

Art-based research in the interface of body, mind & nature at the art and nature sanctuary of St. Margarethen/Burgenland in Austria

As a new transdisciplinary artistic field work in nature this ChoreoLab combines performative training, lecture, demonstration & discussion with experts from the fields of choreography/dance, body-mind techniques, architecture, land art & botany.

Tanz Atelier Wien
Sebastian Prantl



The International ChoreoLab Austria (ICLA), initiated by choreographer Sebastian Prantl and pianist Cecilia Li (directors of Tanz Atelier Wien) in 2009, provides continuous art-based research in the context of performance studies. The focus is on an interdisciplinary discourse through an expanded concept of choreography.

After a three-year successful cooperation with the Danube University Krems, the International ChoreoLab Austria (ICLA) is taking place this year in conjunction with the distinguished organisation Symposion of European Sculptors (Symposion Europäischer Bildhauer) at their headquarter in St. Margarethen/Austria.

The project fosters theoretical excursions and contextual performativity across the disciplines. It creates an interface for transdisciplinary positions through research, thus conducting a vivid, innovative, communicative discourse with architecture, botany, film, medicine, social sciences, psychology, anthropology and other fields of study. The ICLA is characterized by a high level of internationality and a unique quality in regard to the professional diversity and strong motivation among the participants and contributors.

## **Target Group**

Empowerment, compassion and deep understanding through shared experience characterize the activities of the ChoreoLab since 2009 and provide a distinct label within the multitude of international interdisciplinary education programs. This new strand of a creative team work format has attracted experts of all professional fields, ages and cultures.

Performers and interested protagonists from other fields are invited to the collective unfolding of creative potential in a communicative forum, taking place at the art and nature sanctuary of St. Margarethen. The target group includes protagonists from various fields such as the arts, architecture, humanities, social sciences, (new)media, pedagogy and environmental studies.

The ChoreoLab will be taught in English.

## LAND.body.scape\_corpography

As "dance of things" LAND.body.scape\_corpography mediates between the internal and external bodily spaces and provides a redefinition of modalities, investigating the living environment through the body. Corpography implies a critical process of reflection and inquiry on anthropological and socio-cultural transformations of both the individual and society. At the same time it provokes wide-ranging questions about body and environment as a complex system in constant evolution.

The focus of this corpo-topographical research lies in the exploration of surface textures/ patterns, not as inanimate matter, but as vital interfaces of relationships, determined by their innate characteristics such as proximity/distance, porosity, mimicry, weight, flexibility, fullness/emptiness. In this specific format combining theory and practice, contemplation and realisation, elementary interrelations such as shape and scape, mass and fragility, motion and emotion, action and inaction will be investigated through gardening and bodywork.

# Art & Nature Sanctuary in St. Margarethen/Burgenland

The sculpture symposium movement was founded by the international renowned sculptor Karl Prantl (1923–2010). While working in the stone quarry of St. Margarethen, Karl Prantl underwent the experience that sculptures are determined by other factors and influences out in the open than they are in a closed room. This led in 1959 to the foundation of the first "Symposion Europäischer Bildhauer" (Symposium of European Sculptors) which was held annually with a working group of up to 15 sculptors over a period of two to three months.

In the following years a unique cultural stronghold has been growing at the hill of St. Margarethen, harbouring exemplary land art positions which through the ChoreoLab will once again be the starting point for a new initiative of collective artistic enterprises.



### **Programm**

© Land.body.scape corpography conceptualised by Cecilia Li and Sebastian Prantl/TAW

## //Sunday, 26 August 2012

03:00pm Arrival
06:00pm Opening

Welcome Dinner/Introduction to the International ChoreoLab Austria (ICLA)
Sebastian Prantl (Dancer/Choreographer, Artistic Director Tanz Atelier

Wien, Austria)

Artistic Director ICLA

### //Monday, 27 August 2012

**Morning Training** 

08:00am Breakfast

09:00am Shiatsu (after 5 Elements and Yin Yang Principle)

Tomas Nelissen (Founder of the Hara Shiatsu Institute, Netherlands/Austria)

06:00pm **Dinner** 

Post-Lab Activities

### //Tuesday, 28 August 2012

**Morning Training** 

08:00am Breakfast

09:00am Shiatsu (Chi and focus)

Tomas Nelissen (Founder of the Hara Shiatsu Institute, Netherlands/Austria)

06:00pm **Dinner** 

Post-Lab Activities

# //Wednesday, 29 August 2012

**Morning Training** 

08:00am Breakfast

09:00am **Ioint Venture Lab** 

Urban Spaces - Rural Spaces and Architecture

Johanna Rainer (Architect, Austria)

**Energy Space/Ritual Space/Community Space** 

Othello Johns (Dancer/Choreographer, Dance Pedagogue, USA/Germany)

06:00pm **Dinner** 

Post-Lab Activities

# //Thursday, 30 August 2012

**Morning Training** 

08:00am Breakfast

09:00am **Joint Venture Lab** 

Origins of Stage

Renate Hammer (Architect, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Culture & Building,

