Welcome to the buffer zone, to the in-between space. This space does not have a home, it’s a place of thought and practice inhabited by a lot of people: performers, dancers, actors, students, rehearsers, architects, academics, fine artists and installation makers. It has been my job in 2019 to create the conditions, through the Buffer Fringe Performing Arts festival, for these creatives to come together to share their work with the community, in theatres and in the Ledra palace buffer zone itself. Despite the emotional, conceptual and ontological challenges of putting together a festival that has ‘buffer’ in its name, we are lucky to be hosting truly inspired work and artists that do not take the challenge lightly. Finally, it’s a true blessing to work with the amazing Home for Cooperation team, who has had my back every step of the way.

Enjoy your time with us, friends. Embrace your own in-between, sometimes it takes you to the most interesting of places.

Ellada Evangelou
Lefkosia, October 2019
The festival was developed by the Home for Cooperation team in 2014, with the idea of providing a platform to question sensitive topics, expressing ideas in new and creative ways. It enables people to engage with one another regardless of the dominant narratives, ideologies or identities which are politicized and often divisive for the peoples of Cyprus. The Performing Arts Festival has proven to be the best tool to trigger discussions about personal or collective traumas that the people of Cyprus have experienced in the past and to promote understanding, respect, and finally trust in one another.

Buffer Fringe 2014 took place in the buffer zone Nicosia. In its second year (2015), the festival grew and took the form of a walking tour not only in the buffer zone but also around the old city, Nicosia. In 2016, Buffer Fringe became an international festival and expanded beyond the buffer zone with all activities taking place in different venues that had historical or social significance across the divide. In 2017 and 2018 is marked with a sharp increase in international participation establishing new partnerships to host performances in the coastal cities of Limassol, Kyrenia and Paphos. Buffer Fringe 2017-2018 also received international recognition from the European Festivals Association with the “Remarkable Festival” label and run as a laurate for the EFFE (Europe for Festivals, Festivals for Europe) award and locally.

As proud as we are with the international participation and the recognition of our festival, we would like to see the impact of the festival within Cyprus, increased and strengthened. Buffer Fringe 2019 will be the sixth edition of the festival with a larger focus on the local arts scene, investing in the development of local talent and promoting arts & culture for increased cross-cultural cooperation in Cyprus, following the vision of the Home for Cooperation. This edition received the EFFE label of “Remarkable Festival” already.
Performer: Ely Daou

Country: Spain
Genre/Medium: Story-Telling Performance
Language: English
Duration: 55 minutes

Knowing who we are and where we are, are two fundamental aspects of our physical and mental experiences, who we are might be integrated with where we are, and impact how we move through space. A storytelling performance that explores the relationship between place and identity through memory.
Performers:
Loukia Pierides
and many others
Mentoring:
Rodia Vomvolou
Louiza Papaloizou
Country:
Cyprus
Genre/Medium:
Inter-Disciplinary/dance,
theatre, music and multimedia.
Language:
English
Duration:
60 minutes

The only way out is through attempts to frame the imaginary relationship between the viewer and the spectacle, the personal and the collective sphere, between one and another, one and themselves. By manipulating the cues and clues that shape these links, the performance functions as a lab for their re-imagining and reconstruction.

Production Dance House Lemesos / Premiere Open House Festival 2019
As part of Moving the New 2019-
Artistic Development Programme.
Peer Gynt of Bourj Hammoud is a storytelling, monodrama performance that explores the theme of identity and multiple identities, especially in a world that’s getting smaller and smaller. It employs real stories and combines them through an overarching story, Henrik Ibsen’s Peer Gynt. The performance digs into specific personal stories in order to search for identity and its effect on us on a more global perspective; whoever, and wherever we are.
Dancehouse Lefkosia

OCT 27
Ledra Palace Moat & Home for Cooperation
"ARTS AND COMMUNITY":
LONG TABLE DISCUSSION
Fulbright Center Yard, Ledra Palace

As a parallel event, the Buffer Fringe is hosting a discussion with the participation of artists, community workers, arts practitioners, academics and policy-makers, from Cyprus and abroad, to discuss what makes arts in community relevant, necessary and challenging. Through a horizontal conversation, we aim to create a framework around the relationship between arts and community with a focus on the Cypriot and global context.

