

Smack Mellon

Smack Mellon is pleased to host



***ITINERANT, the annual Performance Art Festival of NYC (May 21-25, 2019), invites the public to a week of Live Action Art in different boroughs in New York City.***

This year's program, directed and curated by interdisciplinary artist, **Hector Canonge**, focuses on works that explore, treat, propose, and consider somatic (re)constructions and (re)presentations regarding gender, nationality, identity, and civil status. Departing from the current social, political, economic transformations around the globe, ITINERANT will feature performance art works by emerging and established local, national as well as international artists from Europe, Latin America, Asia, and North America.

Featured artists at SMACK MELLON:

Live Performances: **Concha Vidal** (*Spain*), **l'Artiste ordinaire [Melissa Grey & David Morneau]** (*United States*), **Nathaniel Sullivan** (*Canada*), **Annalee Tull** (*United States*), **Dorothea Seror** (*Germany*), **Kathie Halfin** (*Ukraine*), and **Leopoldo Bloom** (*United States*).

Video Performances: **Sylvain Souklaye** (*France / Denmark*), **Junwei Zhang** (*China*), **Izabela Brudkiewicz** (*Poland / United Kingdom*), **Alex Côté** (*Canada*), **Alberto Couratier** (*Chile*), **Alonso Jose Zuluaga Martinez** (*Colombia*), **Marit Lindberg** (*Sweden*), and **Emilia Bouriti** (*Greece*).

The week-long festival opens with the screening of video performance and live actions on Tuesday, May 21 at **GRACE EXHIBITION SPACE** in Manhattan's Lower East Side. Performances will follow at **SMACK MELLON** (Wednesday, May 22), **BRONX ACADEMY OF ARTS AND DANCE, BAAD** (Thursday, May 23), **GRACE EXHIBITION SPACE** (Friday, May 24), and at **QUEENS MUSEUM** and **FLUSHING MEADOWS PARK** (Saturday, May 25). The closing event is scheduled for Saturday, May 25, 8-11pm at **LAST FRONTIER NYC** in Greenpoint, Brooklyn.

## Biographies:



**Concha Vidal** (*Spain*), Graduated in Psychology and with a PhD in Visual Arts by Universidad Central de Barcelona. For 12 years Concha Vidal developed a broad career as a painter. There came a time when the canvas became “too small” for her and she decided to shift into video art and performance. In general, her performances are interdisciplinary in which video art, dance, theater and performance converge. Pieces in which the audience is part of it. Poetic acts that challenge viewers. Performance as a ritual. Poetic actions in which the soul is inevitably transformed. Concha has been performing in Festivals all around the world, NYC, Switzerland, Croatia, Spain, Edimburg, Argentina, Bolivia...



(**l'Artiste ordinaire [Melissa Grey & David Morneau]** (*United States*) is the collaboration between Melissa Grey & David Morneau. They create sound in performance. l'Artiste ordinaire designs projects that expand in endless variation to collaborate with musicians, live visualists, designers, and creative technologists with Grey's benjolin synthesizer and Morneau's trombone at the center. Drawn together by a compulsion to push beyond contemporary classical music conventions, Grey & Morneau founded l'Artiste ordinaire in 2016. Together they are developing an inscrutable and immersive creative process, which includes ancient and algorithmic sound practices. They use structured improvisations, constrained processes, and found poetry to compose for an unknown future. l'Artiste ordinaire has performed in a wide range of venues, including Queens Museum, Bargemusic, (Le) Poisson Rouge, Pine Box Rock Shop, and University of Pennsylvania's Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts. In 2018, they were Joan C. Edwards Distinguished Professor of the Arts at Marshall University (West Virginia) and Toy Piano Pioneer Resident Artists at the Boyd Hill Nature Preserve in St. Petersburg, Florida. Their work is featured in *Ao Vivo no Casarão | Lado B*—a music documentary series—and in *Circumference Journal* for poetry in translation. ••• Julie Fotheringham is a dancer, performance artist, and psychoanalyst in NYC. She has performed her own work in venues such as Dixon Place, Movement Research at the Judson Church, and Roulette. Previously she was a performer in *Cirque du Soleil*. Her current performance projects interrogate the link between psychoanalysis and the body, psyche and soma, speaking and being.



**Nathaniel Sullivan** (*Canada*) has presented work at the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, at American Medium in New York, and most recently at Documenta 14 in Kassel Germany. His work has been written about on Hyperallergic and a photo spread of his work, *Before The Nation Went Bankrupt*, was featured in Vice Magazine. He has been an artist in residence at Contemporary Arts Center in Troy, NY, at I-Park in Connecticut and at Bemis Center in Omaha, Nebraska. He holds a BFA in Film from Simon Fraser University in Canada and an MFA in Transmedia from Syracuse University.



