

# PERFORMANCE STUDIES SPACE PROGRAMME

The Performance Studies Space Programme (PSSP) is an initiative lead by Maaike Bleeker and Felipe Cervera that seeks to expand our field's knowledge about astronomy, cosmology and extraterrestrial exploration.

How has performance figured in the history of fields like astronomy and cosmology?

How have those fields overflowed into performance studies and practices in the past?

What impact will the knowledge produced have on performance practices and studies in the future?

What contributions can performance studies do those fields?

All inquiries welcome: performance.space.programme

#### **SCHEDULE**

- 16:30 Maaike Bleeker and Felipe Cervera:Introductory Remarks
- 16:50 Kurt Vanhoutte and Nele Wynants:Performing Astronomy Research Society
- 17:10 Natalija Majsova:Soviet Space Culture
- 17:30 Venzha Christ, João Florêncio, Simo Kellokumpu, Sara Morawetz, Kim Skjoldager-Nielsen: PSSP Installation
- 18:00 Janez Janša: Performance Making During a Parabolic Flight
- 19:00 20:00 Nahum: Voyage, A Trip to Remember (PSSP first mission into space; interactive performance for 25 participants).

20:00 Drinks

# Maaike Bleeker | Senior Space Investigatrix

Maaike is a professor and chair of Theatre Studies in the Department of Media & Culture Studies at Utrecht University. Her research focuses on processes of embodied and technologically mediated perception and knowledge transmission in performance, dance, and theatre, as well as in science. Her monograph Visuality in the Theatre: The Locus of Looking was published by Palgrave (2008). She (co) edited several volumes including Anatomy Live. Performance and the Operating Theatre (2008) Performance & Phenomenology. (Routledge 2015) and Transmission in Motion. The Technologizing of Dance (Routledge, 2016).

# Felipe Cervera | Lecturer in Planetary Performance Theory

Felipe is currently completing a PhD in Theatre Studies at the National University of Singapore. His work investigates the intersections of performance research and extraterrestrial exploration. His essays have appeared in Theatre Research International, Performance Research, Performance Philosophy, and Investigación Teatral.

# Kurt Vanhoutte | Cultural Archaeoastronomer

Kurt Vanhoutte is professor of Theatre and Performance Studies at the University of Antwerp (Belgium), where he is also the director of the Research Centre for Visual Poetics (<a href="www.visualpoetics.be">www.visualpoetics.be</a>), a research group in theatre, film and related artistic media. Vanhoutte's basic line of research investigates processes of intermediality emerging under the cultural and technological conditions of modernity and late modernity. His interest more specifically concerns the effects of science and technologies on narrative and stylistic characteristics of performance art as well as the ensuing impact on contemporary notions of theatricality, performance and text.

#### Nele Wynants | Human Aerospace Archaeologist

Nele Wynants is a postdoctoral researcher at the Université libre de Bruxelles (THEA Joint Research Group) and the University of Antwerp (Research Centre for Visual Poetics). Her current research focuses on the interplay of performance, media history and science. She is editor in chief of FORUM+ for Research and Arts (<a href="www.forum-online.be">www.forum-online.be</a>), and is preparing a volume on media archaeology and theatre.

#### Performance Astronomy Research Society

PARS is an international, interdisciplinary group of researchers from the human, social, and exact sciences as well as artists, visual technicians and planetarium professionals to investigate the history, present state and future of popular astronomical spectacle. Combining academic research with artistic and professional mediation, PARS is dedicated to the investigation of a locus where spatial and visual cultures of modernity were (and continue to be) elaborated and experienced at the intersection of science, technology and spectacle.

# Natalija Majsova |

#### Venzha Christ | Artist

# Simo Kellokumpu | Choreographer, artist-researcher: planetary and intergalactic movements and embodiments

Simo is a choreographer and a doctoral candidate in the Performing Arts Research Center in the Uniarts Helsinki. His current artistic research project Atmospheric Choreography explores the planetary and intergalactic movements that set the conditions for the choreographic embodiment to emerge. Web: <a href="simokellokumpu.org">simokellokumpu.org</a>

## João Florêncio | Lecturer in Interplanetary Embodiment

João is a lecturer in History of Modern and Contemporary Art and Visual Culture at the University of Exeter. His interdisciplinary research navigates the intersections of visual culture and performance with queer theory and posthumanism in order to think embodiment, ethics and community without the 'human.'

# Sara Morawetz |

#### Kim Skjoldager-Nielsen | Lecturer on the Cosmo-Aesthetic Challenge

Kim is PhD candidate in Theatre Studies, Stockholm University. Dramaturge and SIGNA actor. Since 2010, member of Network for Aesthetics, Theology, and Natural Sciences (University of Oslo). His research includes the crossover-field of performance, spirituality, and science. Publications on Stanley Kubrick's 2001: a space odyssey and Hotel Pro Forma's Cosmos+.

# Janez Janša | The Messenger

Janez Janša is contemporary artist that focus on the relation between art and the social and political context surrounding it. He is the director of Maska, a non-profit organization in publishing, artistic production and education, based in Ljubljana, Slovenia and author of the book on early works by Jan Fabre, (La discipline du chaos, le chaos de la discipline, 1994). He is currently fellow at the International research center Interweaving Performance Culture at the Freie Universitaet in Berlin and assistant professor at the master program for theatre directing at the University of Ljubljana.

#### Nahum | Artist

Nahum is an artist and musician based in Berlin. His work focuses on producing projects that explore the possibilities of generating wonder and enchantment of everyday issues. In 2014 Nahum was recognised as a Young Space Leader by the International Astronautical Federation for his cultural contributions to outer space activities. He is a graduate of the International Space University where he is a visiting lecturer since 2015. He directed a space mission in zero gravity by artists in collaboration with the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre in Russia called Matters of Gravity. He is the coordinator of the Technical Committee for the Cultural Utilisations of Space at the IAF in Paris and directs the international festival of culture and outer space KOSMICA with more than 20 editions worldwide.