10:00-13:00

INTERACTIVE ZONE:
Ledra Palace Moat

Creatives have been working on the Buffer Zone for decades. We invited artists, academics, students and activists from Cyprus and abroad to share their work, by exhibiting it in the Ledra Palace moat. Audiences are invited to participating in the interactive installations, sharing an experience they rarely have access to: the perspective of others.

15:00-23:00
Border Frequency

Creator: Anber Onar

A video installation, which combines two image-making traditions: video animation and shadow theatre. The shadow-figures constantly move in ambivalent positions and gestures which, like the soundtrack, could be interpreted, depending on the viewer’s cultural references, as social, meditative, religious, or erotic.

Cardiophone

Performer: Moran Duvshani

A private listening to the melody of your heart. This participatory piece combines medical device and a music box, and hosts one visitor at a time. You are invited to a three-stage journey that starts by undergoing an ECG test and ends by listening to the unique melody generated by your own heart.
ΔΙ(ΦΩΝΙΑ) | BI(PHONY)

Creative Team:
Aristi Pavlou
With Anastasia Barka, Kyriakos Zantis, Frixos Masouras, Aristi Pavlou, Petros Petrou (Turok)

It is a site-specific performative audiowalk which is bound and inspired by the surrounding space and aspires to give a temporal experience of it. The work is formulated by the space of the Buffer zone, and inspired from it.

The “Counter-Militarization Action”

Creative team:
Laboratory of Urbanism
University of Cyprus (LUCY) and AA & U for Architecture.
Art and Urbanism
(project leader: Socrates Stratis)

A performance that criticizes the island’s actual militarization. It takes place across the divide, along a loop both in the north and the south parts of Nicosia. Two tricycles with pulling banners are following the loop in opposite directions. They are meeting at designated public spaces, to form a place of dialogue, inviting us to imagine the urban commons of Federal Cyprus, without armies. We start with the MERIDIAN CITY, the urbanizing region stretching from Kyrenia, to Larnaka! Students’ urban design projects and urban games on the same topic, will be catalysts for the discussion.

Country:
Cyprus
Genre/Medium:
A Critical Spatial Practice
Language:
English
Duration:
Loop
The Mirror Space

Performers / Creative Team:
ARUCAD
(Alev Adil, Asli Bolayir, Dize Kükrer, Dicle Özlöses, Oya Silbery, Cem Yardımcı)

Country:
Cyprus
Genre/Medium:
Performative Interactive Installation
Duration:
Durational

A peaceful place for reflection on the in-between space of the Buffer Zone, and a place where the mirrors reflect not the face of the one who gazes but the face of the ‘other’ who is gazing away. Though you have your back turned on them, you see the face of the other… The Mirror Space is a space for reflecting on the known and unknown, and for dreaming new connections and healing stories.

The Affective Garage: A Collective Junction

Performer:
Nihal Soğancı

Country:
Cyprus
Genre/Medium:
Interdisciplinary
Language:
English
Duration:
Durational

An invitation to a collective and creative journey through a participatory installation to re-imagine the buffer zone as an in-between space through everyday objects flashing beyond the webs of memory.
Ayça Ceylan will present the interactive performance involving five audience members. The artist’s will be inviting the audience/participants on a journey through various love manifestations. A participant will have thirteen minutes with the artist to share life and tea, focusing on love by writing love letters, while the other participants who watch, listen and taste the tea can join the performance.
HOME FOR COOPERATION
1 Border Frequency
2 Cardiophone

ON THE SCREEN
5 digitale Journey
6 Nothing Happened Archetype

ON THE STAGE
7 Open Mic
8 Buffer Shorts

LEDRA PALACE MOAT
9 The Mirror Space
10 The Affective Garage: A Collective Junction
11 Cover, fill, bury... What is love?
12 Ledra Palace Museum Project
13 Oscillating in between

14 Skortoi ji alas: Language and identity in Cypriot Romeika
15 Contested States and the architecture of the in-between
16 Urban Glendi

PROMENADE / INTERACTIVE:
LEDRA PALACE BUFFER ZONE
3 ΔΙ(ΦΩΝΙΑ) | BI(PHONY)
4 The “Counter-Militarization Action”
Ledra Palace Museum Project

Creative Team:
Rise Project
(Museum Lab Group & Immersive Technologies for Intelligent and Creative Applications Group - Theopisti Stylianou-Lambert, Kleanthis Neocleous, Antigone Heraclidou, Panayiotis Kyriakou, Savvas Avraam, Maria Shehade)

Country:
Cyprus

Genre/Medium:
Installation

Language:
English / Greek

Duration:
Durational

A collection of audiovisual memories from the Ledra Palace Hotel, based on 360-degree filming of the interior and archival material will be presented. Simultaneously, a crowdsourcing will take place, in order to gather as much information, photos or objects, as possible, related to the hotel, of people interacting with the space as guests, as audience, as participants in meetings, or as employees.
ON THE SCREEN

A live audiovisual remix performance. By remixing many different digital content, the artist aims to lead the audience on a journey dealing with the themes of peace in one's self, understanding human nature, evolution, consciousness, reality, and many things in between.

Nothing Happened Archetype

Creator:
Benna Gaean Maris

Country: United States of America
Genre/Medium: Performance video recording
Duration: 33 minutes

The artist creates a drawing representing herself, this action is the creation of a buffer between her and the beholder, a medium for her image to be presented as a story, telling the metaphysical meaning of the action itself. Further, the depicted living being itself, as a conceptual meaning, is a buffer between power and people as messenger.
Open Mic

Curation:
Oya Akin
Andreas Makris

What happens when you give people and microphone, a stage and 5 minutes, and ask them "what does the buffer zone mean to YOU"? This is the idea behind the Open Mic, set up on the stage in the Ledra Palace Moat: anyone to express themselves in the 'Buffer Zone' itself, and to talk about their own experiences, thoughts or share something meaningful.

Buffer Shorts

Performers:
‘Involuntary Terrans’
led by Thadd Correia

Country:
Cyprus
Genre/Medium:
Theatre
Language:
English
Duration:
30 minutes

Buffer Shorts six short pieces exploring buffer zones in different areas of society, based on personal experiences of the cast and interviews conducted with various members of their respective communities.

phot.: Antonis Pouliasis
Oscillating in between

Students and Graduates of the Fine Art Programme, University of Nicosia

Participants: Bugche Bozkurt, Katerina Paisi, Nafsika Demetriou, Öykü Özoğul, Alisa Kyprianou, Miriam Gatt, Marina Andreou, Özcan Kahvecioğlu, Evi Tselika (coordination)

A group of students and graduates of the Fine Art Programme, University of Nicosia are responding and developing art works in a multiplicity of mediums responding to the theme of the call. The participating students and graduates are responding in a multiplicity of ways in relation to the in between space represented by the buffer zone. The contributions include installations, videos, performances, prints, typographic experiments and other mixed media art works.

15:30: Katerina Paisi, Nafsika Demetriou (guest: Solomon Burt), Push! (i would love to have you by my side to), a participatory performance.

17:30 Öykü Özoğul, Alisa Kyprianou, Miriam Gatt, In Translation, Installation/ Mixed media Bugche Bozkurt, Making a Difference? / Utopic Hub, durational social participation - socially engaged art

Skortoi ji alas: Language and identity in Cypriot Romeika

Σκόρτοι τζι άλας: Γλώσσα και ταυτότητα στα Ρωμαϊκά της Κύπρου

Creative team / Performers:
UCY Department of Education Team (Language/Literacy Team):
Marilena Paraskeva, Nansia Kyriakou, Valentina Christodoulou (researchers); Elena Ioannidou (instructor); Pantelitsa Christou, Maria Papandreou, Penia Skamnaki (Postgraduate students); Antriana Neofytou, Eleni Parelli, Katerina Panagiotou (Undergraduate Students).

Part of the sociolinguistic research project “GRECO: Greek in enclave communities. Language and identity in Romeika speakers” (funded by Leventis Foundation and the University of Cyprus)

Based on the oral histories collected by Greek-speaking Turkish-Cypriots, a group of researchers and students from the University of Cyprus, create a performative space, a garden where stories, sensations and emotions can be shared and explored, all deriving from the concepts of language use, authenticity, stigma, space and identity.

