

PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

BUFFER FRINGE 22



7-8-9 OCTOBER



BF 2022 TEAM

Production:

Home for Cooperation /
Association for Historical
Dialogue and Research

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Nihal Soğancı

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PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL
**BUFFER
FRINGE 22**

7 - 8 - 9 OCTOBER

Since 2014, Buffer Fringe Performing Arts Festival, which is organized by the Home for Cooperation, has been putting sensitive topics into question, challenging and playing with dominant narratives, giving space to artists to express new ideas in innovative ways, enabling audiences from diverse communities to engage in dialogue, and initiating discussions to promote understanding.

MANIFESTO The precarity of our times makes all the more important, the social and collective responsibility to change, to engage and to share – which we feel strongly from our vulnerable place: a buffer zone. In 2022, our vision embraces a cross-cultural / cross-disciplinary / cross-generational approach, and we continue to encourage a decolonizing agenda. We are particularly concerned with the role the arts can play in addressing the fault lines of post conflict societies. These fault lines can become hubs for activist interventions to deconstruct and decolonize the dominant divisive narratives locally and internationally.

We facilitate a space for sustainable solidarity: we actively engage in global conversations relating to the theory and practice of arts for conflict transformation, the Festival and its partners strive to create a model that provides spaces for collective practice, ideas, exchange and collaborations.

We also acknowledge the importance of arts to resist and to recreate through the socially, economically and mentally challenging uncertain times. Hence, in 2022, and being the only continuously running arts festival across the dividing line in Cyprus for almost a decade, we are working on new models of sustainability and collective practices, with the multiple agency of a team of curators, creative coordinators, communications experts, technical staff, interns and Thinking Partners.





POCKETS (BEYOND)

With the theme of **Pockets (beyond)**, the Buffer Fringe Performing Arts Festival aims to initiate a discussion on who is visible/invisible and why. Pockets become a space to start thinking about difference and identity, past and present, inside and outside, inclusion and exclusion. They give agency to the marginal, the forgotten, the invisible.

The beautiful thing about Pockets is their versatility and nuance. Pockets are enriched spaces of resistance against the inhumanity of the new world order, but also places where we keep things we need or love: pockets contain and hide things, yet they also keep them close to us.

Pockets can also be traces and remnants of the past that stay alive in the very stitches that comprise them. A pocket may even look like a blind spot; but blind spots oppose the logic of the main frame, go beyond the conventions and status quo.

Beyond implies a disturbance of direction, a restless movement. In Buffer Fringe 2022, beyond becomes a pocket of curiosity and imagination and asks:

- Will there be a place for me to live and to create?
- Can a pocket become an alternative space to live and to create?
- What is beyond our blind spots?

THINKING PARTNERS

In an extraordinary collaboration with IMPACT (Imagining Together Platform for Arts, Culture and Conflict Transformation) / Brandeis University, the “Thinking Partners” program creates a system of artistic support and collective practice integral to the alignment of Buffer Fringe’s mission. The program started in 2020, with a structure rooted in one-on-one consultation between individual thinking partners and Buffer Fringe artists. The thinking partners continued in 2021 with the same structure, offering essential guidance, fresh perspectives, and critical thought to the artists’ creative processes.

For the 2022 edition of the Festival, the approach to the “Thinking Partners” program evolved to meet Buffer Fringe’s newly modified, increasingly collaborative structure.

The Festival’s creative team and curators were joined by the International Community Arts Festival of Rotterdam (ICAF) and team members Jasmina Ibrahimovic, Anamaria Cruz and Amy Gowen.

IMPACT
IMAGINING TOGETHER
PLATFORM FOR ARTS, CULTURE AND
CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION

ICAF
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ARTS FESTIVAL

The innovative restructuring of the Buffer Fringe Festival’s curation initiated by the new methodological approach of “collaborative curation”, allowed for the ‘new’ Thinking Partners practice to be reimaged through individually paired meetings, to a series of group discussions held between the ICAF collaborators, the BF creative team and the three curators/curatorial team. The discussions allowed for collective exploration of curatorial motifs of audience reception and engagement, conflict transformation, and identity/community relative to BF2022’s overarching theme of *Pockets (beyond)*. These online gatherings served as a thinking space in which the curators’ respective visions and significance of their spaces ultimately came together.



