REFLECT

A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY FESTIVAL WHICH ADDRESSES THE NEED TO QUESTION ‘OTHERING’ PRACTICES IN THE ARTS AND PROCESS OF CULTURAL ‘OTHERING’. REFLECT FESTIVAL THUS ENCOURAGE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN DIVERSE YOUTH GROUPS ON THE TOPICS OF SELF-REPRESENTATION, CULTURAL IDENTITY AND COMMUNITY.

CURATED BY TONICA HUNTER, MARIA HEROLD AND MARISSA LOBO FOR KULTUREN IN BEWEGUNG, THIS INITIATIVE IS PART OF ‘DIS-OTHERING – BEYOND AFROPOLITAN & OTHER LABELS’ A CREATIVE EUROPE COLLABORATIVE PROJECT BETWEEN BOZAR CENTRE FOR FINE ARTS, SAVVY CONTEMPORARY AND KULTUREN IN BEWEGUNG – ON THE NECESSARY DECONSTRUCTION OF ‘OTHERING’ PRACTICES IN EUROPEAN CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS.
THE PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 6 | 4 PM
WELCOME (Catering by Afro Rainbow Austral), SYMPOSIUM AND PERFORMATIVE EXHIBITION

The Symposium and performative exhibition takes place in cooperation with the ‘SFC JugendCorner’ and involves young people as experts, artists and cultural workers to talk on the topics: self-reflection, self-love and ‘othering’. We attempt to listen, speak, visualise and learn about (or unlearn) practices of ‘othering’, bringing together positioning and references which are engaged in antiracist strategies through art activism, theory and community-building.

SEPTEMBER 6 | 5 PM
LECTURES & PERFORMANCES

5pm – 8:30pm
SFC JUGENDCORNER
Youth Group of the Schwarze Frauen Community
BELINDA KAZEEM
artist, writer
KAREN MICHELSW CASTAÑÓN
visual artist and art educator
HENRIE DENNIS
activist, curator
NITIN BHAROSA
Cultural theorist and writer
MARISSA LÓBO
artist, curator
IMANI RAMSES
performance artist ‘It remains untitled’

SEPTEMBER 6 | 9 PM
DJ LINE

SOUNDS OF BLACKNESS

SEPTEMBER 7 | 1 PM
WORKSHOPS

1pm – 2.30pm
COLOR WRITING with Enesi M.

2.30pm – 4:00pm
WEARING RESISTANCE with Nene Surreal

4pm – 6pm
BODY LOVE MOVEMENT with Mzamo Nondlwana

SEPTEMBER 7 | 6:30PM–8PM
FILM SCREENING

FILM SHORTS
presented by Adia Trischler:
Jeannete Ehlers ‘Black Bullets’
Elisha Leverock-Smith ‘Miss Black Germany’
Janicza Bravo ‘Man Rots Head’
Showcase by the nomadic platform originating from Vienna, ‘The Golden Pixel Cooperative’

SEPTEMBER 7 | 8PM – 9PM
PERFORMANCES

ELISABETH TAMBWE
performance ‘Abstraction’
MZAMO NONDLWANA
performance BLACK SWAN Alley of his Majesty...

SEPTEMBER 7 | 9PM – 1AM
CONCERTS AND DJ LINE
moderated by Dalia Ahmed, FM4

ISSAM
SALUTE
BAD & BOUJEE
DALIA AHMED

SEPTEMBER 8 | 2 PM
WELCOME Food for Fun
WORKSHOPS

LALALA – KIDS PROGRAM

2pm – 3pm
WATERCOLOR Workshop for Kids
with Ani Ganzala

2pm – 3pm
WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS
Performing ways of being with each other – Karen Michelsen Castañón

