# SMASHING WORLDS

## Cultural Practices for re/Imagining & un/Learning Vocabularies



## Performative Labs & Artistic Research

In a multi-format event with workshops and lecture performances, the results of the artistic research within the project "Smashing Wor(I)ds" will be presented. The focus is on artistic work with vocabularies of resistance, from queer and anti-racist perspectives – revolving around language, fashion, translation and much more.

#### Smashing Wor(l)ds

"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 build new forms of expressions against an epistemic violence of growing levels ingrained in our vocabularies.

The project is built as a collaborative and multidisciplinary platform bringing together institutions, artists, grassroots organizations, and researchers for a multivalent dialogue between diverse life practices, stories, and voices to oppose cultural and social marginalization. We will address the forms of communication and practices of European cultural institutions through processes of questioning vocabularies, hegemonic narratives, and centric knowledge. The project will establish a map of sharing experiences, and a charter and podcasts for future vocabularies, inspired by counter-cultural activities opposing xenophobia, heteronormativity, and racism.

"Smashing Wor(I)ds-Summercamp" is a gathering of the Austrian partner organizations with Afro Rainbow Austria [ARA], Queer Base, Silent University Graz and the Students of the Studio for Post-conceptual Art Practices [PCAP] at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna.

#### Locations

Schillerplatz Park in front of the Academy of Fine Arts, Schillerplatz, 1010 Vienna

Atelierhaus Academy of Fine Arts, Lehargasse 8, 1060 Vienna

Kleine Stadtfarm am Schillerwasser, Naufahrtweg 14a, 1220 Vienna



#### Friday, 25 June

Schillerplazpark, Schillerplatz, 1010 Vienna – On view all day

Studio for Post-conceptual Art /IBK, Lehargasse 8/I, 1060 Vienna – from 14:00 to 18:00

Walkthrough and presentations of the projects by students of the Studio for Post-conceptual Art /IBK, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna

»Die Sichtbarkeit des Unsichtbaren«

#### The visibility of the Invisible

Participants: Asma Aiad, Rui Bai, Victoria Eliseykina, Arno Gitschthaler, Felix Huber, Robert Jolly, Ali Kianmehr, Aaron Kimmig, Nathalie Köbli, Valentin Pfenniger, Timotheus Ueberall, Imrich Veber, Kyra Sophie Wilhelmseder, Ju Yoo and Tino Zimmermann.

#### Saturday, 26 June

Kleine Stadtfarm am Schillerwasser Naufahrtweg 14a, 1220 Vienna

#### 10:00 to 12:30 Studio for Post-conceptual Arts, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna: *Laboratory Smashing the Visible*

Performative-discursive cluster "Smashing the Visible" by and with the students of the Studio for Post-conceptual Art /IBK at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna.

Art is not a tool that can simply be used for a certain innocent process of production and distribution of images and knowledge. Education is not a transparent machine for the production and circulation of skills.



#### 10:00 to 10:30 Asma Aiad and Ju Yoo: *Invisible Women*

The title is inspired by the book written by Caroline Criado Perez. How many women are hidden and unseen in our daily lives and in society? How many are made invisible? Our work – an installation and a film – is also a conceptual rethinking of the capacity of public space to remember and pay tribute to those who matter but are not recognized in our society.

#### 10:30 to 11:00 Mohammad Numan, Intervention: *Push-Backs and Realities of Refugee Life*

11:00 to 11:30 Mika Maruyama and Jovita Pristovšek. Statement:

#### Editing Wor(I)ds



#### 11:30 to 12:30 Rawan Almohamad, Munar Khalid Biiq, Arabina Amedoska and Cathérine Lehnerer, Workshop: DRAWING GENDER

The workshop is aimed at adults and will be led by three pupils. It will experiment with the subversive potential of comics to contradict stereotypical codes and attributions. The aim is to create a space of irritation and confusion where mechanisms of representation can be challenged and norms shifted. The workshop lasts one hour and is conceived as a research pedagogical method by Cathérine Lehnerer.



#### Rawan Almohamad

Munar Khalid Biiq



Arabina Amedoska



Cathérine Lehnerer

#### 13:30 to 14:00 Sisanmi Schuller, Performance: *SMASHING THOUGHTS*

Performative SMASH: A tune, dance and a talk.



