

steirischer herbst 2014

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Jörg Albrecht (DE) / Gerhild Steinbuch (AT)

Jörg Albrecht, born in Bonn in 1981, grew up in Dortmund, lives in Berlin. He writes prose, theatre texts, radio dramas, and essays. His fourth novel, "Anarchie in Ruhrstadt", is set for publication in autumn 2014. His pieces for theatre have been performed at Maxim Gorki Theater Berlin, Schauspielhaus Wien, Münchner Kammerspiele, and Schauspiel Leipzig, among other venues. In 2007, he founded copy & waste with Steffen Klewar, and together they explored the architecture of cities and fictions in evenings of theatre, performances, installations, a web soap and a film. **Gerhild Steinbuch** born in Mödling in 1983, lives in Berlin. She studied Stage Writing in Graz and Dramaturgy at The Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Art, Berlin. Took part in the Royal Court Theatre's Summer School, London, Vienna Burgtheater's Werkstatttage, and the Bachmann Prize. Among others, Reinhard-Priessnitz Prize of the Austrian Federal Chancellery, literature scholarship prize of the manuskripte magazine. In 2008/2009, Gerhild Steinbuch was resident author at Vienna's Schauspielhaus. Her recent plays include "Sleepless in My Dreams" (2013) at Schauspiel Frankfurt, "Normarena" (2013) at brut Wien / SpielArt Festival Munich, and "Previously on" at Garage X in Vienna. Steinbuch's audio walk "Am Schönsten ist das was bereits verschwunden ist" and Jörg Albrecht's play "Die blauen Augen von Terence Hill" were created in the course of the text and theatre project "Welche Welt?" at the 2011 steirischer herbst. And they billed at steirischer herbst in 2012 together with their reading "Friendship Is".
fotofixautomat.de
copyandwaste.de

Simon Allemeersch (BE)

Simon Allemeersch, born in 1980, studied English and Dutch Linguistics and Literature at the University of Leuven (1998–2002) and got a master's degree in theatre directing at the RITS School of Arts in Brussels (2002–2006). In 2006 he won the Prize for Young Theatre at the Theater Aan Zee-festival with the performance "Marre de Boire" (2006). Since then he has been working in regular theatre companies and art centres in Belgium and abroad, mainly making his own work. The last two years, after a long autonomous residency and exchange project with a neighbourhood in Ghent ("Rabot 4-358") – themes like storytelling within cities, gentrification, economy and poverty are important issues in his work. The last theatre performance he created, about Saint Christopher "het fantastische leven van de heilige sint Christoffel", was selected for the national Theatrefestival and awarded a prize for Young Theatre, the Roel Verniersprijs. Simon Allemeersch is a city resident for the Vooruit Art Centre in Ghent and is preparing new theatre work in close co-production with Fioretti, a children's psychiatric centre in Ghent.

andcompany&Co. (DE)

The international artist collective **andcompany&Co.** was founded by Alexander Karschnia, Nicola Nord and Sascha Sulimma in Frankfurt am Main in 2003. Together, as co-directors they form an open network, with new artists from wide-ranging disciplines joining them all the time – including the visual artists Jan Brokof, João Loureiro and Noah Fischer, the musicians Reinier van Houdt and Simon Lenski, among others. Their plays are an arsenal of a history of the 20th and 21st centuries, ranging from Brecht's gold-rush town Mahagonny to the trilogy on the rise and fall of communism, the legend of Europe and its colonial myths. Utopias and snatches of memory are analysed and reviewed with regard to their added value when they are brought to the stage again. In their much-performed play "Der (kommende) Aufstand nach Friedrich Schiller" they raise the question of the pre-revolutionary potential of current protest movements, in their most recent production, "Black Bismarck", that of the colonial legacy on

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European stages. andcompany&Co. have been based at Berlin's HAU since 2007, with their plays touring world-wide and featuring at the Brussels Kunstenfestivaldesarts (2007 + 2012), the Wiener Festwochen (2008) and the Impulse festival (2009 + 2013) among others. Their play "Time Republic" billed at the 2007 steirischer herbst.