3pm – 4pm
CONCERT MAPU & BISMANI HUNI KUIN

4pm – 5:30pm
READING & PAINTING KABÁ DAREBU
Luisa Lobo and Fernanda Palmieri

EXHIBITION (ONGOING)
READING RESISTANCE
Verena Melgarejo Weinandt
SPEAKERS, PANELISTS & PERFORMERS

SFC JUGENDCORNER

The SFC Jugendcorner is a youth group of the Schwarze Frauen Community (Black Women Community) in Vienna and counts 30 members. Founded in November 2017, initiated and organized by Abiona Esther Ojo and Sade Stöger, the youthcorner is open for teenagers between 14 and 20 years from the African Diaspora in Austria. The aim is to create a space where its possible to exchange with other black teenagers, to empower and support each other and to unfold their potentials. Abiona Esther Ojo and Sade Stöger are providing a divers program from excursions, workshops, exhibitions, events, open stages in the fields of empowerment, sports, art and relaxation.

Within the “Reflect” Festival the teenagers are producing artworks, performances and will prepare a panel and guide the audience through the symposium.

BELINDA KAZEEM

Belinda Kazeem-Kamiński (born 1980) is a Vienna based artist, art-based researcher, filmmaker, and writer. She is interested in speculative stories from the viewpoint of the marginalized and forgotten. Currently Kazeem-Kamiński is working on the project The Nonhuman. The Alien. The Believer – Unsettling Innocence in the frame of the PhD-in-Practice Program at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna.

About the keynote: Othering is a central mechanism of exclusion that is aiming at targeting specific groups of people, thereby creating the so called others. What are we working towards when starting with this premise?

Opening her keynote with a reflection of the position of the „other” in the national psyche, Belinda Kazeem-Kamiński, Vienna based writer, artist, and art-based researcher, points to ways of refusing otherization and by doing that, diving into explorations of self.

HENRIE DENNIS

The founder and Executive Director of Afro Rainbow Austria, Henrie Dennis, is a Nigerian born human rights activist who continuously works on improving the lives and realities of LGBTQI+ communities in Africa as a continent, Austria and the Diaspora. She’s currently a Curative Director at Wienwoche 2019, “Bitches and Witches”. She is also co-chair of EL*C, EuroCentralAsia Lesbian Community and a board member of Planet10, a redistribution network that encourages sharing privileges among minority groups.

About the lecture: Henrie Dennis will talk about structural discrimination from the perspective of a queer Black African migrant person and how resistance and protest function as an inter-generational tool to break and disrupt these structures.

NITIN BHAROSA

Nitin Bharosa is a queer writer and researcher of color with a focus on postcolonial theory, cultural studies, representations of People of Color in media and contemporary art.

About the lecture: The lecture „Self-Care and Self-Love as a Form of Resistance briefly describes ‘othering’, its influence on the way People of Color think and feel about themselves and shows how self-love and self-care can nourish one’s own, self-determined sense of self.
KAREN MICHEISEN CASTAÑÓN

Karen Micheisen Castañón is a visual artist, filmmaker and art educator. She’s a member of colectivo qellay (decolonial education), and Compa Berlin (association that proposes ways of incorporating the body in education).

About the keynote: Karen will share her collective and personal experiences in mixed-media projects with young people addressing borders and the writing of personal and collective histories as ways to counter neo-colonial ideologies in educational material. A project she currently develops with colectivo qellay incorporates experimental improvisation, listening to the body and alternative storytelling to counter the ideology of the so-called „discovery” of the Americas.

MARISSA LOBO, ANAIS

Marissa Lobo is an artist curator who loves to think about escape routes insisting on affection practices against colonial trauma. Healing and Resistance!

About the keynote: “Do you know what my superpowers are?” deals with the creation of the self-portrait based on the experiences of young women*. In a series of workshops, the artists worked together with the participants to create a performance that stimulates reflection on their own self-images and the social constraints that affect them. The workshop and exhibition took place within Wiener Festwochen/Into the City 2019 in collaboration with Machenschaf Flash. The participants created new images to strengthen self-confidence and enable a break with universalizing conventions.