Scan for
the full report

ATELIER NICOSIA 2022



In partnership with the Home for Cooperation through the Buffer Fringe Performing Arts Festival, The Festival Academy is excited to bring together emerging festival makers, cultural experts, artists, cultural activists, and cross-sector experts for the 20th edition of its Atelier for Young Festival Managers.

The Atelier Nicosia will bring together around 30 young festival managers from all over the world to spend 7 days **(October 7 - 13)** with a group of experienced festival leaders, cultural activists, cross-sector experts, and artists during the Buffer Fringe Festival 2022, and to engage in a global conversation about today's challenges regarding festivals, the role of art and culture in communities and contested spaces, amongst other topics.

This Atelier focuses additionally on how festivals can become spaces for exploring global issues and reflects upon the role that festivals play within areas marked by conflict.

The Festival Academy (an initiative of the European Festivals Association) offers various training formats and peer-to-peer exchange on festival management to emerging, dynamic and passionate festival makers worldwide coming from all art disciplines and from very diverse geographical, cultural and social backgrounds. We are currently a global community of 1150+ festival managers from 100+ countries.



Scan for more on
Atelier Nicosia

DAY 1
FRIDAY OCTOBER 7
RÜSTEM BOOKSHOP

*Narratives help us form meaning.
Maybe that's why we like books.
And music. And dance. And films.*

As someone on the constant lookout for my identity, belonging, how they feed on history, and their constant evolution, working in Cyprus is an important milestone on that journey.

This is a day on which, once again, I am working in a historic context that has affected my identity on all levels. The variety of spaces Rüstem Bookshop offers is another symbolism of that. The day is a story in itself; it is set up with a story told among stories, moves to a visual immersive build-up, culminating in an auditory climax, with a physical finale for a denouement.

CURATOR:

Raffi Feghali

Lebanon

director/performer/peacebuilder



ERGO Theatre

Cyprus
Musical Staged Performance

Artists:

Vaggelis Gettos
Marina Katsari

NOBODY

“Nobody” is a musical staged reading extracted respectively from each of three milestone works: Homer’s “Odyssey”, Joyce’s “Ulysses” and Nikos Kazantzakis’ “Odysey”. A storyteller (Marina Katsari) and musician/writer (Vaggelis Gettos) explore the illusion of life in one hour.



7 OCT
18:00

Ahmad BāBā

Lebanon / Germany

Visual and Performance Art

Assistant Director:

Mansur Ajang

7 OCT
19:15



ILK قَوْلٌ :

A QUEER- ARAB DICHOTOMY

Ilk is an attempt to engage with and investigate how queerness has become a form of colonialism, erasing and homogenizing many identities, such as Arab* queer ones, and ways of being that don't necessarily fit under it as an umbrella term. The performance is based on bringing back and incorporating linguistic, social, cultural, and religious elements, aspects and discourses of the erotic, the sexual, the sensual, and the "non-normative" from classical old Arab manuscripts such as "Nouzhat Al Albab Fi Ma La Youjad Fi Kitab", connecting past into blurred present and unknown future.

Supported by Goethe-Institut Cyprus



Compañía Encuentro

Spain

Dance Piece

Artists:

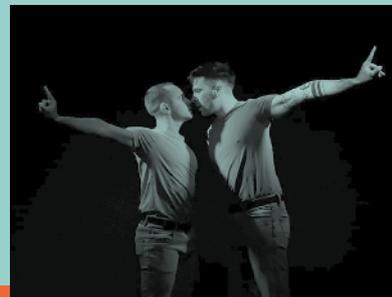
Omar Milán

Antonio Buonaiuto

UNA GUERRA ENTRE NOSOTROS

“Una guerra entre nosotros” (“A war between us”) is a narrative dance performance depicting the story of two boys who find love despite the pressure of a homophobic society. When a war breaks out and the men end up on the frontlines, they realize that the physical war is no match for the emotional war against a cruel, unforgiving society that the two men are fighting every day of their lives.