**Annalee Tull** (*United States*) Annalee Tull is an interdisciplinary artist engaging Appalachian communities through dance. She employs numerous styles of dance to create live performances. Tull also researches and performs various percussive dance styles.

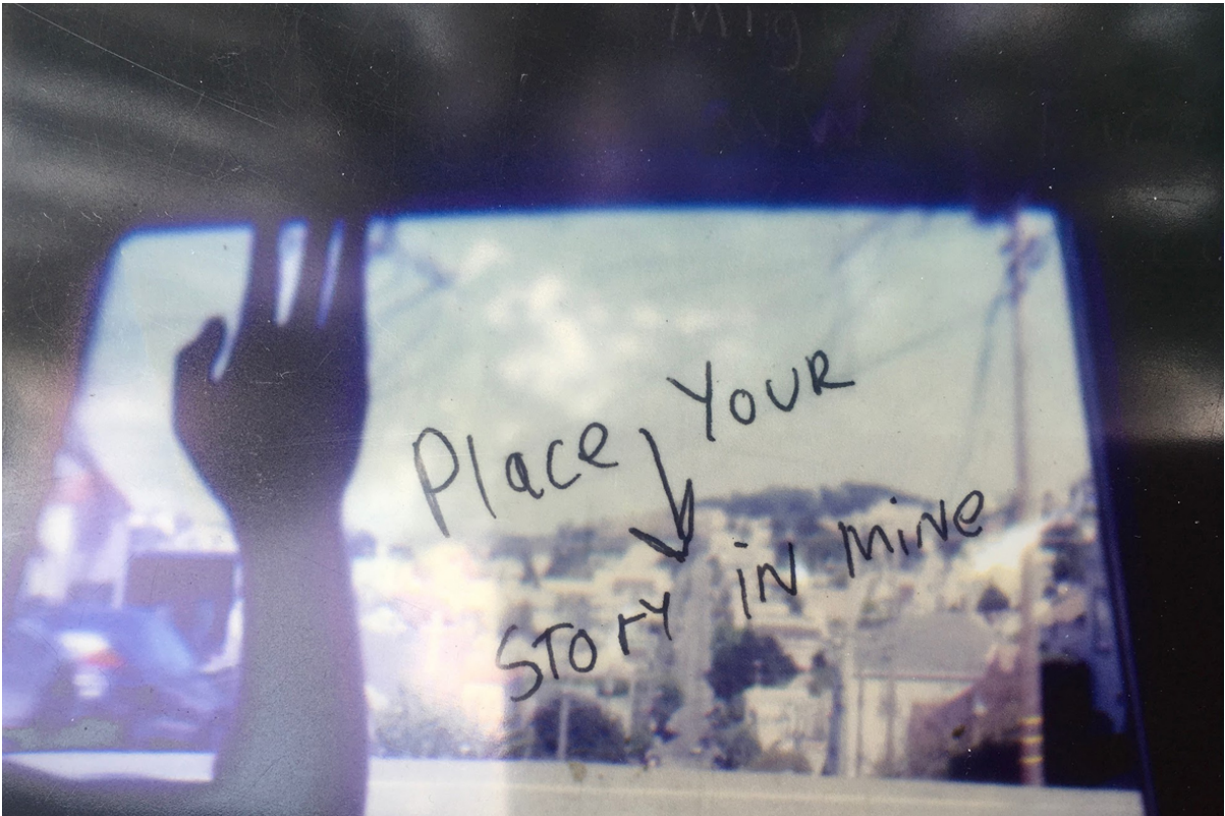


**Dorothea Seror** (*Germany*) is a conceptual and a performance art artist and a lecturer for performance art. She is a mother of three adult children. Her artwork includes conceptual and performance art, land art, video art, installations, objects, direction and more. She studied fine arts at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich, Germany graduating in 1998 (Diploma and state exams). She has also completed advanced studies in dance and body therapy. Her activities include teaching art, performance art and dance at high schools, universities and art academies, as well as leading workshops and coaching stage work and performance art. She also conducts lectures and public debates. Seror directs productions with people with disabilities. She received the Grant of the City of Munich in 2012 for her work with people with disabilities in performance art and 2016 for her research on Performance Art. As a solo artist she has been invited to international Biennials in Netherlands and Nigeria, to performance art festivals, platform, museums and galleries in India, Northern Ireland, Brazil, Israel, Nigeria, Sweden, Italy, France, Ukraine and China and to artist's residences in Denmark, UK, Netherlands, Sweden, Germany, France, Israel and many more. Her work is funded by numerous established cultural institutions in Germany and worldwide.



