# SMASHING WOR(L)DS

Cultural Practices for re/Imagining & un/Learning Vocabularies

2020-2022



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Smashing Wor(I)ds: Cultural Practices for re/Imagining & un/Learning Vocabularies aims to engage with vocabularies, languages, and narratives of resistance in order to develop new forms of expression against an epistemic violence that is increasingly entrenched in our language.

The project is designed as a collaborative and multidisciplinary platform that brings together institutions, artists\*, grassroots organizations, and researchers for a multi-layered dialogue between different life practices, histories, and voices to confront cultural and social marginalization. We will engage with the forms of communication and practices of European cultural institutions by challenging vocabularies, hegemonic narratives, and central knowledge. The project will create a map of experience sharing as well as a charter and podcasts for future vocabularies inspired by cultural activities against heteronormativity and racism.

This project is the result of the partnership led by kulturen in bewegung (Austria), the Inna Przestrzeń [Other Space] Foundation (Poland), Centre for Fine Arts Brussels (BOZAR) with associated partners Africa Museum (Belgium), Afro Rainbow Austria [ARA], Queer Base, Silent University Graz, Students of the Studio for Post-Conceptual Art Practices [PCAP] at the Academy of Fine Arts.

Supported by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union and BMKÖS/Sek.IV.

## Partners

### kulturen in bewegung

kulturen in bewegung, the art and cultural institution at the Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation (VIDC), realizes innovative intercultural projects and thereby promotes a diverse understanding of culture in Austria as well as differentiated perspectives on development policy and global contexts. Through intercultural dialogue and artistic exchange on an international level, kulturen in bewegung tries to contribute to the construction of a just and solidary global society, kulturen in bewegung is significantly supported by the Austrian Development Agency.

## The Inna Przestrzeń [Other Space] Foundation

We are Warsaw-based Nonprofit Organization established in 2006. We aim at opening unconventional spheres, merging various fields and disciplines (that usually do not work together) and bringing people together to generate real changes in different regions of the world.

#### Centre for Fine Arts Brussels (BOZAR)

Bozar, the Centre for Fine Arts' cultural project, offers a dynamic and diversified cultural programme of concerts and exhibitions: a multidisciplinary approach in which debates, theatre, cinema, literature and other disciplines meet to reflect on the connections between art and society. The Centre for Fine Arts aims to be a European cultural centre, anchored in the 21st century, with a novel and innovative view of society, a laboratory of ideas attuned to society's current and future challenges. In the coming decade, Bozar aims to embody change, and contribute to seven major and evolving societal challenges.

# Associated partners

#### Africa Museum

The AfricaMuseum is a centre for knowledge and resources on Africa, in particular Central Africa, in an historical, contemporary, and global context. The museum exhibits unique collections. It is a place of memory on the colonial past and strives to be a dynamic platform for exchanges and dialogues between cultures and

Afro Rainbow Austria [ARA]

Afro Rainbow Austria (ARA) is the first organisation established by and for African LGBTQI+ in Austria with the aim of creating a communicative and interactive platform. Still trending is the fact that most Africans are refusing to recognize homophobia as a colonial legacy, bearing in mind that before colonialism, many traditional cultures in Africa were tolerant of different sexualities and gender relations. Many LGBTQI+ Africans face discrimination, violence, persecution, stigma and exclusion on a daily basis from family members, employers, places of worship and the society at large. These forms of hostility tend to take a negative toll on the physical, social and mental health of the LGBTQI+ population.

Queer Base

We offer counselling related to legal matters, social aspects and coming out as well as networking with the community and support for medical and psychological concerns. We then refer you to experts in these areas. We also offer training opportunities for organisations that are involved in the asylum system. We know that translating questions about your sexual orientation and gender identity is a very delicate matter. This is why we mostly work with translators who are LGBTIQ themselves. Together with Diakonie Lares and Tralalobe, we arrange housingfor LGBTIQ asylum seekers who have submitted their asylum claim. We refer asylum seekers granted refugee status to organisations that can help them find a flat.

### Silent University Graz

The SILENT UNIVERSITY IN AUSTRIA is intended to create an integrative framework that promotes academic dialogue between academics and academics in education, regardless of their origin, language, religion or nostrification. The Silent University is seeking silent students and researchers.

### Students of the Studio for Post-Conceptual Art Practices [PCAP] at the Academy of Fine Arts.

The Studio for Post-Conceptual Art Practices (PCAP), at the Institute of Fine Arts, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, under the leadership of professor Marina Grzinic consists (with the Erasmus visiting students that come to the art studio usually for a semester) of approximately 50 students and is open to different interventions into art, community, technology, politics and the social. Activism, politics, and theory are of utmost importance for how we deal with visual practices and politics of representation in PCAP. Art is not a tool that can be applied for a certain innocent production process and distribution of images and knowledge. Education is not a transparent machine for the production and circulation of skills. Post Conceptual Art Practices, therefore, develops a platform for discussion and conceptualization of different art, cultural and political topics.

# Subpartners

### Conviviality as Potentiality: From Amnesia and Pandemic towards a Convivial Epistemology

It is an interdisciplinary, arts and theory-based research project, funded by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF, AR 679) through its Programme for Arts-based Research (PEEK), and is based at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna from 2021 to 2024. The aim of this project is to engage in processes of co-establishment with artists in order to establish and share what will be called "convivial epistemologies."

# Activities

2 Workshops on Non-Violent Communication/ Discrimination by The Other Space Foundation

Online Residencies & Africa Museum and Bozar

Research Online Platform by kulturen in bewegung

Training Workshops for non-violent Communication. Focus on LGBTQIA+ by The Other Space Foundation 4 Partner Meetings

Multi-disciplinary conference on World Music by Bozar

6 Performative Labs by kulturen in bewegung

Residency for 2 Artists for 3 Months at the Academy of Fine Arts. Vienna and kulturen in bewegung

Training Workshop Institution. Focus on Gender & Decolonial by Bozar

Training Workshops for mediations with Africa Museum and Bozar

4 Artistic Online Artworks/ Art Commissions by The Other Space Foundation

Gender Vocabularies Artistic Intervention in frame of exhibition by Bozar

Festival of Vocabularies Life by kulturen in bewegung

3 Workshops on Non-Violent Communication by kulturen in bewegung

3 Podcasts each by the main partners the Other Space Foundation, Bozar and kulturen in bewegung

Decolonisation Vocabularies Intervention at Africa Museum and Bozar

1 Artistic Intervention Online by kulturen in bewegung















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