CONCERTS & DJ LINES

ISSAM

Known mononymously by his artist name, Issam, Issam Harisse has built a considerable following in the three years he’s been releasing music. Born and based in Morocco’s largest city, Casablanca, Issam has made a name for himself with a distinctive blend of auto-tuned trap and more traditionally Moroccan sounds. Sung and rapped in Arabic and inspired by the realities of daily life in Morocco, his music has exploded in popularity over the last 12 months, particularly following the release of the single “trap beldi” late last year, which is currently on over 11 million views. This led to a deal with Universal Music France – reportedly the biggest ever signed by an Arab artist – where Issam already has a growing fanbase among the country’s arabic-speaking Diaspora and beyond.

SOUNDS OF BLACKNESS

A collective of artists, activists, producers and DJs based in Vienna celebrating cultural and ethnic diversity in Europe through visuals, sound & dance.

SALUTE

Austrian electronic producer Salute will present his ‘Condition’ mixtape, alongside the euphoric new single ‘Feel the Same’ at the Festival. Based in Manchester, Salute is releasing his ‘Condition’ mixtape dealing with the different stages of grieving, the first installation (Condition I) focused on memories, the second (Condition II), pain, whilst the new singles signify the beginning of feeling hope. Sounding like a collision of Mount Kimble and Floating Points with the classic sound of UK garage, the track is an innovative and fun dance cut. “I’d never made a garage track before writing „Feel the Same“, I play a lot of garage in my DJ sets, so it only felt right to try and make something in that vein.” Felix explains. ‘Feel the Same’ has been available on all online platforms since 22nd July. ‘Condition’ mixtape is available from 16th of August.

DALIA AHMED

Dalia Ahmed is the host of the weekly Radio FM4 show „Dalia’s Late Night Lemonade“ where she presents hip hop, rnb, dancehall, afro pop and global club tunes. For her dj sets she blends the same musical flavours to create upbeat and fun vibes for the dancefloor.
BAD & BOUJEE

Being the first all black all female DJ collective in Austria, Bad and Boujee was founded by Viennese born and raised Elisabeth Masa & Enyanam Tetteh-Kliu. Along with a team of two resident DJs, they throw parties that include every person, no matter their skin color, sex and sexuality.

ABSTRACTION
ELISABETH TAMBWE

Elisabeth Bakambamba Tambwe is based in Vienna since 2005. She was born in Kinshasa and grew up in France where she studied Art. Her productions were presented at the Wiener Festwochen, Impulsanz Wien, Tanzquartier Wien, WUK and Steirischer Herbst. At the Donaustadt and Brut Theater she performed and collaborated with other artists. In 2017 she created and now runs a multidisciplinary art space „Château Rouge” in Wien Meidling.

About the performance: Forced by the surrounding society the individual develops its identity at birth: name, surname, identity-forming assets which come from the individual’s history, its social background and its relationships in it. This totality forms the universal framework of the individual’s imposed identity. Just like a caterpillar that wraps itself into its cocoon, a new, grotesque form appears - a reinvented, abstract and confused body that allows us to project our own interpretations onto.

PERFORMERS

IT REMAINS UNTITLED
IMANI RAMSES

Beginning with the traditions of Balanchine ballet, Imani began her dance training deeply rooted in a rigorous ballet foundation obtained at the Indianapolis School of Ballet. After finishing her bachelor’s studies in Human Biology, Ramses continued her studies at the University of Vienna. There she pursued a master’s degree in cognitive neuroscience, specifying in the unique field of neuroaesthetics. As an additional component to her master’s thesis, in December of 2017 Ramses collaborated with Flow Pizana to organize Mindful Movers Intensive, establishing a new choreographic technique.

About the performance: I don’t see myself as a black artist. I see myself as an artist who is black. Though my blackness is inextricably embedded in my work, it is not the catalyst nor the reason for my quest to feel and understand movement in its ontology. I reject the dichotomous shelves you attempt to place me on. Instead, I prefer to live in my blackness, allowing its life to naturally manifest within the creativity.

ALLEY OF HIS MAJESTY...
BLACK SWAN...
MZAMO NONDLWAN...
SHORT FILM SERIES
ADIA TRISCHLER

Adia Trischler is a video and creative director, visual consultant, fashion editor, and is host of the Viennatourist Board's online series Vienna Now. Originally from New York, but based in Austria for over 10 years; her creative work finds its foundation in science fiction, anthropology, surrealism, theatre, and bass, with a strong focus on sound design and fashion history. She currently teaches a workshop on presentation at the Kununiversität Linz, and is co-curator of an underground program Series: Black which aims to unite and strengthen diverse communities in Austria through visual art/film, sound, repurposing of spaces, and active dialogue.

About the film selection: We know that film is broad. We know that the majority of seen and popularised filmmakers (across all genres of film) are made up of predominantly white men producing commercially accessible work. And every person, regardless of class, ethnicity, or culture has been granted the gift of inspiration.

I wanted, in this short showcase, to allow a small space in order to depict the breadth of contemporary film and what that means: to educate the audience in regards to breaking and expanding their expectations of what a movie or a video can be, and what independent female directors are bringing to the conversation. In this selection I chose to champion the quirky, the fantastical and surreal, as well as those brave enough to make work that is not always understood.

Jeannete Ehlers „Black Bullets“
Elisha Leverock-Smith „Miss Black Germany“
Janicza Bravo „Man Rots Head“
Showcase by the nomadic platform originating from Vienna, „The Golden Pixel Cooperative“

embody self-determined Black and brown subjectivity by focusing on elements of empowerment and self-expression, utopian notions and the power of imagination.

COLOR WRITING
Enesi M.

Enesi M. Calzeta is a transdisciplinary poet, meaning her poems transcend the class on paper form into songs, objects or visuals. Her words tell you about everyday life, mental illness, and inhabiting a black/brown body. Enesi M. being Afro-Latina raised in Upper Austria, her art speaks from a diasporic perspective on the lived experience in a neocolonial matrix.

About the workshop: In my workshop „color writing“ I want to try connecting dots between association, perception and politics through the artistic outlet of re-conceptualized poetry.

WEARING RESISTANCE
Nene Surreal

Directly from Diadema periphery of São Paulo, NeneSurreal mother, grandmother, plastic artist, artisan, social educator, sculptor, painter, visual artist and graffiti artist, creator of the Nene Surreal brand paint, a graffiti technique for and by women in urban art and fashion, due to their work as women's resistance. Winner of many prizes for actions related to class inequality, racism, gender and above all about the daily injustice with black peripheral women; Nene give us the opportunity to transport the graffiti technique to another level.

About the workshop: The workshop proposal is to introduce the graffiti technique and their styles, approaching the construction of letters, light/shadow and volume. It will start with own name written in block letters, creating tags and / or characters; sharing the knowledge of how to apply trace, contour and color techniques. How to use graffiti materials on walls and on other materials will be also presented.

WORKSHOPS

BODY LOVE MOVEMENT
Mzamo Nondlwana

This is a workshop with strong focus on black and brown folks, where we use movement as a healing practice.

We will use movement as a form to challenge our limitation through physicality and imagination. This is an experiment, there are no mistakes but only „what if“.

Body love movement centers around
Mapu & Bismani Huni Kuin, heads of the Huwā Karu Yuxibu Center in Acre, Brazil – sing songs of the Huni Kuin people, as well as authorial songs in their mother tongue, the hâtxa kuin, and in Portuguese language. Mapu and Bismani offer a musical experience full of stories which bring the Amazon forest and the importance of its preservation closer to children’s reality, and invites the public to think and understand the contemporaneity of indigenous knowledge beyond European exotic Imaginary.

