

OFFENES ATELIER / OPEN STUDIO

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ARTS + CULTUR
ASSOCIATION
FOR ACTIVE
MEDIA WORKS

Art & Culture Association MEDEA

The art & culture association MEDEA sees itself as a junction inside a network, that is formed by artists and cultural works, by students and teachers, by insiders and outsiders, by fiddy jobbers and workers, by activists and thinkers, by homies and migrants. Altogether MEDEA is a very hybrid, heterogen mixture of vary cultures and philosophies. A mixture of artistic works, that attends to research and experiments with cultural and artificial codes.

MEDEA negates the borders between arts, culture, politics, migration, youth and education. The practical work negates the static division of initiative works in singular parts of society. The team of MEDEA belongs to cross-frontiers by transgressing, varying artificial and social borders. The area of the artistic and cultural activities are steady widen.

The ambivalence witch arises for instance in the selection of methods and tools in the particular projects, makes it for the audience possible to get a differentiated view. The tools may situate in new and elder media, may situate in public art and performance, may situate in artistically travels – or in the combination of all/some.

The mixture of social engagement, artistically ambition, cultural work and emancipation guaranties a continual swinging between different approaches and lets space for new impulses. The process lives on steady influences and on the instably stability in development and form.

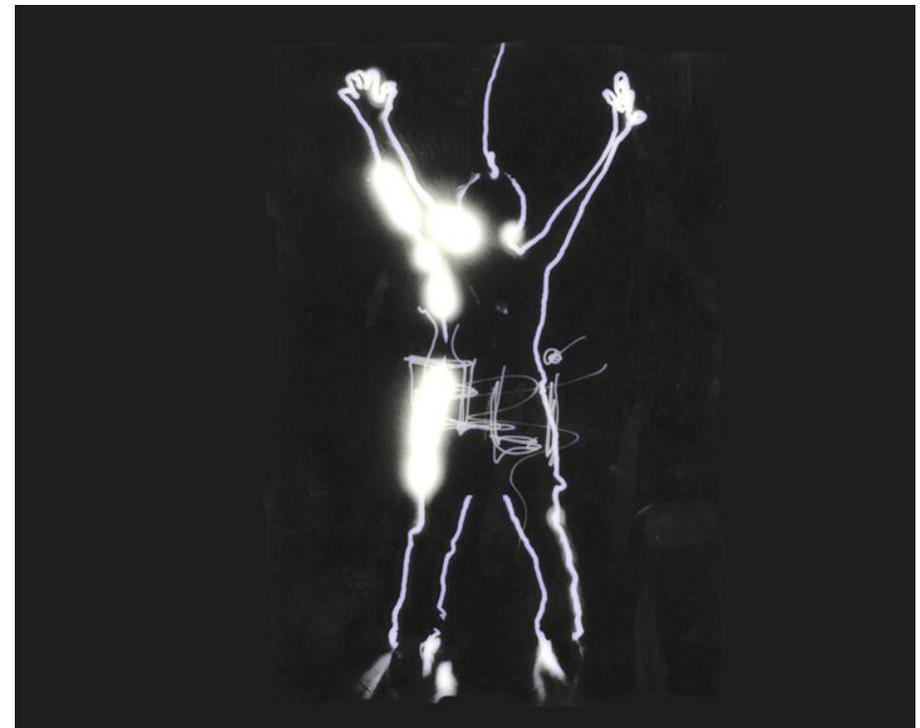


During the (de)construction of different cultural codes, these pieces of culture are again connected and rewritten with new contents. Apart from music, dance and performance, intermedial forms define the center. The overlap of the generic borders means at the same time an excess of the contexts, conventions and institutions connected with these kinds. The actions design themselves in the area, run off process led and dynamically. The confrontation of the public in everyday life with an unexpected topic, at an unusual place, is basis of the artistic process. Following aspects of language in the performance are included into the projects resuming with: Poetry Sonore, Sound Poetry and Expanded performance. An important aspect lies here in consulting the body as artistic material. The relation self/body becomes conceptual means of the artistic demonstration. A goal of MEDEA is the diversity of cultur - it does not concern perfection, not the creation of migrant-cultur in an aesthetically pleasing.

The team of MEDEA is multicultural and multiprofessional. It clasps 10 to 16 people, who work more or less continuous on the compete project MEDEA. The section of activists clasps approximately 20-30 people.



