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Performance I “What about you? Have you been constructed?” Community dance project by Polena Kolia

Performance:

28.11.19 + 30.11.19 at 7pm

Audio-visual Installation:

Opening: 28.11.19 at 7pm

Duration: 29.11.19 - 05.12.19

Visiting hours_Monday - Friday from 12pm-4pm

More information upon request
athens@fluxlaboratory.com

Polena Kolia, the artist in residency invited by Flux Laboratory Athens in September 2019, presents the community dance project “What about you? Have you been constructed?”. The project was co-created along with older dancers, who participated voluntarily during Polena’s residency at Flux Laboratory.

The final collective performance will take place on Thursday November 28 and on Saturday 30 2019 at 7pm at the premises of Flux Laboratory Athens in Plaka. Parallel to the event, as part of an exhibition-installation, the artist will be presenting sound material collected during her residency. The exhibition will be running until the 5th of December 2019.

A group of mature adults narrate and dance. This constitutes the springboard for exploring how we construct within time what each of us defines as ‘self’ at each

moment in an ongoing exchange with body practices, the people we meet in our life paths and with society.

The project "What about you? Have you been constructed?" examines the body as an archive that stores, remembers and creates the "I", "You" and a common identity of ours, as part of a transaction with the spheres of public and private life, with the city being the canvas of our relationships and dreams.

The piece was co-created by the community of participants with the facilitation of the choreographer. Their own personal expressions, the exploration of movement as well as the development of the choreographic idea constituted the foundation of the project. In the first place, the participating dancers took part in an interview, where they were encouraged to share their memories and thoughts. Their voices and personal experiences were fundamental for the experience, the creative process and the nature of the project itself. During the past months, through the creative process of the dance making, the participants attempted to delve deeper into the movement, the structure of the performative material and, above all, they enjoyed dancing on a personal and collective level.

*Polena Kolia is the first artist in residency for the season 2019-2020 at Flux Laboratory Athens. In summer 2019, Flux Laboratory supported her project "Let me tell you my steps" in collaboration [with Dance Days Chania International Contemporary Dance Festival](#). Her work was presented as part of the program "New creators in the city".

Performance by:
Sousy Arkoyli, Clémence Barret, Sofia Kalantzopoulou, Argiro Papastergiou,
Penelope Pyrrou, Rita Roussou, Dimitris Stavropoulos, Katerina Zygopoulou

Narrations by:
Sousy Arkoyli, Clémence Barret, Sofia Kalantzopoulou, Maria Kanellopoulou, Argiro
Papastergiou, Penelope Pyrrou, Rita Roussou, Dimitris Stavropoulos, Katerina
Zygopoulou

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Polena Kolia Petersen

Polena Kolia Petersen is a Greek-Danish dancer and community dance practitioner. She studied at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London from where she was awarded the Mary Zemke Memorial Fund Prize. She is also a BSc in Psychology from the University of Copenhagen, where she taught Philosophy of Science and Research Design. She has presented her own projects amongst others at the International Contemporary Dance Festival Dance Days Chania (Let me tell you my steps, site-specific project for mature adults 65+), at Tentart Festival (Listen to our Dances, workshop & public space performance), Pocket Dance Festival (Movement Briges, workshop for teens and adults 65+). She is a member of Kinitiras Artistic Network for Performing Arts since 2017. With Kinitiras she took part in the facilitation of the Youth Exchange Erasmus Programme-Suppliants in 2018 and she is one of the facilitators of the mature age dance group Kinitiras Ω, with which she travelled to the international festival stAGE! in Germany in May 2019. She is also one of the dancers and facilitators of the educational programme of Kinitiras "Truth or Dare" that is supported by the Ministry of Culture. In 2019 she is a resident at the Flux Laboratory Athens. She is also a member of the educational programme Skytali for primary education. She has collaborated with Persa Stamatopoulou, Youth Dance Company-Trinity Laban, Scatter Dance Company-The Place, Little Tales, Ohi Pezoume, Rafika Chawishe and Giannis Karounis, Charles Linehan, Laura Navndrup Black, Daisy Farris, Copenhagen Architecture Festival, p12 Gallery-London. She works aiming for artistry that originates from humanness, collaboration, creativity and the experiential approach to the art of dance. Her choreographic and performative practice is based on inclusiveness and the participatory experience of dance. She thus supports the power of dance to enrich the participants as people, as dance communities and as citizens in a broader sense. She focuses on creative dance, improvisation and composition.

Flux Laboratory Athens

Since 2016 Flux Laboratory has been actively supporting cultural action in Athens, producing a multifaceted artistic and interdisciplinary work. Operating since its inception in Geneva in 2003 as an evolving experimental center for the performing arts, Flux Laboratory is constantly seeking and creating new forms of creative processes and synergies, inviting various actors to be part of its network; artists, theoreticians, non-profit organisations, foundations, entrepreneurs and local communities. Its hub in Athens is dedicated to the development of projects related to the *Body*. The *Body* is approached from the angle of a medium of creation and expression, of social fabric and community, and as an instrument for entrepreneurial initiatives.

Recordings are part of the International **Archives of Popular Music** (AIMP) of the Ethnographic Museum of Geneva (MEG)



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