#### 14:30 to 17:30 Afro Rainbow Austria - ARA: *Wearable Vocabulary*

Aims to take away the focus on long established ways of speaking, language and vocabulary to think and create new ways of communicating. How deeply ingrained is oppression in the way we speak? What can be empowering? How can we express ourselves without saying words? What are new words we can find? The workshop: We will discuss vocabularies of oppression and empowerment split in two groups and think of how we can write and design these words on shirts (provided in collaboration with the clothing brand "Silky ola").



#### **18:00 to 19:00** Guest Artist: Joëlle Sambi Nzeba (Belgium)

Joëlle Sambi is an Afrofeminist lesbian activist. She is an author, poet and filmmaker. She is currently working on her first documentary "Pinkshasa Diaspora," a political poem that draws the landscape of the homosexuals of the Congolese diaspora. Her writing is closely tied to her activism. Although she dissociates her origin and her writing, the Congo, its history and contemporary Belgium are nevertheless present in the background of her stories as well as her projects. Caught between several identities that merge, Joëlle Sambi writes and raises questions about identity, norms, belonging, she mixes several languages and her writings bear the traces.

She lives on the border and the strangeness of her language leads her writing to poetry, to slam. She is currently performing in the slam and Krump show "Fusion" which evokes police brutalities with the Krump dancer Hendrickx Ntela. She is also creating her first two slam shows for which she co-wrote the texts: "Angles Morts" with Sarah Machine who creates the electronic music and "Koko Slam Gang," a show that gives voice to a group of Congolese grandmothers between 65 and 88 years old (Production Lezarts Urbains). She is also co-president of the EuroCentralAsian Lesbian Community, the first lesbian organization in Europe and Central Asia. Joëlle Sambi Nzeba is also a member of Belgian Network For Black Lives, a collective that organized the first large demonstration against state racism and police brutalities in Belgium that gathered 20,000 people in June 2020 in Brussels.



### Sunday, 27 June

Kleine Stadtfarm am Schillerwasser Naufahrtweg 14a, 1220 Vienna

#### 10:30 to 12:30 Silent University Graz, Working Space: *Finding and Founding*

The Silent University Graz in Austria will meet with practitioners from WIESE (Moabit Mountain College) and Versatorium (Vienna) to find a poem. We will have an open discussion about how a poem might be found and the actual findings for our newly beginning translation. "The Silent University in Austria is a meeting point for persons who have sought refuge in Austria, hosted by KUNSTLABOR Graz | uniT. It forms a community to talk about the concerns shared by the participants and to

#### found initiatives together."

With: Marwa Almokbel, Anne-Sophie Born, Christian Filips, Negin Martos, Faiz Rasuli, Felix Reinstadler, Galal Alahmadi, Sophie Schagerl, Konstantin Schmidtbauer.



#### 13:30 to 14:00 Mirjana Mustra and Lieber Michael, Performance: *REVOLUTION CAN SERIOUSLY DAMAGE YOUR...*

Performative SMASH: about Yugoslavian female antifascist fighters of the Second World War.



#### 14:00 to 17:30

#### Queer Base Installations Affirmation Wall and HELLO HELLO LOVE PHONE BOOTH

Affirmation Wall: Re-imagining the traumatic experience of queer folks in the toilet where we are exposed to uncensored queerphobia that manifests in text. By re-creating these high schools prototype non functional toilets and installing one at our exhibition space. One side of the wall will be filled with affirming words, phrases, and poems with different languages and on the other side of the wall, our artists will do artistic manifestation from these affirming words, phrases, and poems. Leaving the third wall blank where participants do their own reflection from these two walls.

HELLO HELLO LOVE PHONE BOOTH: Queer Base being a space that centers queer folks that had to flee from the physical and emotional place once they called "HOME" for safety. HELLO HELLO LOVE PHONE BOOTH will attempt to reimagine the connection that needs mend/rediscovering among many things. We will recreate the public telephone booth where there will be a soundscape filled with words of loving, healing, tenderness, and kindness. These words will be curated by the selected translator. Next to the HELLO HELLO LOVE BOOTH, there will be a journal book where our participants can take a moment and reflect on what they heard and how this installation made them feel. The reflection can manifest in a multifaceted way. Folks can write a letter to their loved ones, draw their feelings and so on.



#### 18:00 Closing Open Stage, DJ Line

## This project is the result of a partnership between:



KULTU REN I N BEW EGUNG

VIDC Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation



#### Creative **]a[** academy of fine arts vienna Europe

FUIF Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

THE SILENT UNIVERSITY Austria









for LGBTIQ Refugees



#### In collaboration with with Austrian Science Fund FWF (AR 679) and Studio for Post-conceptual Art /IBK, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna