



Künstlerhof Frohnau
Hubertusweg 60
13465 Berlin
www.khf-berlin.org

Walden: Memory Beach

Festival for Contemporary Music and Performance
Saturday, 1st of July, 2023, 2-11pm
Künstlerhof Frohnau and the former border area behind it.

With performances by:

2_personal_things (Park Minyoung & Kim Jinhyuk)
Ashkan Sepahvand
discourse / Katayoun Arian
DJ Edna Martinez
DJ Letkidbe
Hooops / Astarte Posch
Jung Sun Kim, Matthias Erian, Ji Sun Hagen & Soomin Chae
Muriel Razavi & Raha Nejad
Nicholas Bussmann & Cottbusser Chor
Ray Kaczynski, Bardo Henning, Matthias Heinze & Ingo Reulecke
SHIN Hyo Jin & Otto Oscar Hernandez Ruiz
Sophie Hilbert

And installations and guided tours by:

Laure Gilquin, Katja Hock, Nicola Jungsberger

In the northernmost tip of Berlin, a bright scar stretches across the ground. It is a strip of sand dividing the Frohnau forest, about 100m wide and 2km long. This sand scar, situated on the border of Berlin and Brandenburg, has its own history, like every scar. It used to be the "death strip," a no man's land; and only occasional passersby, dog owners, joggers, and mushroom hunters meet here, as well as young people who play beach volleyball on the sand during the summer or those who organized illegal parties here during lockdown.

This scar is emblematic for the entire area. For over a century, this forest has been a sanctuary for the city's injured, sick, and outcasts. The adjacent Künstlerhof Frohnau was initially built as a military hospital, later used as a mental hospital and refugee home. The neighboring Invalidensiedlung was constructed in the 1920s to house war-disabled veterans from World War I. On the other side of the forest, the Donnersmark Foundation has been caring for people with

disabilities since the 1950s. Throughout the forest, scattered memorials pay tribute to those who attempted to cross the German-German border here and tragically lost their lives.

This place is filled with forgotten ghosts. When their stories are no longer told and lose their connection to our everyday lives, they are pushed out of our minds by newer layers of information. Consequently, we fail to learn from their experiences and lose our connection to them. Therefore, we need to join the present forest spirits with others from different places, rituals, and stories, expanding our awareness of each other. In the context of "Walden," this scarred and forgotten strip of land will transform into a space of experience and encounter for residents, participants, and visitors for a day. It will serve as a stage for a series of performances and conversations that explore the histories and potential presents of this scarred place through various narratives, tours, and enactments. These activities revolve around the question: How can an awareness of the wounded space we share be translated into a sense of community that includes all of us, with our individual vulnerabilities and experiences?

A group of artists has been invited to contribute through performative and discursive means. Participatory performances will alternate with intensive conversations, guided walks will accompany experimental sounds in the forest. These activities will be complemented by a poetic, performative guided tour that connects these separate elements.

Walden: Memory Beach is supported by Berliner Projektfonds Urbane Praxis.

Curatorial Team:

Kaya Behkalam, Katja Hock, Otto Oscar Hernandez Ruiz, SHIN Hyo Jin

Production: Kaya Behkalam, Nina Bloss, Stefan Deckner

Sound: Moritz Colitti, Ray Kaczynski

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