- **Amir Andami-Velayati**, Iran, 1979, boxer, study at the art university of Linz
- **Amra Racic**, Bosnia, 1982, founder of the culture association PANGEA
- **Andrea Reisinger**, Austria, 1970, media educationalist, artist, founder of the arts and culture association MEDEA, chairwoman of Radio FRO, study at the art university of Linz
- **Carola Unterberger-Probst**, Austria, 1978, video- & media-artist, media-philosopher, projectcoordination of MEDEA, preparing the PhD study
- **Elli Öfner**, Austria, 1984, photographer & documentary filmer, study of ethnology at the university of vienna
- **Elvira Kurabasa**, Bosnia, 1980, management of MEDEA 2002 – 2004, media educationalist, chairwoman of Radio FRO
- **Gaspard Nyunguranyinshi**, Ruanda, 1976, study of informatics at the university of Linz
- **Hoffmann Agyei**, Ghana, 1982, network technician
- **Kono Keyidu**, Sierra Leone, 1976, employee
- **Michael Reindl**, Austria, 1980, media educationalist, graphic artist, founder of the music association JUSTASIRISDID and cultural association PANGEA
- **Ralph Aichinger**, Austria, 1971, computer/Linux-specialist, media artist, study of social economy at the university of Linz
- **Roland Nowotny**, Austria, 1970, social educationalist, art therapist
- **Selma Curic**, Bosnia, 1982, accounts department of MEDEA
- **Sissy Wunder**, Austria, 1981, performance & media artist, media & gender educationalist, founder of the culture association PANGEA, studies of arts in Linz and Vienna
- **Yama Ajezyar**, Afghanistan, 1980, study of journalism in Russia
- **Zia Isar**, Afghanistan, 1985, joiner, musician



Absurd Orchester

The project *Absurdes Orchester* was developed in 2001 in context of the cultural organisation MEDEA. It sees itself as a multi ethnic fusion of arts with the focal point of performance and music. The artists of the *Absurdes Orchester* are coming from Afghanistan, Bosnia, Ghana, Iran, Nigeria, the Dominican Republic and Austria. The approach of *Absurd Orchester* is rooted in action art, fluxus, happening, body art, art in process, poetry sonore... Intermedia forms, a composing of different arts and trivial medias are focused. The innovative principle ist the illumination of all these arts and the inference of the art forms.

Further to the relationship of arts/cultur and society, the intersection of borders of art forms and the transgression with just these art forms connected contexts, serves the conventions and institutions and the steadily redefining of the part of arts. The participation at Terrains Fertiles includes a chance of interdisciplinary exchange. In particular the methods and functioning of performance with approaches of pictorial arts.

The structure of the project with different residences in Rumania, Austria and France exactly implies the functioning of the *Absurdes Orchester*, which is not only welcomely the cultural exchange but also uses it as a basically point of its work. The development of a transnational network of choreographers and project leaders seems not just interesting, but also very fruitful for prospectively projects. The *Absurd Orchester* takes the (de)construction, the questioning and the rebuilding of cultural codes as a chance to parse cultural developments and elaborate new ways of performance and arts against the trivial experiences.



Within the differentiation of contents and forms, the reflection which is guiding the usage of codes makes the reasons visible. The Activities construe themselves within the development in a dynamical way.

Another important aspect is the adaptation of the body as an artistic material. The relation self/body is a conceptual way of artistic demonstration. This is possible because of the inclusion of a body as a way of expression in combination with the operating medias (video, foto) and other instruments. Because of the mixture of all these things the *Absurd Orchester* can provide an interaktiv work. Because *Terrains Fertiles* focuses mainly on dance, the *Absurdes Orchester* is glad to set a point on mimic and gesticulated codes. The Exchange with choreographers concluded to different methods and developments seems as a fecund element.

The methods of the *Absurd Orchester* are oriented on accesses of public art and situation-referred interventions. This face-of of the audience in their everyday life with unsuspected themes at unusual places is the basic of the artistic process. This is open to everybody and makes immediate feedback possible, which again is open to reactions. The main is to enlarge the participative room of action and activities. The project is developed in an interactive way and uses different ways of active media-work. This is not only for documentation but also a part of the artistic and interactive process. The centricly moment of these active work is to disband barriers between society and artists.



