

KVNSTHALLE ATHENA

PRESS RELEASE

Kunsthalle Athena is especially proud and happy to host Austrian choreographer Michael Kliën and present a three-day participatory seminar on choreography and its unexpected appearances in the socio-political field. The seminar will be separated in a public lecture for the first day and a following two-day workshop.

Duration: November 30 - December 2, 2012

PUBLIC LECTURE

Friday November 30, 2012, 20:00

THE CRASH OUT OF CIVILIZATION AND INTO THE WORLD: CHOREOGRAPHY AS AN AESTHETICS OF CHANGE

Duration: 1 hour

I believe that action, if it is to be planned at all, must always be planned upon an aesthetic base.

(Gregory Bateson)

Michael Kliën outlines a radically rethought understanding of 'choreography' as a creative practice, fundamentally relevant to current social and political processes. As an *Aesthetics of Change*, choreography is concerned with the workings and governance of patterns, dynamics and ecologies: the choreography of the living.

If the world, as anthropologist Gregory Bateson proposed, is perceived as a reality constructed of interactions, relationships, constellations and proportionalities, choreography can assume the creative practice of setting such relations, or set the conditions for such relations to emerge. Choreographic knowledge, harvested from perceived patterns in nature, forms the basis for wider acts of human creation and ordering.

WORKSHOP FOR ARTISTS, CHOREOGRAPHERS AND CITIZENS

Saturday December 1 & Sunday December 2, 2012, 12:00 - 18:00

CHOREOGRAPHING IN THE IMAGINATION OF YOUR GODS

Duration: 2 days (6 hours daily)

We might think of choreography in terms of rehearsal; that is, as the working out and working through of utopian, nevertheless real, social relations.

Andrew Hewitt: "Social Choreography"

This workshop outlines choreography as a deeply political practice, unfathomably entwined with ways in which we perceive the world. Seen through a connecting framework to other fields of human knowledge (such as philosophy, physics, formal composition, sociology, anthropology, etc)

participants are encouraged to recognize and challenge epistemological assumptions inscribed in the act of creation. Discussing and demonstrating a series of methodologies, the workshop explores structures and dynamics to be found in and between humans, in and between ideas as well as within the overall fabric of contemporary reality.

The workshop includes an introduction to 'Social Dreaming', an experimental psychoanalytical practice developed by Gordon Lawrence of the Tavistock Institute (London).

Depending on how the week develops, there might be movement elements, although it will not require a change of clothes or any special preparation.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Michael Kliën (1973) is an acclaimed choreographer, curator and producer of numerous touring productions, installations and events. In 1994 he co-founded the performance collective Barriedale Operahouse (in operation until 2000) and worked as a choreographer for Ballett Frankfurt, Volksoper, etc. From 2003 to 2011, he was Artistic Director/CEO of Daghdha, Ireland's premiere dance organisations.

Kliën's work, equally at home in the Performing as well as Fine Arts, is concerned with development of choreographic practice for which he has been awarded a PhD from Edinburgh College of Art in 2009. Recent key projects include the works for Hayward Gallery (London), 'IMMA (Irish Museum of Modern Art). COIL (New York) and the publication of 'Books of Recommendations' – Choreography as an Aesthetics of Change'.

www.michaelklien.com

<http://choreograph.net/raw/propositions-to-dance-differently>

For more information or visual material, please contact:

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Or visit our homepage www.kunsthalleathena.org (Press category)

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