

PROGRAM

School of Lovers on Tour!
Fr 24 & Sa 25/05/24
at Kunsthalle Mainz



Installation view Kunsthalle Mainz: melanie bonajo: *School of Lovers*: melanie bonajo, *School of Lovers*, 2023, HD Video (38:46 min), in collaboration with Theater HORA Zürich. Scenography in collaboration with Théo Demans, courtesy melanie bonajo und AKINCI. Photo: Norbert Miguletz.

The *School of Lovers* is a humorous, sensitive, empowering and genre-bending experience on the topics of love and intimacy for people with and without disabilities. The project was realized by video artist and somatic sex coach melanie bonajo together with the ensemble of the HORA theatre, Daniel Cremer, and Yanna Rüger.

The journey which the participants of *School of Lovers* embarked on with the short film of the same title – currently on view at Kunsthalle Mainz – continues: all participants gather in Mainz on **Fr 24 & Sa 25/05/2024 at Kunsthalle Mainz**, to meet with the local audience and to take a further step on the path to a global school of love for people with and without impairments.

We are looking forward to the *Alphabet of Love* taught by Theatre HORA with Yanna Rüger & Daniel Cremer; to *Collective Body Spells* in a workshop by melanie bonajo with Skinship, and *The Miracle of Love* as an evening show by Daniel Cremer. Together with Gianni Blumer, Fabienne Villiger, Caitlin Friedly and Yanna Rüger from Theater HORA and melanie bonajo, we will watch *School of Lovers*, a sex education film 2.0 by melanie bonajo in collaboration with Theater HORA, and discuss its genesis.

Fr, 24/05, 6– approx. 8 pm
Workshop with melanie bonajo & Skinship
Collective Body Spells



When the body says Yes, 2022, photo, ultra chrome, canson Lustre, museum glass, 63,8x111,8 cm, Courtesy the artist & AKINCI

What does it mean to summon a queer collective body to create a spell? How do we recognize the voice of our collective body and our voice inside of it? And to which collective future do our bodies say YES?

Speaking from a collective body we speak of unity, empathy, and shared purpose. As we grow as individuals, we also cultivate a sense of belonging to the collective body. Recognizing that our strength lies in our togetherness, we breathe life into this shared entity, sculpting its form with care and intention. “Collective Body Spells” is a workshop about honoring individual needs while weaving them into the fabric of togetherness, creating a harmonious dance of interconnectedness. Picture a swarm of (queer) bodies moving as one, with each person at the center having their needs met – that’s the essence of a collective body prayer, a sculptural parkour through space, where every step resonates with purpose and solidarity, but also fostering genuine connections and shared moments of joy. The human body is the most basic connection to our planet and our future.

Through movement, deep listening, empathetic understanding, and inner inquiry, we sculpt a space where every voice is heard, every story is honored, and every contribution is valued, weaving together the intricate threads of our collective identity into a powerful tapestry of resilience, solidarity, and hope.

The workshop is hosted by melanie bonajo and Pawel Chill Dudus (Skinship_touch_based_place_for_Kinship).

In English

Ages 18+

No previous experience necessary. Please bring comfortable clothing and a warm jumper or blanket. Yoga mats are available.

The number of participants is limited, please register at mail@kunsthalle-mainz.de.

Costs: 15 euros / 8 euros reduced

Sa, 25/05, 2–4 pm
Workshop with Theatre HORA
Come and learn the alphabet of love with us!



School of Lovers. A horny show by melanie bonajo, Daniel Cremer, Yanna Rüger and the ensemble of the Theatre HORA, in co-production with the Shedhalle Zurich and the Fabriktheater Rote Fabrik. © Mali Lazell

We invite you to a special lesson! In this workshop you will meet the teachers from the film SCHOOL OF LOVERS.

We'll get to know ourselves better. And learn about the others too: Madame Rainbow has brought a few questions aimed at bringing us together.

The god Armund teaches us the alphabet of touch. Have you ever touched yourself fiery? Or as gentle as the air? Where on your body do you enjoy an earthy touch?

Courageous Chantale shows us how to say no. And yes, at the right moment. Where does your own space begin? And how close can one get to you, so that it feels safe and good?

We dance together, meet each other from a safe distance and perhaps get a little closer to ourselves in the process.