Apparatus 22 (RO)

Apparatus 22 is a multidisciplinary art collective initiated by its current members Erika Olea, Maria Farcas, Dragos Olea and the late artist Ioana Nemes (1979, Bucharest – 2011, NY) in January 2011. Apparatus 22 works with ideas and actions that ignite the critical potential of clothing and fashion and that unveil outstanding narratives on such topics. A string of very diverse works (installations, performances, texts, etc.) characterises their practice, in which reality is mixed with fiction and storytelling merges with a critical approach in which they draw knowledge and experience from design, sociology, literature and economics. Apparatus 22 appeared at steirischer herbst in 2011 with "Morpheus Buyback", where they sold Romanian Voodoo Amulets for nightmares. The work of the collective was exhibited at La Biennale di Venezia in 2013, Romanian Official Representation II – "Reflection Centre for Suspended Histories. An Attempt" exhibition.

Grace Ellen Barkey / Jan Lauwers / Needcompany (BE)

Needcompany is an artists' company set up by Jan Lauwers and the choreographer Grace Ellen Barkey in 1986 in Brussels. They form the core of the company and it embraces all their artistic work – theatre, dance, performance, visual art, writing, etc. Since Needcompany was founded, both its work and its performers have been markedly international. One of its most important characteristics is transparent, 'thinking' acting and the paradox between 'acting' and 'performing'. Needcompany has been artist-in-residence at the Burgtheater in Vienna since 2009. **Grace Ellen Barkey**, born in Surabaya in Indonesia, studied dance expression and modern dance at the theatre school in Amsterdam and afterwards worked as an actress and dancer. Since 1992 she has been steadily and successfully building an international career with her own stage creations. For example with the Needcompany productions "Stories (Histoires/Verhalen)" (1996), "Few Things" (2000), "Chunking" (2005), "This door is too small (for a bear)" (2010), "MUSH-Room" (2013) and "Odd? But True!" (2013). **Jan Lauwers**, born in Antwerp in 1957 is an artist who works in just about every medium. Over the last twenty years he has become best known for his pioneering work for the stage with Needcompany. Jan Lauwers studied painting at the Academy of Art in Ghent. Before he founded Needcompany in 1986, he had been working with a number of people as Epigonentheater zlv collective for several years. Lauwers' training as a visual artist is decisive in his handling of the theatre medium and leads to a highly individual and in many ways pioneering theatrical idiom that examines the theatre and its meaning. Jan Lauwers was awarded the "Goldenen Ehrenzeichen für Verdienste um die Republik Österreich" in 2012 and received the "Lifetime Achievement Award" for his complete oeuvre at the Venice Biennale in February 2014.
www.needcompany.org

Barokthegreat (IT)

Barokthegreat operates within the vast range of the performing arts. Founded in 2008 by musician Leila Gharib and dancer-choreographer Sonia Brunelli, the group works with a particular focus on the mental roots of movement, the physicality and ritual function of music and the architecture of space as an inhabitable device. Barokthegreat's productions are "The Origin" (2008), "Barok" (2009), "Wrestling – intuizioni sul mondo in attesa che diventino una costruzione compiuta" (2010), "Russian Mountains" (2011), "Fidippide" (2011), "Indigenous - dramma sonoro" (2012), "L'attacco del clone" (2013). Starting in 2012 Barokthegreat proposes an experimental year-long program for dancers and performers in the city of Verona, where the group is currently based.
barokthegreat.tumblr.com

Boris Charmatz (FR)

Boris Charmatz, born 1973 is a dancer and choreographer. His works lie somewhere inbetween dance, installations and fine art. He studied at the school of ballet of Paris' Opera House. Charmatz has created a series of memorable pieces, including "Aatt enen tionon" (1996), „Roman Photo" (2009), „Flip Book" (2009), „Levée des conflits" (2009) and "enfant" (2011). He also continues to work as a performer. He has co-authored "Undertraining / On A Contemporary Dance" with Isabelle Launay and "Emails 2009–2010" with Jérôme Bel and is the author of "Je suis une école," a text recounting the adventure of the project Bocal — a nomadic, ephemeral school. Artistic associate of the 2011 Festival

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d'Avignon, since 2009 Boris Charmatz has been the director of the Centre chorégraphique national de Rennes et de Bretagne, which he proposes to transform into a new kind of Museum of dance.
borischarmatz.org

Luigi Fassi (IT) / Stefano Collicelli Cagol (IT)