7 OCT
20:30



Inal Bilsel

Cyprus
Multimedia Musical Performance

Artists:

Ezgi Akgurgen
Naz Atun
Onur Kasapoglu
Ugur Guclu



7 OCT
21:30

NOSTALGIA FOR THE FUTURE

In “Nostalgia For The Future”, Inal Bilsel translates his musical works into a live multimedia performance with the help of two vocalists, a keyboardist, a bass player, and a drummer. The performance’s narrative unfolds across different forms of media such as video projections, cassette tapes, postcards, booklets, blog posts and audio-visual installations, collectively generating a complex but interconnected story world, addressing themes of nostalgia, childhood, and the memory of place.



DAY 2
SATURDAY OCTOBER 8
THEATRO POLIS OPAP

We're often told to 'think outside the box'. To think more creatively. Intuitively. What happens, however, when we take our creativity - our ability to dance or sing or act - and place it within the confines of a very specific box: a black box?

What happens when we strip away context so as to allow ourselves to be or become whoever or whatever we want?

On Saturday the 8th of October, a team of artists from across the globe invite you to share in possibility. A pocket of possibility created by works that celebrate and interrogate ideas of identity, space, dissonance and difference.

CURATORS:

Kat Kats

Cyprus/Australia, writer/dramaturg

Bryce Ives

Australia, performance director

Maria Varnakkidou

Cyprus, theatre director



Die Wolke Art Group

Greece

Dancetheater

Artists:

Drosia Triantaki

Dani Joss

Savvina Romanou-Pylli

8 OCT
from
18:30



POETICS OF SPACE

Based on the like-titled seminal text by Gaston Bachelard, this work constitutes a study of the subjective perception of space. It focuses on the “poetic image” as an immediate environmental perception that precedes conscious thought, imbuing it with properties beyond function and form and affording the observer a state of daydreaming. The dancetheatre piece explores the concept of intimacy, revealing imagery that is not descriptive, but rather points to a personal, subjective, sense of space, thus adapting one of the most important philosophical tendencies of the 20th century and a fundamental influence to contemporary architecture.



Compagnie Inflexions

France
Interdisciplinary Performance

Artists/Team:

Claire Huber

Stalin Blake

Nastasja Stefanič

Zdravka Ivandija Kirigin

Emmanuel Desmyter

France Morin

8 OCT
from
18:30



AS WE DROVE SHORT SHORT HORIZON LINES

This interdisciplinary piece by Compagnie Inflexions incorporates movement and sound to address listening as one of our main perceptive regimes. The piece invites the audience to experience dance, poetry and sounds, illuminating the alchemy between the spirit of places and the voices of the ones that inhabit it through time.

Supported by the Institut Français de Chypre.



ody icons

Greece/Cyprus

Multidisciplinary Musical Performance

Artists:

Odysseas I. Constantinou

Harry Koushos

Fotis Papatheodorou

Marios Rammos

ECATI aka Antonis Hadjiantonis

Markos Zouridakis (nodatadesign)

POLYDRAMA

A musical project by queer Cypriot artist, Odysseas I. Constantinou, chronicling the artist's trip in the diverse rooms of their human experience so far, opening space for reflections on different recognitions and events. POLYDRAMA is all about the poly, the very, the vary, the all, the plural, the maximal. It's all about the drama, the trauma, the laughs and the tears.



8 OCT
from
21:00

Vasilikí Anastasiou and The Amalgamation Choir

Cyprus
Musical Performance

[FROM WEST TO EAST...]

Sound. Harmony, Dissonance. Language. Culture [?].
«Που δύσην ως ανατολήν...» [from west to east..]
An invitation to celebrate human voice. Soundscapes,
primal sounds, songs, whispers, lullabies. An interactive
experience. A meditative moment. An open workshop
/ performance. Sit in the circle and get immersed
into the sound of a 20+ member female choir. Sing,
whisper or just close your eyes and listen.

Recommended: bring a yoga mat or towel for the floor.

8 OCT
from
21:00



DAY 3
SUNDAY OCTOBER 9
HOME FOR
COOPERATION /
LEDRA PALACE BUFFER
ZONE / MOAT

The Buffer Zone will be a ‘pocket’ where different artists will create new stories by collaborating with the audience/other.