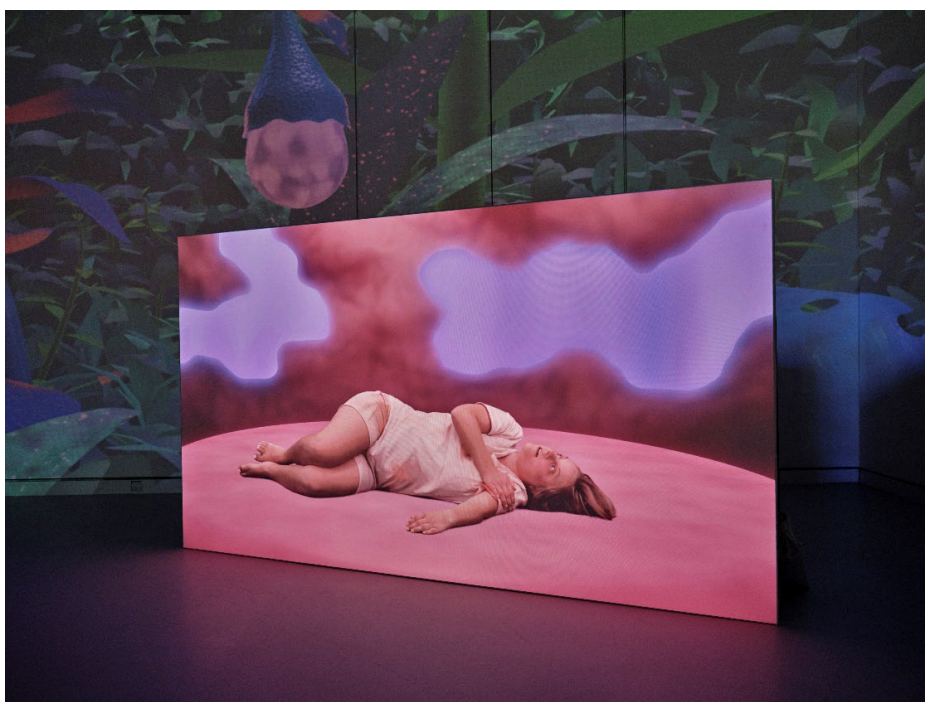
The workshop will be led by Gianni Blumer, Fabienne Villiger and Caitlin Friedly from the Theatre HORA ensemble, together with Yanna Rüger, artistic director of Theatre HORA, and Daniel Cremer, performance artist & director.

Please bring clothes you feel comfortable in, a warm jumper, warm socks, and something to drink.
In German

This Workshop is open to people with and without disabilities. If you need support for your participation, please contact mail@kunsthalle-mainz.de / 06131 126936

The number of participants is limited, please register at mail@kunsthalle-mainz.de.
Costs: 20 euros / 10 euros reduced

Sa 25/05, 5 pm
Screening & Talk *School of Lovers*



Installation view Kunsthalle Mainz: melanie bonajo: School of Lovers: melanie bonajo, School of Lovers, 2023, HD video (38:46 min), in collaboration with Theater HORA Zurich. Scenography in collaboration with Théo Demans. Courtesy of melanie bonajo and AKINCI. Photo: Norbert Miguletz.

Screening of *Schule der Liebenden* (melanie bonajo in collaboration with Theatre HORA, 2023, 38'46")

Afterwards we will talk to the HORA actors Gianni Blumer, Fabienne Villiger and Caitlin Friedly, as well as Yanna Rüger and melanie bonajo about their collaboration. Moderated by Yasmin Afschar, Co-Director Kunsthalle Mainz.

What kind of school teaches you what you've always wanted to know, but nobody tells you in real life?

How to feel and communicate a yes and a no in your body; how to flirt, maintain your boundaries, touch mindfully and love yourself? What kind of school addresses the issues related to sexuality and safety? These are some of the questions that prompted Yanna Rüger, Daniel Cremer and melanie bonajo to team up with the Theater HORA ensemble and to embark on a journey of de- and re-schooling. In its course, they together shed light on the crystal of intimacy in all of its facets. One of the outcomes of their travels is *Schule der Liebenden*, a sex education film 2.0, shown in an immersive spatial experience. Performers from the HORA ensemble have become experts on their own desire and, as fantastic teaching avatars, are able to impart knowledge and sensual experiences on the topics of love, intimacy and sexuality.

Afterwards we invite you to a drink.

In German

Without registration

Costs:

Free admission

Sa 25/05, 8 pm
Performance from Daniel Cremer
The Miracle of Love – Das Wunder der Liebe



Daniel Cremer: *The Miracle of Love*. Photo: Arsene Marquis.

„Just all of you and me, tonight, up close and personal“: In his new show, performance artist & femme fatale Daniel Cremer offers the audience nothing less than a fully satisfying, equitable romantic relationship; from the first meeting to physical ecstasy to marriage, “love death” or poly-structure. With humor and a desire for vulnerability, performer and audience fall into the wonder of love together and blaze a trail between symbiosis and co-dependence, romantic infatuation and neoliberal autonomy kitsch, projection and connection.

In German
Ages 18+
Without registration

Costs:
15 euros / 8 euros reduced