Luigi Fassi is a curator and writer. He has been visual arts curator of steirischer herbst since November 2012. Last year he curated the herbst exhibition "Liquid Assets. After the Transformation of Capital" together with Katerina Gregos. From 2009 to 2012 he was artistic director of ar/ge kunst Galerie Museum in Bolzano, Italy where he organized solo shows by William E. Jones, Runo Lagomarsino, Alejandro Cesarco, Chto Delat?, Eva Kotatkova and Katarina Zdjelar, among others. A 2008–2009 Helena Rubinstein Curatorial Fellow of the Whitney Museum ISP in New York, his writing has appeared in publications such as Mousse, Artforum, Domus, Site and Flash Art. He is a member of the curatorial committee of the Fondazione Morra Greco in Naples and since 2010 chairs the committee of Present Future at Artissima in Torino. Born in Padova, **Stefano Collicelli Cagol** studied Art History in Venice. He gained a PhD in Curating Contemporary Art at the Royal College of Art in London in 2014. He curated the Vitrine project at GAM in Turin in 2012–13 and was one of the selectors of the 9th edition of the Furla Prize in 2013. In 2011 he worked on the exhibition Un'Espressione Geografica conceived by Francesco Bonami at the Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo. In 2010 he curated the exhibition Seven Little Mistakes at the Museo Marino Marini, Florence. He was Research Curator at the Villa Manin – Centre of Contemporary Art, Passariano (UD) in 2006, and from 2004 to 2006 the University Ca' Foscari di Venezia – Department of History of Arts and Preservation of Artistic Heritage granted him a postgraduate fellowship to research the Visual Arts sector of the Venice Biennial. He has published several contributions related to the history of Italian exhibitions and has collaborated with the periodical Domus.

Die Transmissionare (AT/DE/CO)

Die Transmissionare were founded in 2009, author Natascha Gangl and director Kathrin Mayr build the core of the group. This is how they describe themselves in brief: "We began finding ourselves on Christoph Schlingensiefel's rehearsal stages and banded together, made a pact to nurture our poetic ability to create events together in which content, form and method were radically commensurate. We work in a wide range of different constellations with and on each other. Where we leave the realm of classical reproduction theatre and begin a celebration of interdisciplinarity, we refer to ourselves as "transmissionaries". As such, we stand for a concentration and alienation of professions, space, language, music and movement." Previous plays include "PANDEMIE. Gebäre Dich Selbst!" (installation, Theater am Lend, 2012) and "Meine Träume erzähle ich Ihnen nicht" (radio drama, ORF, 2014).

Thomas Ebermann (DE) / Kristof Schreuf (DE) / Andreas Spechtl (AT) / Robert Stadlober (AT/DE)

For the first time, Thomas Ebermann, Kristof Schreuf, Andreas Spechtl and Robert Stadlober are collaborating on a full-length programme, the concert theatre piece "Der eindimensionale Mensch wird 50" for steirischer herbst 2014. **Thomas Ebermann**, born in Hamburg in 1951, is a book and stage author and politician. Following his commitment in the Kommunistischer Bund, he was involved in founding the German Green Party and was initially party leader in the Hamburg parliament, later party spokesman in the German Bundestag. Realising that the Greens were not a party capable of "permanently changing the system", he resigned in 1990. He stages the monthly "Vers- und Kaderschmiede" programme at Kabarett Politbüro, and his play "Der Firmenhymnenhandel" premièred in Hamburg in 2012. **Kristof Schreuf**, born in Frankfurt am Main in 1963, is a musician and journalist. He was singer and songwriter of Kolossale Jugend and thus a pioneer of the Hamburger Schule current. Other music projects such as the bands Brüllen or Rock followed. He also writes for Spex, taz and Jungle World. **Andreas Spechtl**, born in Burgenland in 1984, is singer, guitarist and songwriter of the Ja, Panik! band. Ja, Panik! make loud-to-danceable indie rock with subtle lyrics. In addition to the band's successful albums (which include "DMD KIU LIDT" (2011) and "Libertatia" (2014)) Spechtl is regularly involved in side projects such as the anthology "Ja, Panik: Schriften. Erster Teil" (2011) or the reading tour with Christiane Rösinger. **Robert Stadlober** is an Austrian actor, musician and singer of the band Gary. He began working as a dubbing actor at the age of just twelve, and as an actor at thirteen. His acting work includes "Sonnentallee" (1999), "Crazy" (2000) and "Zarte Parasiten" (2009).

Dennis Feser (DE)

Denis Feser, born in Bingen am Rhein in 1978, works between performance, video, photography, costume and sculpture. Corporeality and natural materials feature prominently in Feser's performances. Sculptures created in front

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of a camera in the form of happenings take between several hours and several days to make, later cut into short rhythmic videos. His works have been sponsored by the Goethe Institute, Nigeria, Kulturstiftung des Bundes, Stiftung Kunstfond and Landesdienst Rheinland Pfalz, among others. His films screened at the Transmediale 2011 in Berlin, Internationale Kurzfilmtage Oberhausen 2011 and at the Seoul Media Art Biennale 2012 et al.
dfeser.com

Marino Formenti (AT/IT)

Marino Formenti, pianist and conductor, has established himself as one of the most interesting interpreters of his generation, especially famous for his unusual and experimental concert formats and his visionary programming. Marino Formenti was assistant to Kent Nagano and Sylvain Cambreling in several houses (Wiener Staatsoper, Opera de Paris, Los Angeles Opera); and gave his conducting debut with Gidon Kremer as a soloist at Lockenhaus Festival. Since that, Formenti has led concerts at some of the world's most important halls, including the Teatro alla Scala in Milan; Vienna's Musikverein and Konzerthaus, the Konzerthaus Berlin and the Ravenna Festival. As a soloist, Marino Formenti is regularly invited by major festivals and has performed with orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Münchner Philharmoniker, performing with Franz Welser-Moest, Kent Nagano, Esa Pekka Salonen, Daniel Harding and Gustavo Dudamel and many more. In 2009 he was granted the Belmont Award of the Forberg-Schneider-Stiftung for his efforts in promoting contemporary music. Formenti was already present at steirischer herbst festival for a few times. In the Haydn-year 2009 he performed "Die sieben letzten Worte unserer Erlösers am Kreuze" in the course of musikprotokoll; 2010 he presented his project „Nowhere“, for which he performed 8 days in a row – sleeping, eating and living at the Stadtmuseum Graz and 2011 he was on stage naked with Rodrigo Garcia's play "Gólgota Picnic".
marinoformenti.com

Christine Gaigg / 2nd nature (AT)

Christine Gaigg is a freelance choreographer, director and author who lives and works in Vienna. As a choreographer she has cooperated with artists from a variety of genres, including for "Sacre Material" (2000) and "Adebar/Kubelka" (2003, at the Viennale film festival) with composer Max Nagl; for "Seven Cuts" (2011, ImPulsTanz festival) with composer Bernhard Gander and Klangforum Wien; for the "TRIKE" series (2004–2012) with composer Bernhard Lang and computer musician Winfried Ritsch. "V-Trike" was performed at the 2008 musikprotokoll. The Gaigg/Harnoncourt/Lang/Ritsch collective opened the 2010 steirischer herbst with "Maschinenhalle#1" at the Helmut-List-Halle. As a director, she explores the tension between text and corporeality, for example in "Über Tiere" by Elfriede Jelinek (2007, Theater am Neumarkt Zürich) or in "Wenn die Kinder Steine ins Wasser werfen" by Xaver Bayer (2012, Austrian première, Schauspielhaus Wien). She regularly co-produces with Tanzquartier Wien, most recently the docu-performance "DeSacre! Pussy Riot meets Vaslav Nijinsky" (2013).

Maria Hassabi (US/CY)

Maria Hassabi born in Cyprus, is a NY-based director, choreographer and performer. Her works are presented in theaters, museums, galleries and public spaces. Throughout her career she has had numerous ongoing collaborations with artists from various disciplines. Hassabi is a 2011 Guggenheim Fellow and a recipient of the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, 2009 Grants to Artists Award. In 2012, she received The President's Award for Performing Arts from the LMCC, and in 2013 she represented the Republic of Cyprus as part of the Cyprus and Lithuanian Pavilion at the 55th Venice Biennale. Her evening-length works include "PREMIERE" (2013), the 8-hour live installation "INTERMISSION" (2013), "Counter-Relief" (2013), "SHOW" (2011), "Robert and Maria" (2010), "SoloShow" (2009), "Solo" (2009), "GLORIA" (2007), "Still Smoking" (2006), "Dead is Dead" (2004) and "LIGHTS" (2001). She has also created several short-form pieces, art installations including "CHANDELIERS" (2012) and the short film, "The Ladies" (2012).

Gunilla Heilborn (SE)

Gunilla Heilborn is a choreographer and film-maker based in Stockholm. After studying with Anna Halprin in San Francisco, USA and the program of choreography at the University of Dance in Stockholm (1995-98) she has created performances and movies for both adult and child audiences. Heilborn's unique way of combining text, motion, video and images, spiced with dry humor, has given her an indisputable position as one of Sweden's most interesting performance and film artists. Her pieces include "Alaska" (2009) or the film "The Lodge", amongst others. In spring

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2011, steirischer herbst invited Gunilla Heilborn for a one-week-residency in Graz to work on her latest production "This is not a love story", which is based on the experiences from different places in Europe and premièred at Dansens Hus in Stockholm in May 2011. Heilborn's piece "Potato Country" (2007) was restaged at steirischer herbst 2011. gunillaheilborn.se

Christiane Kühn (D)

Christiane Kühn is a journalist and theatre-maker living in Berlin. She was editor of taz, die tageszeitung (Berlin), KulturSPIEGEL (Hamburg), and at radioeins (Rundfunk Berlin Brandenburg) before she began to work as a freelance journalist for various media in 2003. She was a member of the editorial team of the "herbst. Theorie zur Praxis" magazine published by steirischer herbst from 2006 to 2011. She was acting director of the Berliner Festspiele from 2011 to 2013. Since 2004 she has been developing works for theatre together with the video artist Chris Kondek, most recently "Money – It Came From Outer Space" (coproduction HAU Berlin), "Shoot Out" (This is not Detroit: Schauspiel Bochum, Urbane Künste Ruhr), and "Anonymous P." (coproduction Gessnerallee Zürich/Festspiele Zürich, Mousonturm Frankfurt, Ringlokschuppen Mülheim, Staatstheater Darmstadt). She has acted as a judge for Hauptstadtkulturfonds, Heidelberger Stückemarkt, Internationales Sommertheater Festival Hamburg, Kontakt Torun (PL), and the "Doppelpass" programme of Kulturstiftung des Bundes, among others. She has held workshops for Theatertreffen Berlin, Schillertage Mannheim, Theater an der Parkaue, and the Goethe Institute in Havana and Alexandria.

Heidrun Holzfeind (AT)

Heidrun Holzfeind (* 1972) has been focusing for many years on how modernist architecture works in everyday life, among other questions. Her work interrogates inherent architectural and social utopias, exploring the boundary between history and identity, between individual histories and the political narratives of the present. Her works have been on show at Museum Tamayo in Mexico City; Maldives Pavilion / Venice Biennale 2013; Mumok, Vienna; BAWAG Contemporary Vienna; Documentary Fortnight Exhibition at MoMA New York; Camera Austria, Graz; Lentos Museum Linz; Manifests 7, Rovereto, Italy; Centre d'Art Santa Monica, Barcelona; Sala de Arte Público Siqueiros, Mexico City; Galerie im Taxispalais, Innsbruck, and Artists Space in New York, among other venues. She was awarded the Camera Austria Prize of the City of Graz for Contemporary Photography in 2011 and the Gerhard and Birgit Gmoser Prize for Contemporary Art from Secession Vienna. The Outstanding Artist Award for artistic photography from Bmukk in 2012.

Young Jean Lee (US)

Young Jane Lee is a writer and director who has been called "the most adventurous downtown playwright of her generation" by the New York Times and "one of the best experimental playwrights in America" by Time Out New York. She has written and directed nine shows in New York with Young Jean Lee's Theater Company and toured her work to over thirty cities around the world. She is a resident filmmaker at the Wooster Group, she's made an album, "We're Gonna Die", with her band Future Wife and she's directed the short film "Here Come the Girls". Her plays have been published by Theatre Communications Group ("Songs of the Dragons Flying to Heaven and Other Plays", "The Shipment" and "Lear") and by Samuel French ("Three Plays by Young Jean Lee"). She has received grants from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, Creative Capital, NYFA, NEA, NYSCA, the Jerome Foundation, the Greenwall Foundation, and the Rockefeller MAP Foundation. She is also the recipient of two OBIE awards, the Festival Prize of the Zuercher Theater Spektakel, a 2010 Prize in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a 2011 Guggenheim Fellowship, a 2012 Doris Duke Artist Award, and a 2013 Doris Duke Artist Residency. At steirischer herbst 2012 Young Jean Lee's Theater Company was performing "Untitled Feminist Show". www.youngjeanlee.org

Lundahl & Seidl (SW/GB)

In **Lundahl & Seidl's** practice the viewers' perception is transformed, being both the medium of the work, its potential content as well as the means to receive it. Here the essence of the artwork is intangible, pending creation inside the immaterial realms of conscious experience and a continuous passage of time. Lundahl & Seidl's transdisciplinary collaborations investigate space, time and perception in increasingly large-scale installations, always in proximity to the history of a specific medium and its institution; museums, galleries, theatres and found spaces, in projects spanning architecture, cognitive neurology, classical music, theatre and

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experience design. Their work has been widely shown, including presentations at Tate Britain, Whitechapel Gallery, BAC (Battersea Arts Centre), Weld and Magasin 3, Sweden. Recent projects include "The Infinite Conversation" at École supérieure d'Art d'Avignon, commissioned by Festival d'Avignon, "Symphony of a Missing Room", Hamburger Kunsthalle, commissioned by International Summerfestival Hamburg, "Proscenium", for the Royal National Theatre (Dramaten), Stockholm and "The Memory of W.T. Stead", London W1, in collaboration with classical pianist Cassie Yukawa. Their work "Symphony of a Missing Room" was awarded the Montblanc Young Directors price of the Salzburger Festspiele in 2011.

machina eX (DE)

machina eX is a theatre collective that translates computer games into reality – point-and-click adventures with true-to-life graphics, as it were. machina eX was founded in Hildesheim in 2009. The mobile dystopia "15.000 Gray" developed for the 100° Festival in Berlin was awarded the festival's jury prize and was invited, among other places, to the Impulse festival in Düsseldorf, the Best-OFF festival organised by Stiftung Niedersachsen in Hanover, the Körber-Studio Junge Regie in Hamburg, and the Donaufestival in Krems. In 2012 the media theatre collective machina eX was selected together with FFT Düsseldorf for the "Doppelpass" residency programme run by Kulturstiftung des Bundes.

Luke Morgan / Morag Myerscough (GB)

Designer Morag Myerscough founded the award-winning Studio Myerscough in 1993. Morag Myerscough is one of the UK's most prolific designers. Her work is characterized by an engaging boldness, creating specific, local responses to each distinct audience that will see and experience the design, using it to create community and build identity. Morag makes places from spaces that people like to be in, that stimulate and often make you smile. She creates and curates many different types of work. The eclectic breadth of work covers the conversion of a train to a café, installations, numerous exhibitions and interpreting buildings. Morag regularly speaks globally about "belonging" and "making spaces into places". Luke Morgan studied Industrial Design and Engineering. Morgan has had over 20 years' experience designing and building, including exhibitions, furniture, installation, art and steel fabrication. Luke has exhibited and sold his artworks to collectors. Clients include Tate, V&A, Design Museum, British Council, Barbican, Future Systems, Archigram, Jason Bruges, Luigi Colani, Ettore Sottsass, Alan Aldridge, Gerardine and Wayne Hemingway, Troika, Big Chill festival, Channel 4, MTV, Radio One, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, London Development Agency. Luke is the lead singer of his band The Highliners. 2010 Morag & Luke founded Supergrouplondon a loose collective. Which allows to call on a group of very experienced specialist as and when the projects require it.

www.supergrouplondon.co.uk / www.lukemorgan.co.uk / www.studiomyerscough.com

Nature Theater of Oklahoma (US)