DUK, Austria)

Corpografia (Feldenkrais)

Alexsandro Araujo Guerra (Dance Artist, Brazil/Italy)

06:00pm **Dinner** 

**Post-Lab Activities** 

### //Friday, 31 August 2012

**Morning Training** 

08:00am Breakfast

09:00am **Bridging the Content** 

Sebastian Prantl (Dancer/Choreographer, Artistic Director Tanz Atelier

Wien, Austria)

06:00pm **Dinner** 

Post-Lab Activities

# //Saturday, 1 September 2012

**Morning Training** 

08:00am Breakfast

10:00am Nature sanctuary: Botanical Pre- and Post-Search Open for Public

Georg Schramayr (Nature & landscape guide, expert on agriculture &

wild plants, Austria)

04:00pm Final Presentation/Performances (incl. Meal) Open for Public

## //Sunday, 2 September 2012

10:00am Farwell-Brunch

Departure

### **Faculty**

Sebastian Prantl (Austria) is the son of the artists couple Karl Prantl (1923–2010), sculptor, and Uta Peyrer, painter. He received his performing arts education in New York in the early 1980ies, studying at the Dance Theatre of Harlem, the Martha Graham School, the Juilliard School, the Whitney Independent Studio Program and others. As a key figure for independent dance enterprises in Austria his teaching methodologies were introduced in various dance institutions all over the world. Together with the pianist Cecilia Li he founded Tanz Atelier Wien in 1988. Since 2009 he is the artistic director of the International ChoreoLab Austria.

Tomas Nelissen (Netherlands/Austria) is the founder of the Hara Shiatsu Institute, director, trainer and energetic supervisor. As one of the very first Europeans he studied meridian Shiatsu under Shizuto Masunaga in Japan. On returning to Europe he adapted his Shiatsu to Western conditions and needs, developing it further and thereby consciously connecting the term Hara with this kind of Shiatsu. In over 30 years as a Shiatsu practitioner he has carried out and supervised over 30.000 treatments. He taught in the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland and the USA.

Mag. Johanna Rainer (Austria) is an architect, who focuses on residential buildings, heads various projects and is also active in the field of interior and exhibition design. As the daughter of Roland Rainer (1910–2004) – doyen of Austrian architecture – she was working together with her father for many years. Johanna Rainer had teaching assignments at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna as well as the University of Technology in Graz and Vienna and received the urban planning prize of the Academy of Fine Arts. Since 1996 she runs her own office.

Othello Johns (USA/Germany) works internationally as dancer, choreographer and dance instructor. He studied Dance, Choreography and Design at the University of Louisiana, after being awarded a Scholarship to the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance. Afterwards he continued his studies at the Erick Hawkins School in New York and was Rehearsal Director of the Erick Hawkins Company. As dancer and choreographer he participated in various international dance, musical and television productions. Othello Johns is cofounder and artistic director of KABAWIL dance theater productions and as a choreographer headed the award winning youth project (e)motion! by HwK and ARGE MYK, Koblenz.

Arch. Dipl.-Ing. Renate Hammer, MAS (Austria) graduated in architectural studies at the Vienna University of Technology and took part in a postgraduate program at the University Tokyo as well as in Solar Architecture at the Danube University Krems (DUK). For years she was key researcher and executive director of the Department's research activities, before in 2011 she became dean of the Faculty of Arts, Culture & Building at DUK. As leading Austrian scientist on the topic of daylight, and sustainable design, she is a member of the Council for Architectural Culture at the Cabinet of the Austrian Prime Minister in Vienna.

Alexsandro Guerra (Brazil/Italy), dancer and choreographer, studied physical therapy, theater and dance in Brazil, where he was born. From 1994 he has focused on projects and artistic collaborations of investigation, studies and designs in contemporary theater and dance. In 1998 he was selected and awarded a scholarship from the Brazilian Government to attend the Municipal School of Dramatic Art "Paolo Grassi" in Milan. Since then he works and develops collaborative projects with artists from Europe and Brazil. In addition to solo performances, he directed different productions. At present Alex teaches dance and choreography in Italy and abroad. He is Practitioner of Feldenkrais Method.

Ing. Georg Schramayr (Austria) is a nature and landscape guide; expert on agriculture and wild plants. He is a consultant in nature protection issues and trainer for nature and landscape guides. He manages various environmental projects in Pielachtal (Lower Austria), is the cofounder of DirndlWiki and organizes seminars, information sessions and conferences on Dirndl and other varieties of wild fruit.





When August 27th - September 02nd 2012 (Arrivals August 26th)

Where Art and nature sanctuary on the hill of St. Margarethen/Burgenland

Fee The participation fee amounts to EUR 500 (incl. breakfast + meal).

### Accommodation

Due to this special community format, we strongly invite the participants to camp with their own tents on the grounds around the sculptor's house without charge. Please inform the Tanz Atelier Wien beforehand if you plan on doing so.

Otherwise accommodations within the village must be arranged by the participants themselves.



### Information and online application: www.tanzatelierwien.at

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