According to German philosopher Edmund Husserl, ‘otherness’ is about intersubjectivity rather than isolated subjects. Building on Husserl’s theory, we can think of pockets as private places where intersubjectivity can be experienced. A space where we can put all diversities and create a common ‘meeting point’ where various subjects can live and produce together beyond all ‘identities’, which is very similar to the nature of third day’s venue, the Buffer Zone.

Therefore, the performances are interactive artworks that accept the existence of the other and can only be completed with the contribution of ‘someone else’.

CURATOR:

Derya Ulubatlı

Cyprus, Art Historian



Fatosh Olgacher

Cyprus
Video/Audio Installation

Team:

Mark Campbell Garrity (Producer/editor)

Dian Milev

Anastasia Demetriadou

Andreas Georgiou

KYPIRIS

KYPIRIS is a video installation divided into two paths, with two different films based on the experiences of Cypriots living in either the north or the south of the island during the period of 1974-2004. Attendees will be allowed to access only one half of the installation. At the end of the films, the audience will join back together with each other to discuss what they saw on their half of the exhibition and how they perceived those years in isolation and separation.

9 OCT
from
15:00
to
21:00



Martín Álvarez

The Netherlands

Interdisciplinary Musical Performance

Artists:

María Suárez

Alessandra Marangon

WHERE WORDS BECOME MUSIC

An interactive performance of classical music and literature, exploring the possibility of spreading a universal message beyond language. The concert presents a debate about the role of art in our daily routines and our need for developing compositions which reflect the ongoing evolution of modern society. With Netherlands-based cellists Martín Álvarez and María Suárez, and singer Alessandra Marangon.

9 OCT
15:00
&
19:00



Melita Couta

Cyprus
Interdisciplinary Art Installation

Team:

Evi Tselika
Costantinos Taliotis
Pascal Caron
Ellada Evangelou

STATE

This interactive art installation facilitates the formation of a 24 hour “STATE” and its dissolution. A group of artists will activate the “STATE” by engaging with the visitors through a series of events in order to create the STATE in a collaborative way. The STATE is an all inclusive, safe space for creativity. A micro pocket of a social space within a politically charged terrain, an anomaly to the area, a container of different potentials.

9 OCT
from
15:00
to
22:00



Tera Group

Cyprus
Interdisciplinary Performance

Artists:

Avgoustina Stylianou
Erdoğan Kavaz
Soteris Christodoulou

9 OCT
17:00



MUZURU

A collaborative project between a musician and two actors, a performance portraying the forbidden love of a Turkish Cypriot man and a Greek Cypriot woman. The actors will be accompanied by a musician who will be using live loops, electronics and electric bass to create sound and rhythm-scapes. The performance is based on Tsiattista (rhyming couplets) written by Avgoustina's grandfather, Christophoros Stylianou and also Turkish Actisma/Mani (rhyming couplets).

Supported by the Embassy of Norway in Athens and McDonald's.

PARALLEL ACTIVITIES

at Home for Cooperation

SUNDAY 9 OCT 17:00-21:00

DeepNic

by **CYENS Centre of Excellence**

Cyprus

History project/Crowdsourcing

Team:

Antigone Heraclidou and Esra Plümer-Bardak

DeepNic is a history project investigating and 'deep mapping' the evolution and transformation of Nicosia's urban centre through key political and social events between 1960 and 2020.

Contribute to a deeper understanding of our city by bringing your own photographs, documents, posters, newspaper clippings etc., at DeepNic's scanning station at Home for Cooperation!

This project has received funding from the Research and Promotion Foundation's, RESTART «Excellence Hubs (Bridge Programmes)» and Pillar IV - Bridge Programmes, RIF Proposal No: EXCELLENCE/0421/0566.

SUNDAY 9 OCT 20:00

RELAY OF MATCHES

by **K&A,**

Karla Isidorou & Alexandra Bellon

Switzerland

How inflammable are our thoughts? Our actions? Our links? All together, performers & audience, we relay a simple gesture... some would say a children's game: passing the sparkle of a match from one to another. Success or failure is not the point. Like thousands of people before us we will share the fire. From body to body, hand to hand, match to match, border to border.