Country: Cyprus
Genre/Medium: Performative Storytelling
Language: Greek (with English translation)
Duration: Loop (40 minutes)
Contested States and the architecture of the in-between

Performer / participants: Heather Mitcheltree, Mitchell Ransome, Sophie Gearon, Yanxing Zhang, Louis O'Connor, Sarah Mair, Xinyun Li, Su Gu, Hao Zhuang, Yue Zhao, Yohanes Richo Wirawan, Qiaoqiao Yang – the University of Melbourne: Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning

Focusing primarily on the UN buffer zone in Cyprus, the works explore how architecture might be utilised to frame the politics of boundary conditions, spatial manifestations of memory, and socio-political narratives of identity, conflict, and the in-between. The student work exhibited is adapted from work produced as part of a Master of Architecture design studio at the Melbourne School of Design during semester 1, 2019. This studio was led by Heather Mitcheltree and Dr Majdi Faleh, with technical support from Mitchell Ransome.

Country: Australia
Genre/Medium: Exhibition / Installations/ Interactive 3D scanning
Language: English

Urban Glendi
(Curated by Urban Guerrillas-Yiorgos Hadjichristou)

Creative Center for Fluid Territories-
Duncan Higgins, Anna Suoto De Moura, Jim Harrold, Susan Brind, Shaunna McLellan, Johann Sandborg, Andrew David Log, Linda Lien, Yiorgos Hadjichristou
UNIC-Architecture Department of the University of Nicosia
Yiorgos Hadjichristou, Maria Hadjisoteriou and students/graduates

Behind a grove of plants and trees, a stage of a courtyard will be generated between two tents and the walls: an ‘Urban Glenti’ will be performed. The tents will accommodate exhibition of the participants work as a hanging garden in dialogue with the mobile forest that will surround them. The courtyard will act as the environment where the ‘Urban Glenti’ will be celebrated with presentations and discussions. By the end of the event, the plants will be planted in the area of the Home of Cooperation.

Collaborator: Dendros ltd
Country: Cyprus and International
Genre/Medium: Interactive Installation & presentations
Language: English
Duration: Durational
Dancehouse Lefkosia

OCT
27
“Heteroclite buffer-memory” deals with the notion of the buffer zone as an in-between space by proposing a voyage through image, sound and movement. Inside this non-place, two heteroclite entities are wondering. The two bodies desperately try to meet, to transform the space by establishing a rite of passage.
It is not so much about the dance itself but the experience of time through it, the experience of dance as an act of thinking. The experience of physical exhaustion, of deterioration. The experience of spending time together hopefully until the end.
Country: Puerto Rico (USA)
Genre/Medium: Dance
Language: Spanish
Duration: 30 minutes

Through their perspectives they informed their work as they delved into the concepts of borders, cultural shock, sanctuary, language, and home. It is a performance emphasizing on the concept of immigration and its effect on the people and the territory that is left behind.

Performer: Claroscuro

Oscilo
BUFFER FRINGE 2019

CREATIVE TEAM

Executive and Artistic Director
Ellada Evangelou

Technical Director
Michalis Olymbios and Synergeia Media

Home for Cooperation Team
Lefki Lambrou
Director

Hayriye Ruzgar
Communications and Outreach

Andri Christofidou
Administration

Afrodite Karayioryi
Manager, The Home Cafe

Marilena Spyrou
Operations

Mentorship Program
Maria Varnakkidou
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Enver Gürzap

Interns
Anna Damaskinou
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Monica Rush
Arcadia University, USA–Internship Program
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University of Cyprus–Internship Program
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Kyriakos Pachoulides
Erbay Akansoy

Photography
Panayiotis Mina

Video
Antonis Pouliasis

Graphic Design
Popi Pissouriou

TICKETS

October 25th & 27th
All day pass (per day):
10 euros / 60 TL
Ticket per show:
5 euros / 30 TL

October 26th
Entrance is FREE
Ticket presale:
The Home Café

Scan for full program in English, Greek and Turkish, and a more detailed map of the venues.

Για το πλήρες πρόγραμμα στα Ελληνικά, Αγγλικά, και Τουρκικά, καθώς και χάρτη των χώρων, σαρώστε τον κωδικό QR.

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