**Kathie Halfin** (*Ukraine*) is an interdisciplinary and performance artist. She works in variety of mediums including performance, textile, sound, installation. Kathie was born in Ukraine and lived in Israel. She has an MFA from School Of Visual Arts in New York. Kathie performed and exhibited at the Knockdown Center, Art In Odd Places Performance Festival, Wassaic Project, Bronx Museum, AIR Gallery, El Museo De Los Sures, NARS Foundation, Soto Clemente Velez among others. She received fellowships and residencies at School Of Visual Arts, Vermont Studio Center, Bronx Museum AIM Program and Wassaic Project Residency.





**Leopoldo Bloom** (*United States*).

Trained as an experimental filmmaker Leopoldo Bloom current work lies at the intersection between photography and Book Arts. His performative film series Big Films have been screened at the Whitney Museum of American Art, the San Francisco Cinematheque, and the Pleasure Dome in Toronto. His first book *How to Transition on 63 Cents a Day*, is a self-published memoir made up of postcards. *How to ..* is held in several collections such as Jaffe Collection at FAU, U.C. Berkeley and Duke. Leopoldo Bloom's thesis project: *The Migratory Patterns of North American Queers at the Turn of the Century*, uses the format of the family photo album to examine queer storytelling in a digital age. He is currently involved in a David verse Goliath effort to complete this thesis project and continue his graduate studies at Arizona State University. After the Department of Education office of Civil Rights refused to investigate complaints from transgender students, Bloom began petitioning Starbucks to stand up for transgender rights by withdrawing their fiscal support and corporate promotion of Arizona State University.

## Video Performance Artists:

**Sylvain Souklaye** (*France / Denmark*) is interested in sampling memorial narratives about resilient human beings living in deprived urban areas extracting themselves out of systemic segregation. His performances are a collage of individual memories which are re-enacted for and via the audience. Self-taught, Souklaye began performing with happenings as a means of kidnapping his audience during an intimate moment. He later experimented with digital art installations and performance art while pursuing his writer's path. Among his best-known pieces are *la blackline*, a 5-year daily radio performance, *le déserteur* an installation dwelling on the notion of abandonment, and *TME* a docudrama performance exploring self-inflicted amnesia and the resilience of a second generation Algerian immigrant. His methods characteristically involve intense physical acts as well as the use of unsettling intimacy. He adds field recording techniques as a narrative layer.

**Junwei Zhang** (*China*) is a multimedia artist, educator, and poet. His work focuses on rethinking the existing logic/rule and personal disconnectedness. His work has been exhibited at China and across the Pacific Northwest. He received a BM from Sichuan University. Before coming to Eugene, Junwei worked as editor of *FotoArtist* magazine, he interviewed a great number of leading visual artists and emerging young artists in China. He also co-curated a series of exhibitions in CDPC gallery in Chengdu. He is currently a Graduate Teaching Fellow and MFA candidate at University of Oregon.

**Izabela Brudkiewicz** (*Poland / United Kingdom*) In 2006, Brudkiewicz moved to UK with no language and no money. Since then she has been working in factories and hotels, travelling from city to city. Izabelas' career goals have become more aspirational over the years. Brudkiewicz has got accepted to University of Brighton (UK) and started studying Arts. There she discovered the passion for conceptual performance art, and the idea of becoming a teacher was born. Practicing such contemporary art medium as live performance shaped Izabelas' strong artistic opinions, and made her an ambitious person she is today.

**Alex Côté** (*Canada*) creates a contemporary imagery of body, landscape and plastic that unfolds with meditation, contemplation and collective awareness. His work seeks to awaken the primitive soul, the earthly roots and the spiritual connection that bind humans to nature, while soliciting the senses of the viewer and creating sacred aesthetics with the performers. Throughout workshops, residencies, festivals and exhibitions, Alex Côté's creative process has been evolving within the fields of theatre, performance, photography, video, mapping, installation, site-specific and land art. He has shown his work in Berlin, Venice, Rome, New York, Portugal, France, and recently in Montréal as a guest-artist VJ for the *Nocturnes of the Museum of Contemporary Art*.

