

HOŠEK CONTEMPORARY

— EST. 2016 —

LAYTON LACHMAN - SCUM CIRCLE

Thursday August 24 & Friday August 25, 2023

2-9 PM video & sound installation / 7 PM performance

Created in consortium with Camila Malenchini, Caroline Neill Alexander,

Dani Paiva de Miranda, Ethan Allison Folk, Layton Lachman,

Nagi Gianni, Samuel Hertz & wro wrzesińska.

scum circle: a roiling hole of sensualities, transports us into skin-2-skin scenes of subsumptive cellular reproduction. One way or another, this archaic fundament will turn sexy. A complex, wild, and unexpected dance is conjured in the friction between wriggling digital and human bodies, inviting contemplation on the interplay between individuality and the materiality of our interconnectedness. scum circle attempts to disrupt notions of hierarchies of intelligences, anthropocentrism, patriarchal domination and a static individualised sexual and reproductive identity. It offers an invitation into the ways in which our supposed individualised livelihoods are already—and have been in the evolutionary epochs of the past—intertwined and symbiotic.

Lynn Margulis says: *“Symbiotic interaction is the stuff of life on a crowded planet. Our symbiogenetic composite core is far older than the recent innovation we call the individual human. Our strong sense of difference from any other life-form, our sense of species superiority, is a delusion of grandeur.”*

scum circle asks: if we consider all systems of reproduction as forms of intelligence, what sort of new worlds are created when parasitic, symbiotic, self-replicating or self-devouring systems are as visible as embryonic heterosexual reproduction? This question offers a speculative ecofeminist look at an inter-species celebration, a queer riot: a primordial, biological ooze which merges with everything it touches.

About the artist

Layton Lachman is a choreographer and performer based in Berlin. They create performances rooted in somatics, channeling experiential practices into immersive, sensorially complex worlds. Layton is committed to dance practice centred on group study and collective authorship – with the understanding that we are always collaborating with those who come before, after, and with us. They consider authorship within the premise of transmission, relation, alliance and ensemble. Their practice includes staged works, films, one-on-one encounters, installations and audio/performative tours. In addition to artistic practice, Layton is an independent curator, currently working in the context of Lotto Royale NYC at OCDChinatown. Currently, Layton teaches improvisation and composition at Marameo, Dock 11, and Poderosa e.V. as well as offering workshops and intensive courses as a guest artist/docent at universities in the USA/UK.

Hošek Contemporary

Established by Petr Hošek in 2016, Hošek Contemporary is a gallery and art residency located on a historical cargo ship next to Fischerinsel in Mitte, Berlin. The gallery focuses primarily on site-specific pieces, performing arts and experimental sound works. During the spring and summer months, the gallery is hosting weekly improvised and experimental music installations, with local and international musicians.

MS Heimatland

Built in 1910 in Fürstenberg an der Oder, MS Heimatland was initially operating under the name Ida and used for transporting coal to Charlottenburg. After the Second World War, the 58-meter long cargo ship was renamed Heimatland, meaning "homeland". Until the 90s, the ship was sailing on Elbe and Havel, moving other boats, sand and chipping. It served for artistic and cultural purposes for the first time in 2002, when German sculptor Christiane Möbus chose it for her Nackte Tatsache Tatsache project. Finally, in March 2018, Heimatland became the main exhibition space and artist residency of Hošek Contemporary. The boat is permanently anchored in the historic port of Berlin.

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