

Ariadna Guiteras

Healthy Gestures #beauty, 2015

Performance Affair: Platform 8.

Friday 7th from 14 h to 17 h

Vanderborcht Building, Schildknaapstraat,
50 rue de l'Ecuyer, 1000 Brussels



Healthy Gestures #beauty is a performance based on the mimesis and abstraction of movements and words gathered from online beauty and health tutorials. The piece consists of gesture and word improvisation based on an online score and takes at least three hours to perform. Pieces of fruit and vegetables (fake and real) are placed randomly in the space waiting to be used during the performance. Ariadna Guiteras' performance starts displaying the sole process of memorizing, accumulating sequences of movements and/or words, failing and starting all over again until she memorises a sequence. Following Judith Butler on gender performativity, if repetition consolidates the norm, there's a slight hope in failure, in repeating badly, as a way of resistance. The long duration allows the piece to depict the process of consolidation through repetition while makes visible the innerviolence of seemingly soft gestures. *Healthy Gestures #beauty* sets out to reveal the impossibility of precise repetition, that is to say, the potentiality of a myriad of alternates.

Healthy Gestures #beauty was first commissioned by Hangar for the exhibition "The Conversation" (Barcelona, 2015). Taking its name from Francis Ford Coppola's 1974 psychological thriller about a paranoid surveillance expert, the curator Lauren Wetmore invited five artists to replicate and disturb the controlling dynamics of personal and public forms of surveillance.

BIO | Ariadna Guiteras (B. Barcelona, 1986) lives and works in Barcelona. She holds a BA in Fine Arts (2011) with a scholarship at the Universität der Künste Berlin (2010), and a MA in Artistic Production and Research (2014) from the University of Barcelona. She works with performance and installation to speculate from a political and visceral perspective about bodies, the power relations that constitute them, the shared knowledge that permeate them and the way in which these knowledges are transmitted.

In 2014 she received a research grant from Sala d'Art Jove and was a Guest Researcher at the MACBA Study Centre. Her research culminated in a series of performances, one of which was presented as part of the "MACBA és viu" programme at MACBA (Barcelona). She has been an artist-in-residency at Hangar (Barcelona, 2015-2017) and was awarded the Miquel Casablanques Prize in the publication category (2016) for her work "Gentle Bread", a two-month project she developed in London through the Homesession residency programme (Barcelona) shown at the Chalton Gallery (London). In 2017 she received a production grant from ICUB to develop the performance "Tortuga" for "The Night of the Museums" at Montjuïc Castle (Barcelona) and exhibited "Strata" curated by Caterina Almirall at Sala Muncunill (Terrassa). Later that year, she presented the performative conference, "Agents and non-agents? Feminist narratives and geological time of the Strata ecosystem" at the International Conference "Methodologies and transfer processes around matter" at the University of Barcelona. Recently she has been invited by Escuelita - CA2M (Madrid) to give the workshop "Repeat, insist, resist" and was part of the exhibition "As if we could scrape the color of the iris and still see" curated by Sonia Fernández Pan at Twin Gallery (Madrid).

Her exhibition "atrevidas Hermanas, que en el tremendo castigo de desnudas les dio pardas membranas" (Sisters, who in the tremendous punishment of nudity gave them brown membranes) in which she conceives the gallery space as a body composed of other bodies, and its walls as permeable membranes where to speculate toward a radical opening, is currently on view at Espai2 at àngels barcelona until the 21st of September 2018.

Ariadna Guiteras www.ariadnaguiteras.com

Mireia c. Saladrígues

***A Specific Representation*, 2014**

Performance Affair: Platform 12.

Friday 7th from 12:30 to 14:30

Vanderborgh Building, Schildknaapstraat,
50 rue de l'Ecuyer, 1000 Brussels



Departing from the idea of the museum as a *régis seur* or as a choreographic agent, *A Specific Representation* is an invitation to think about the dichotomy between what is biological and what is learned; between the natural and the performed. It focuses on the being as reification, rendering, and contemplative edification.

In the eight minutes of the original work, created as a single shot video, four people move normatively and repeat pensive gestures within a white environment that doesn't have any spatial reference. The "actors" are dancers undergoing a one-day session iterative exercise, recalling the body memory, while recovering and re-enacting the same learned gestures that we are all familiar with.

In such "suspended space" that is white as it could be red, black or green, the artist was interested in inquiring: Does the museum emerge from the "non-space" when recalling the learned gestures? If so, are the "normative and repetitive gestures" in themselves the museum *per se*?

The final output of this poetic video work became in itself a reply to the initial questions. By one hand, the resemblance of the white "non-space" to the white cube evokes the contemporary museum, while by the other hand, the exercise for isolating the movements of an spectator makes us think of any person as an actor. Therefore, as if it would be a mirror, when the work is being projected, instigates visitors to be conscious of their position and their condition.

But what would happen if four new dancers, who would wear the same clothes as the first ones, would extend the video within the spectators of the A Performance Affair? Will the reenacting of *A Specific Representation* within a real gallery setting disclose the processes of cultural inscription in our bodies?

.....
BIO | Mireia C Saladrígues (B. Terrassa, 1978). Visual artist and Researcher at the Doctoral Programme of the University of the Arts Helsinki. Both her art practice and her research inquire about the experiences of art reception, gathering information about the contact of art with its public. It enters fully into the analysis of art institutions as spaces of social and economic production, with a particular emphasis on the productive and cultural definition of the roles of the public, and on the surveillance systems used by art centres and museums for indoctrination.

Currently, within her thesis *Behaving Unconventionally in Gallery Settings*, the artist documents and fosters human and non-human cases of alteration and strangeness in cultural practices by proposing an artistic and theoretical re-reading of unconventionality. She also experiments with implementing occasions for misrepresented behaviours that, within the (conceptual) architecture of display, are considered traditionally unacceptable.

Saladrígues has lectured at the 104th Annual Conference by CAA in Washington DC, the EARN Symposium at GradCAM@DIT in Dublin, as much as in other seminars and workshops in Europe. Her work participated the 2nd Research Pavilion in occasion of the 57th Venice Biennale and other venues such Dia Art Foundation (Beacon), CAA (Washington), National Museum of Fine Arts in Taichung (Taiwan), Kiasma (Helsinki), Pori Art Museum (Pori), Kallio Kunsthalle Taidehalli (Helsinki), Villa Romana (Florence), Onomatopée (Eindhoven) and La BF15 (Lyon), MACBA – Contemporary Art Museum of Barcelona, Joan Miró Foundation (Barcelona), Antoni Tàpies Foundation (Barcelona).

She has received numerous awards and grants, from which the most recent are Kone Research and Art Production Grant (2016-2019), SAAR - Summer University of Artistic Research (2016, 2015, 2014), KUVA – TTOR Researcher Grant (2018 - 2014), ETAC. Artistic Research Residency (2014), OSIC - Research and creation grant, Catalunya (2012).

Mireia c. Saladrígues <http://www.mireiasaladrigues.com/w/>

.....
àngels barcelona-focuses on the debate of contemporary culture and art practices

Pep Agut | Lúcia Coderch | Peter Downsbrough | Marcelo Expósito | Harun Farocki | Esther Ferrer | Joan Fontcuberta | Jeanno Gaussi | Ion Grigorescu | IM Heung-soon | Daniela Ortiz | Mabel Palacin | Tristan Perich | Jaime Pítarch | Jorge Ribalta | Pedro G. Romero | Mireia C. Saladrígues | Mireia Sallarès | Michael Snow | Richard T. Walker