirischer herbst 2009, consists of Michael Rieber and Irina Koerdts (MVD). www.mvd.org / www.frank-rieber.at

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Theater im Bahnhof (A) / raumlaborberlin (D)

The Graz-based **Theater im Bahnhof (TiB)** is Austria's largest professional free theatre company. According to its own definition, TiB sees itself as a contemporary popular theatre and has from the outset focused on Austrian identity between tradition and pop. For TiB, the principle of popular theatre demands an all-out subjective approach. Self-developed plays have been the theatre's main identity from the beginning. It is constantly changing its methods of work so as to create living, varied theatre.

raumlaborberlin was founded as a working group for architecture, art, planning and action in 1999. Taking a process-based approach, the group focuses on urban conditions, working on subjects of temporary architecture and urbanism. "moderato cantabile", the 2008 steirischer herbst festival centre at the Landesmuseum Joanneum was designed by Benjamin Foerster-Baldenius and Jan Liesegang of raumlaborberlin. "Tempel der Vernunft" ("Temple of Reason"), the festival opening project of steirischer herbst 2009 is developed by Markus Bader, Benjamin Foerster-Baldenius and Andrea Hofman of raumlaborberlin together with Theater im Bahnhof Graz and the dramaturgical team of steirischer herbst festival.

www.theater-im-bahnhof.com / www.raumlabor-berlin.de

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