Nature Theater of Oklahoma is a New York based performance group under the direction of Pavol Liska and Kelly Copper. Since their first projects created as an ensemble, Nature Theater of Oklahoma has been devoted to making the work they don't know how to make, putting themselves in impossible situations and working out of their own ignorance and unease. They strive to create an unsettling live situation that demands total presence from everyone in the room. They use the readymade material around us, found space, overheard speech, and observed gesture. Through extreme formal manipulation and superhuman effort, they affect a shift in the perception of everyday reality in their work, that extends beyond the performance site and into the world in which we live. Before their international break through, Nature Theater of Oklahoma was twice present at steirischer herbst festival – 2007 with "No Dice" and 2008 with "Poetics: A Ballet Brut". This year Kelly Copper and Pavol Liska are also authors of steirischer herbst's virtual diary "Randnotizen" ("Marginal Notes") and run a workshop at herbst academy.

www.oktheater.org

randnotizen.steirischerherbst.at/author/copperliska

Rashaad Newsome (US)

Rashaad Newsome is a renowned video, performance, and collage artist born in 1979 and based in New York. His work hinges on sampling and recontextualizing contemporary cultural elements in traditional frameworks. Using the equalizing force of sampling, he crafts compositions that are frequently surprising in their associative potential and walk the tightrope between identity politics and abstraction. Newsome's collages, videos, sculptures, performances

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and sound pieces work to oppose cultural essentialisms. They lead us into a realm of uncertainty, in which the symbols presented lose significance, but are nonetheless made comprehensible. Newsome earned his BFA from Tulane University in his native New Orleans, Louisiana. He participated in the 2010 Whitney Biennial, Greater NY 2010, Performa 2011, and the 2011 Venice Biennale. Newsome has exhibited at The Drawing Center, NYC, MoMA PS1, NYC, The New Museum, NYC and the Centre Pompidou, among others. His work is included in such public collections as the Brooklyn Museum, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Georg Nussbaumer (AT)

Georg Nussbaumer was born in Linz in 1964 and lives in Vienna. Nussbaumer often works with musical instruments which he develops into installations, using a variety of organic and inorganic materials as easily as machines, video or live animals. The scores of his mostly large-format works determine processes manifested acoustically, visually, sometimes haptically or olfactorily as a sculptural event. The 2006 steirischer herbst kicked off with his "Gravitational field with air impressions", a composition of thousands of objects raining down from the ceiling in a wind sculpture. Most recently, he collaborated with the soloist company Kaleidoskop on "Milchstrom, Fragebett, Gralsmaschinen - ein Lohengrin-Gelände" (2013) and the sixteen-hour Wagner project "Ringlandschaft mit Bierstrom" (2013), among others.

georgnussbaumer.com

Tobias Putrih (SI)

The Slovenian artist Tobias Putrih, born 1972 in Kranj, explores the ambiguous nature of sculptural and functional objects and spaces. In so doing he translates the political and aesthetic dogmas of modernism into a whole new form and content. His artistic practice unfolds both in modular, playful structures and all-embracing architectural environments, characterized by a deliberate fragility, interchangeability and apparent futility. The pseudo-architectural nature and design-like production process of Putrih's works gives them the appearance of models or prototypes, things that are doomed to be continuously reconstructed and modified. Major presentations of his work include solo shows at Museum Boijmans Van Beunigen, Rotterdam; BALTIC Center for Contemporary Art, Gateshead; Museum Haus Konstruktiv in Zurich and MIT List Center, Cambridge. His larger installations include an exhibition at Espace315 at Centre Pompidou, Paris and at Capella MACBA, Barcelona; and collaborations with filmmaker Runa Islam at Galeria Civica in Modena and Kunsthhaus, Zurich. In 2007 he represented Slovenia at the Venice Biennale. His work is included among others in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Centre Pompidou, Paris; Musée d' Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean, Luxembourg and Museum Boijmans Van Beunigen, Rotterdam.

Árpád Schilling / Krétakör (HU)

Two very different spheres of art characterise the artistic life of the Hungarian director **Árpád Schilling** (born in 1974). On the one hand, he is an internationally successful opera director – with his production of "The Makropulos Affair" (Leos Janacek) premièring at the Bavarian State Opera in October 2014 and "La damnation de Faust" by Hector Berlioz billed at Theater Basel in May 2014. Schilling's other job is **Krétakör**. Founded by him as a theatre in 1995, it was transformed in 2008 into a production platform for developing drama education projects and artistic interventions in public space, but also enactments and films that react directly to social and political conflicts in Hungary. From 2008 to 2011, Schilling was art director for culture and learning programmes, in the course of which he carried out his projects in schools and municipalities in difficult conditions. A selection of Schilling's works with Krétakör: "Liliom" (2001), "BLACKland" (2006), "Die Mutter-Analogie" (2010), "Krétakör Maifest" (2010 as part of the culture programme of Pécs as Capital of Culture) and "illumiNation" (2012). In 2005 Schilling was given the Stanislavsky Award in Moscow. In 2008 he was made a "Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres" by the French minister of culture, and in 2009–2011 he received the Europe Theatre Prize in the New Theatrical Realities category. www.kretakor.eu