Women's Artist Group XX

- Amra Racic
(photography, intercultural practices)
- Andrea Mayer-Edoloeyi
(web-art, theory)
- Andrea Reisinger
(art in the public space, sound-installations, involving practices, poesie sonore)
- Carola Unterberger-Probst
(audiovisual installations, photography, Video, theory)
- Christina Hartl-Prager
(objects, installations, involving practices, performance theater)
- Elli Öfner
(photography, video, intercultural practices)
- Elvira Kurabasa
(photography, poesie sonore, situational art)
- Renée Stieger
(objects, performance, video, installations)
- Selma Curic
(photography)
- Sissi Wunder
(performance, audiovisual installations, poesie sonore, art in the public space)
- Toni Wagner
(video, objects, theater, dance, queer practices)
- Valerie Pelet (installations, objects).



Open Studio

Interested people always can find space for artistic work in their everyday live.

The studio sees itself as a fin between the trivial concerns of an art- and humanities interested public which is looking for an adequate place to work, and a state of developing concretely projects.

Artists and theoreticians can come across to eachother for exchanging their experiences. This is possible because of the overlapping of different categories and the openness of the studio.

To create a concourse where interested people can exchange their ideas and minds without longtermed or complicated developments is one of the aims.

Another very important point is to provide them the possibility of presenting their work and notions.

This is granted because of the informal scope of the studio which is giving the opportunity of discussions, talks between artists and visitors and even between artist and artist.

Therefor the long-term regularity is most important which is a constantly offert and a continuos vibrate on local level.



Projects (Link-List)

1999 **zuagroast**

a multimediaprojekt with young migrants

<http://www.servus.at/medea/zuagroast>

2000 **Pangea**

media labor especially for migrants. The project was carried out for 5 years by MEDEA. Since 2005 it is an independent culture association.

<http://www.pangea.at>

2001 **artenreich**

art project in the public space (Linz, Steyr, Vöcklabruck)

<http://www.servus.at/medea/artenreich/index2.html>

Nationalsozialismus aus der Sicht jugendlicher MigrantInnen

youth project on national socialism with migrants

http://www.servus.at/medea/r_schober

2002 **Absurdes Orchester**

experimental music and performance project

<http://www.servus.at/medea/projekte/aorchester.de.htm>

conclusionmap

project together with the peace association FRIWE in the public space on the eastern EU

<http://www.servus.at/medea/projekte/conclusiomap.de.htm>

Dialog der Kulturen

art and discourse project on intercultural communication

<http://www.servus.at/medea/projekte/ddk.de.htm>



2003 **Babadag - the EU-Game**

interactive project in the public space with performance

<http://www.servus.at/medea/projekte/babadag.de.htm>

MTV-Generation

video & photo project

<http://www.servus.at/medea/projekte/mtv.de.htm>

gender.frames

start of the discourse series on gender and film/video

<http://www.servus.at/cup/genderframe.htm>

fwd://macht.medien

discourse series on media politics with Media-Walks, Media-Talks and Media-Clips

<http://fwd.pangea.at>

XXungelöst

exhibition of the women's arts group Gruppe XX

<http://www.servus.at/medea/projekte/xxungeloest.de.htm>

2004 **Die Sprache der Anderen**

multilingual literature project

<http://www.pangea.at/SpracheDesAnderen>

Laufende Kamera webcam project

<http://laufendekamera.pangea.at>

Jovja - Influences of Globalisation on the Mongolian Culture

film project in Mongolia

<http://www.servus.at/medea/projekte/mongolia.de.htm>

Videoa

three shortfilms based on the theme: I am here

http://www.servus.at/medea/projekte/ich_bin_da.de.htm

Linz 2029

performance and Installation in the public space

<http://www.servus.at/medea/aec>



Barcode Oracle

interactive Object

<http://superart.at>

Bottom Up - Von Fünfen, die auszogen Rock und Hose zu tauschen

documentary film on gender studies

<http://www.servus.at/cup/video.htm>

Gestaltungsspielräume

publication on the Free Art Scene in Upperaustria

<http://www.servus.at/cup/freieszene.htm>

2005 **Ajvatan**

Shortfilm

<http://oesterreich-2005.at/wettbewerb>

Staatsoper

Shortfilm / trick

<http://oesterreich-2005.at/wettbewerb>

Dekonstruktion

start of the discourse series on philosophies and arts

<http://www.servus.at/cup/dekonstruktion.htm>

>Offenes Atelier< On Tour

with the studio-bus through Poland

<http://servus.at/medea/projekte/polen>