The stories shared by Mapu and Bismani Huni Kuin will be translated into German by Enesi M. in August 2019, the Huwā Karu Yuxibu Center was created. The center is a cultural, collaborative and sustainable initiative to stimulate the feeling of belonging of Huni Kuin people living in situations of social vulnerability in the Acrean city of Rio Branco. The center’s activities seek the strengthening of identities (cultural and territorial), the exchange of knowledge and research of the Huni Kuin traditional medicines, as well as technological, social and cultural interaction and experiences, through exchanges between indigenous and non-indigenous.

The Huni Kuin people live on the Brazilian–Peruvian border in Western Amazonia. The villages in Brazil (in the state of Acre) are spread along the Tarauacá, Jordão, Breu, Muru, Envira, Humaitá and Purus.

Ani Ganzala

Ani will facilitate the creative process of drawing and painting with watercolor of self portraits for various children, living with the differences: how I am and feel in the world, bringing the importance of being seen in their own images and references. Ani Ganzala is an Brazilian black artist and activist, self-taught, painter, illustrator and graffiti artist.

Performing Ways of Being with Each Other – Karen Michelsen Castañón

The workshop proposes a humble experiment. Are there ways of being and creating with each other knowing that we are part of a racist system of exclusion and violence? Can we do it with an awareness that mixed spaces will not imply BPrC people doing most of the emotional and educational work? I will share briefly my personal journey in confronting and working with racism within myself while learning as an artist, art educator and mother. In the global south, I will be read as a white person, while in Germany I can be tokenized as a so-called “migrant”. The violence against and exclusion of racialized bodies is intrinsically related to other bodies formed by a set of undeserved privileges. We will address the void this creates within a body and the racist machinery it feeds. Participants are encouraged to bring to the workshop examples of “othering” in educational material, images and/or very short texts. We will use group exercises from performance and body work to create an experimental collage of images and movements.
KABÁ DAREBU – LUISA LOBO AND FERNANDA PALMIERI

Luisa Lobo will read from the book Kabá Darebu of the indigenous Brazilian writer Daniel Munduruku. The book is about the actual situation of indigenous people in Brazil. Afterwards Fernanda Palmieri will do a meditation with the children to visualize their totem animals.

EXHIBITION

VERENA MELGAREJO WEINANDT

LEYENDO RESISTENCIA/ WIDERSTAND LESEN/ READING RESISTANCE

What does it mean to read Resistance? It can mean reading stories about the connection of indigenous communities to nature, to understand why they have defended the country with such vehemence for centuries and why they have made a non-capitalist value of water, wind and sun comprehensible. It can mean making the fight of the ancestors against colonial supremacy understandable in the supposedly mythical stories of indigenous communities, which are still politically explosive to this day.

Reading by reading aloud also means giving the child a positive and strong self-image, for example with regard to his or her own body, sexuality and skin colour. Reading out resistance can mean reading out stories in which the families consist not only of father, mother and child, but perhaps of several fathers or mothers or perhaps of a mother, an aunt and the best friend. Reading resistance means that in the stories Lupita can also be in love with Ana and John often prefers Jenny. Reading Resistance means that Black children, Children of Color, indigenous children like all other children, can be superheroes*, strong and smart. Through children’s books, children can be taught where their* limits lie and how best to articulate them. Reading resistance means paying attention to the world of dreams and desires and taking them seriously as important sources of knowledge. That and much more can mean resistance.

FOOOOOOOOD FOR FUN!

Appetizing and healthy food for children will be available all day long, food made with care and concern not only to please the little mouths but the eyes, since the buffet Fooooood for fun! will bring delicious imaginary figures to eat.

FOTO CREDITS

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SFC Jugendcorner
DEFINITIONS BELONG TO THE DEFINERS, NOT THE DEFINED.

- TONI MORRISON, BELOVED