**Alberto Couratier** (*Chile*) is a professor of visual arts in the Universidad Católica Silva Henríquez. He is an artist who has presented in various festival and programs in his home country and internationally. He is also involved with various collectives and groups that explore Live Art and Performance. He has taught in schools and gives workshops complementing with his exhibitions and presentations.

**Alonso Jose Zuluaga Martinez** (*Colombia*) is a professor of Visual Arts at the Universidad de Ant. Colombia 1999.- He studied drawing and painting at Instituto de Bellas Artes de Medellín, Colombia, 1990,- and teacher at Escuela Popular de Arte de Medellín. 1993, 1995,- He studied painting with Maestro Roel Vanderkoy, New York. 2003-2004, - Has been teaching at Antioquia Colombia..2012-2014 – he is also an advisor in the Universidad de Antioquia, 2009 -2019. His painting and visual arts works have been presented internationally in Latin America and Europe. Since 1999 he has been working in Performance Art participating *Seleccionado para representar a Colombia En el Encuentro internacional de Performance, México*, and other festivals.

**Marit Lindberg** (*Sweden*) lives and works in Malmö, Sweden. Marit Lindberg's works often involve the intimate conversation in the public sphere, discloses the hidden and elusive in dreams and memory. The works can take shape in huge performances which include soccer-teams, choirs, karate-groups or inhabitants in a village shown in the public space. Her videos "The Colossus of Prora" as well as "The camera is present" started as a project within the collaborative project "Carousell", which is a group project consisting of the artists Felice Hapetzeder (SE), Henrik Lund Jørgensen (SE/DK), Kristina Kvalvik (DK/NO) and Marit Lindberg (SE). Bethanien. Lindberg has exhibited at Louisiana Museum of Art, Denmark, MAC, Sao Paulo, Paco das Artes, Sao Paulo.

**Emilia Bouriti** (*Greece*) is a visual and performance artist and she lives in Athens. She has studied "Performance and visual art" with post graduate studies in the field of "Performance" at the British University of Brighton. A main theme of her work is "Body and spirituality" and "Body in dialogue with energy and space", "Performance, food and agriculture", "Performance and local communities". Her practice brings together performance, video and installation art and is mostly site specific. Her eighteen-year teaching experience at an academic level performance revolves around: Body awareness and empowerment of personal expression / Methodology and techniques of yoga and butoh as basic tools for preparation of the psychosoma / The body and dialogue with architecture and the environment / Methodology of long-term performance / Specifying site specific installation performance / Interdisciplinary practice aiming at the interconnection of the arts. She occasionally teaches at Fontys University in Netherlands, in the Department of Music Science and Arts at University of Macedonia, and since 2010 till now she conducts seminars on "Performance" in Athens School of Fine Art. Her work has been shown in Greece and abroad: European League Institutes of Arts (ELIA) in Vienna, Documenta 14- public and education programme, Berlin Soup International Festival, Athens Biennale, Warsaw International Festival, TBEX Athens, Patras 2006- European Capital of Culture, A Thousand Doors international exhibition, Aisxyleia International Festival, Municipality of Athens Festival etc. From 2002 to 2010 she was a representative and official partner of the European League Institutions of the Arts (ELIA.). She has officially participated in the Japanese project "2005 EU-Japan Year of People-to-People Exchanges". Since 2003 she has been a founding member of the artistic platform "Syn + ergasia", which creates works by inviting artists from different fields.



Hector Canonge, "Atlas," Performance 2018. Courtesy of Canonge Studio NYC.

**ITINERANT** was created in 2010 by interdisciplinary artist **Hector Canonge**. The initiative was a small platform for Contemporary Performance Art, and had its origins in the monthly series A-Lab Forum that Canonge organized at Crossing Art Gallery in Flushing, Queens. Following the growing interest in Live Art, and the need to present performance programs in the borough, ITINERANT was launched in 2011 under the auspices of QMAD, Queens Media Arts Development. In 2012, ITINERANT was recognized by the City of New York as the first Performance Art festival taking place throughout the five boroughs that make the metropolitan area: Queens, Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn and Staten Island. In 2013, following the large scale venture in NYC, Canonge journeyed through Latin America creating the Spanish edition of the festival, Encuentro ITINERANTe which was presented in various cities in the Southern Hemisphere. In 2015, Canonge brought back ITINERANT to New York City. Since then the festival has introduced, and featured the work of local, national and international emerging and established artists introducing and featuring their work at local museums, art galleries, performance art spaces, and public parks.

Website: [www.itinerant.website](http://www.itinerant.website)

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QUEENS MUSEUM