Supersterz (NZ/GB/AT) + .tmp architekten (AT/DE)

The 2014 steirischer herbst festival centre is being designed and built by the Graz based architects Supersterz and .tmp architekten. In a joint cooperation, they develop the festival's architectural backdrop, thus articulating their interpretation of the leitmotif "I prefer not to... share!".

steirischer
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Supersterz are Tobias Brown, Bernhard Luthringshausen and Johannes Paar. The collective's interest is on designing and reinterpreting found spaces and situations, which they transform into unexpected outcomes with a love of forms and structures far removed from ossified rhetoric. The focus of their work lies at the intersection of urban development, architecture and intervention.

Uli Tischler and Martin Mechs have been developing projects together since 1997, publishing their collaboration as **.tmp – tischler mechs projekte** – since 2006. The firm's work is characterised by complements and interrelations between architectural practice, teaching and research at university. In addition to their particular interest in conceptual design, .tmp have also been successful in numerous national and international competitions for many years. The firm's projects have been awarded many prizes – most recently the annex to a small house and two school projects. They were awarded with the GerambRose 2012, Das Beste Haus 2013, Holzbaupreis Innovation 2013 and Architekturpreis des Landes Steiermark 2013.

www.supersterz.at

www.t-m-p.org

Benjamin Verdonck / Toneelhuis / KVS (BE)

Benjamin Verdonck (born in 1972) is an actor, writer, visual artist and theatre-maker. His theatrical work is staged either in the regular auditorium ("313 Misschien / wisten zij alles", "WEWILLLIVESTORM", "Global Anatomy", "Nine Finger") or in public space ("Bara/ke", a tree-house in the heart of the city; "Hirondelle /Dooi Vogeltje / The Great Swallow", a bird's nest on a building, 32 metres above the ground). In 2009 Verdonck launched "KALENDER (CALENDAR)", an action cycle in which the public space in Antwerp was the centre of his artistic practice for a whole year. That action cycle was given a sequel in an exhibition entitled "KALENDER | WIT" at the MuHKA and in a play entitled "KALENDER / ZWART". Recent works of Benjamin Verdonck are "DISISIT" (2012), "Song#2" (2012-2013) in collaboration with Abke Haring, and also KVS Brussels city project "Tok Toc Knock". As a theatre-maker, Benjamin Verdonck is attached to Toneelhuis in Antwerp and to the KVS in Brussels.

Ann Liv Young (US)

Ann Liv Young is a choreographer, performer, creative director - and sometimes she is Sherry. She was born on the Outer Banks of North Carolina and has been creating performance work for over eight years. Her work has been presented at major venues in New York City and Europe such as the P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, Brooklyn Museum, Impuls Tanz, Springdance, Kampnagel, Inkonst, Gessnerallee, Theatre de la Bastille, Black Box Theater, among others. Sherry, a character created by Ann Liv, has been branching out and breaking free of the churches and theatres of the bourgeoisie. Ann Liv Young premiered a show entitled "Sherry's Room" at the steirischer herbst festival 2011 in Graz, where half-hour therapies by the blonde southerner were offered to the audience one by one, in the hotel of the festival district. Meanwhile Sherry has her own truck, which can be seen driving around giving "Sherapy" and pink lattes to the masses. From December 4 2011 to January 7 2012, she had a gallery installation and performance series "Sherry is Present" at the Louis B. James Gallery on the lower east side, New York City. In her "Sleeping Beauty" series Ann Liv Young gently and playfully focuses on a figure from the world of fairy-tales and introduces Mary, a completely new persona in her ambivalent trashy universe. "Sleeping Beauty", Part 3 & 4 premiered at last year's steirischer herbst festival.

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