Note: this performance is participatory.

PARALLEL ACTIVITIES at Home for Cooperation

MONDAY 10 OCT

CROSSINGS

Director: **Theodore Scrivanos**

Documentary film screening

Through the dividing line of Nicosia in Cyprus, the crossings of people, lives and memories transform themselves into a healing power through the Home for Cooperation, an inter-communal hub with its own story to tell.

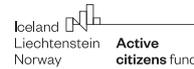
Supported by the Norwegian Embassy in Athens through the EEA and Norway Grants.

Organised by:



Ελληνικό Ιστορικό Διαλόγου
και Έρευνας: **association
for historical dialogue
and research** (artistic
dialogue in everyday dialogue)

Main Funder:



Partners:



Norwegian Embassy
Athens



Media Partner: **CyprusMail**

Collaborators:



Special thanks go to UNFICYP



EUROPE FOR FESTIVALS
FESTIVALS FOR EUROPE
EFFE LABEL
2022-2023

DAY 1

FRIDAY 7 OCT at Rüstem Bookshop

Part 1

- 1 18:00 **NOBODY** by ERGO Theatre [CY] - p12
- 2 19:15 **ILK قُلُوبٌ : A QUEER ARAB DICHOTOMY**
by Ahmad BâBâ [LB/DE] - p14

Part 2

- 3 20:30 **UNA GUERRA ENTRE NOSOTROS**
by Compañia Encuentro [ES] - p16
- 4 21:30 **NOSTALGIA FOR THE FUTURE**
by Inal Bilsel [CY] - p18

DAY 2

SATURDAY 8 OCT at Teatro Polis OPAP

Part 1 beginning at 18:30

- 5 **POETICS OF SPACE** by Die Wolke Art Group [GR] - p22
- 6 **AS WE DROVE SHORT SHORT HORIZON LINES**
by Compagnie Inflexions [FR] - p24

Part 2 beginning at 21:00

- 7 **POLYDRAMA** by ody icons [GR/CY] - p26
- 8 **[FROM WEST TO EAST...]** by Vasiliki Anastasiou
and The Amalgamation Choir [CY] - p28

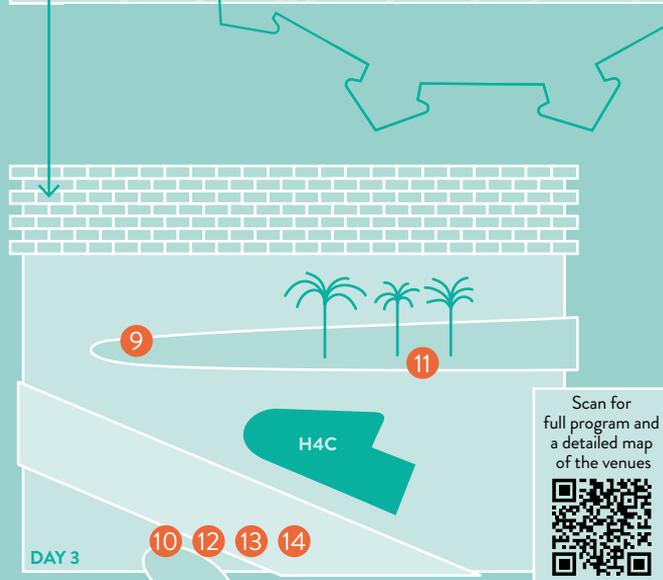
DAY 3

SUNDAY 9 OCT at H4C, moat and buffer zone

- 9 15 - 21:00 **KYPIRIS** by Fatosh Olgacher [CY] - p32
- 10 15 & 19:00 **WHERE WORDS BECOME MUSIC**
by Martín Álvarez [NL] - p34
- 11 15 - 22:00 **STATE** by Melita Couta [CY] - p36
- 12 17:00 **MUZURU** by Tera Group [CY] - p38

Parallel Activities

- 13 17 - 21:00 **DeepNic** by CYENS [CY] - p40
- 14 20:00 **RELAY OF MATCHES** by K&A [CH] - p41





www.bufferfringe.org

  [bufferfringe](#)