



FURRIOUS

OTTO KRAUSE
MILAN LOVIŠKA

BLITZ

thisisblitz.com



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VALLETTA
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During their residency the duo took their current work, *Furrious*, underwater. In *Furrious*, Milan and Otto employ the artistic processes of furrification and plushification. In reference to the practice of fursuiting in anthropomorphic faux fur and plush costumes, undertaken by members of a subculture called the Furry Fandom, they constitute their own disarming aesthetic plushyverse of everything childish. Endowing spatial and material entities with features that evoke certain squeezability and a large dose of innocence they play with the boundaries of human and creature in a notably artificial and abstract way. Amidst the current political climate that tends to trivialise serious matters with simplified and alternative political messages, they also point to the reduction of psychological defence mechanisms and the increase of susceptibility when exposed to cuteness. Their hybrid plushophilia is as much a subversive act of creative involution as it is a reminder of the seductive power of cute imagery in the ever-frightening political propaganda.

OTTO KRAUSE & MILAN LOVIŠKA















OTTO KRAUSE & MILAN LOVIŠKA



Otto Krause and Milan Loviška explore the potential of performative formats and new technologies to stimulate uncanny relationships between audience and performer, and question established modes of perception. The results are physically intensive, atmospheric works, combining aspects of popular culture and science, such as superhero comics, psychology, pornography, biology, electronic media, religion, film studies and philosophy. One of their main concerns is to create varying levels of urgency for audiences to observe, act and participate in their performances, which range from large-scale theatre works to more intimate gallery settings.

Otto holds a master's degree in scenography from the University of Applied Arts in Vienna. Since 2009 he has been creating his own stage and costume designs for opera, theatre, dance, performance and film, while collaborating with other artists. He is a lecturer in the scenography department of the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna.

Milan studied contemporary dance at Duncan Centre Conservatory in Prague and the School for New Dance Development in Amsterdam. In 2010 he received his master's degree in psychology from Charles University in Prague. Alongside his own work he regularly collaborates with artists in the visual arts, music, theatre, dance and performance.

loviska.com
ottookrause.com

THE BLITZ RESIDENCY PROGRAMME



The Blitz residency is located in a 400-year-old Valletta townhouse, lovingly restored to its former glory. Since 2013 the building has been repurposed as a space for exhibitions and events, an in-house residency programme, as well as a social space for the creative and the curious. Large blank walls and pattern-tiled floors can be found in every room on each of its three floors. The space is versatile as it is beautiful and rich with history. It is a unique space in the heart of the city that will be European Capital of Culture in 2018.

The Blitz residency is aimed at those working across creative fields in a range of media, including (but not limited to) film, photography, performance, sound, immersive installation and digital platforms. Successful applicants are given a space to work, experiment and research their project, culminating in a final production for presentation to the public. Local engagement is crucial to the programme, taking the form of open studio days, workshops and talks for a local community of artists, researchers, educators, professionals and students.

Blitz is supported by Arts Council Malta through a Cultural Partnership Agreement. The Blitz Residency Programme is supported by the Valletta 2018 Foundation.

For more information about the Blitz Residency Programme visit blitzresidency.com



Valletta is hosting the title of European Capital of Culture in 2018 with a partner Dutch city, Leeuwarden. The ECoC includes all the Maltese Islands, with an aim to spread its impact throughout the whole Maltese territory.

The Valletta 2018 Foundation is responsible for the implementation of the Cultural Programme. As per ECoC regulations set by the EU, the Cultural Programme is to promote a European dimension and encourage citizen participation. Valletta 2018 will enable the participation of the citizens of Malta and Europe and will form an integral and sustainable part of the long-term social, economic and cultural development of Malta. The Cultural Programme is built around four themes: Generations, Routes, Cities and Islands. In conjunction with the Cultural Programme, the Foundation is developing a programme of consistent, accessible and comparable research and evaluation directly linked to culture.

Valletta 2018 is developing a brand that will be associated with cultural excellence. The brand will communicate ECoC activities to local and international target audiences.

Valletta 2018 believes that investment in cultural infrastructure requires careful planning and consideration to ensure that what is left after the ECoC is what the city and citizens really need and can make long term use of.

The approach of Valletta 2018 to culture is inclusive and encompasses artistic expression and creativity, and extends to other forms of human expression such as food, the built environment, science and sporting activities.

valletta2018.org

Furious is a production of Territorium KV. Supported by Kunstraum Niederösterreich, Vienna, and the Life Long Burning Wild Card Residency Program at Workshop Foundation, Budapest, and awarded the H13 2018 Lower Austria Prize for Performance, Kunstraum Niederösterreich, Vienna. The Blitz residency of Otto Krause and Milan Loviška is also supported by the Arts and Culture Division, Federal Chancellery of Austria. The artists would also like to thank Dive Systems Malta and their fantastic team of dive instructors with special thanks to Anne Javaloyes who accompanied them on their dives.

BLITZ

BLITZ, 68 St Lucia Street, Valletta.



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