

FIKRET ATAY  
 CHRISTIAN GIERATHS  
 ECHO HO  
 DWAYNE HOLLIDAY  
 KATERINA KUZNETCOWA &  
 ALEXANDER EDISHEROV  
 BETTINA MARX  
 BETTINA WENZEL  
 MI YOU

LOCATIONS

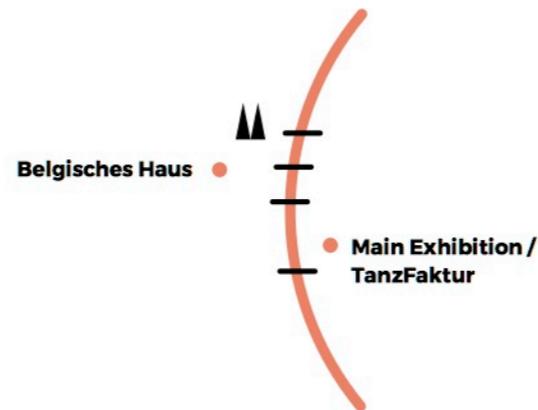
**Siegburger Straße 233w (c/o TanzFaktor), 51105 Cologne-Deutz**

(opposite the tram stop "Poller Kirchweg", line 7)

(Opening / Main Exhibition / Artist Talks / Vocal Art / Discussion)

**Belgisches Haus, Neumarkt, Cäcilienstraße 46, 50667 Cologne**

(Contemporary Dance / Audiovisual Performance)



Supported by

Gefördert durch



Der Oberbürgermeister  
Kulturamt



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Jugend, Kultur und Sport  
des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen



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A project by Lisa Bensel & Anne Mager

Many thanks to Marcel Krueger, Eckhard Plöttner and Linda Richard.

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OPENING OCT 9, 2015

**CURRENTLY  
LIVING IN...**

Exhibition / Discussion / Dance & Sound Performance / Vocal Art  
 A project about artistic nomadism



# CURRENTLY LIVING IN...

**An interdisciplinary exhibition project  
about artistic nomadism  
by Lisa Bensele & Anne Mager.**

Beyond the façade of a glamorous jet-set life, the interdisciplinary exhibition project "Currently living in..." discusses the relevance and the outcome of frequent, nomadic residency periods abroad experienced by artists today.

Travels have always been important for artists and their careers. Cultural exchange, as a consequence of economic growth and trade, can be traced back at least to the origins of the Silk Road.

In the context of a globalised society that is characterised by constant growth, change, increasing speed and exchange, the project "Currently living in..." questions the preconditions as well as implications of artistic travels. Do international residencies and periods abroad always contribute to the work of an artist or are they nowadays merely an indicator for a successful career in the CV?

Focussing on the globalisation of artistic practise and the aesthetical, social, physical and mental consequences for the artist, this interdisciplinary project invites visual artists, choreographers, sound- and vocal artists that are currently living in Cologne, but also travel the globe for their work.

With a 10-day exhibition, two performance evenings, a discussion round and artist talks, the project "Currently living in..." presents nine artists whose works are produced and perceived internationally. The selected works on show have been either developed on the move or during a residency. They are referring to aspects of interculturality or relocation or have been inspired by self-initiated travels.

## MAIN EXHIBITION

10-18 OCTOBER 2015

With works by Fikret Atay, Christian Gieraths, Katerina Kuznetcowa & Alexander Edisherov, Bettina Marx, Bettina Wenzel, Mi You

OPEN: **Daily 4-8 pm**  
(except Monday & Tuesday, October 12 & 13)

VENUE: **Siegburger Straße 233w, 51105 Cologne-Deutz**

## SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

**Exhibition Opening, 7 pm**

GREETING: Cultural Office of Cologne  
After hour with DJ & free Whiskey drinks (powered by Jameson)

VENUE: **Main Exhibition**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

**Artist Talk, 4 pm**

with Fikret Atay & Mi You (in English)

VENUE: **Main Exhibition**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

**Music & Performance Evening, 8 pm**  
in cooperation with ON - Neue Musik Köln

Audio-visual sound-performance by **Bettina Wenzel:**  
"new\_delhi\_distillation"  
Introduction by Daniel Mennicken,  
Director of ON - Neue Musik Köln

VENUE: **TanzFaktur, Siegburger Straße 233w,  
51105 Cologne-Deutz, Entrance fee: 5/10 Euro**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

**Dance & Performance Evening, 7 pm**  
in cooperation with TanzFaktur

Dance performance by **Dwayne Holliday:** "Can't you see...?"  
Audio-visual performance by **Echo Ho:** "Xiaoqing"

Followed by a talk with the artists

VENUE: **Belgisches Haus, Neumarkt, Cäcilienstraße 46,  
50667 Cologne, Entrance fee: 5/10 Euro**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

**Discussion & Finissage, 4 pm**

Round Table: "What is global? Can you eat it?" (in German)

Interdisciplinary discussion with Daniel Mennicken (ON - Neue Musik Köln), Slava Gepner (TanzFaktur), Lena Geuer (Art Historian), Nadine Müsseler (Cultural Office of Cologne)

VENUE: **Main Exhibition**



**01 | FIKRET ATAY**  
born in Batman, lives in Batman, Turkey

Fikret Atay recorded and produced most of his works in the Turkish city of Batman, where he also grew up and lives today. A place he describes as “a town where it is practically impossible to produce art”, a place that, thanks to the discovery of oil, rapidly developed from a village of 3000 inhabitants in 1950 to a city of 350.000 citizens today – all within a couple of decades. His videos address intercultural and social challenges in his hometown. “Tinica” (2004) for instance shows a boy on a hill, overlooking the city. He builds a drum set from trash cans and lets his music sound out towards the city. Not gaining any applause from his imaginary audience, he finally throws his cans down the hill.

WORKS: “Tinica”, video, 7:32, 2004; “Giants”, Video, 6:06, 2014; “Paris Village”, Video, 7:27, 2013/14

**05 | KATERINA KUZNETCOWA & ALEXANDER EDISHEROV**  
born in Smolensk, Russia and Tbilisi, Georgia, live and work in Cologne

With the multipartite installation “Ka\_taslorophe”, Katerina Kuznetcowa and Alexander Edisherov bring in a view on the threatening sides of travel and relocation to the exhibition. The artist duo spreads four groups of various objects in four directions within the exhibition space, each consisting of seven parts. Some of them are randomly found, some are specially produced for the exhibition: a Syrian relief, an oriental piece of fabric, the cast inside of a box of chocolates that reveals the skyline of an utopian architectural model or a facsimile message sent from a relocated German village in a brown coal area.

WORK: “Ka-taslorophe”, 4 x 7 installation, mixed media and light installation, 2015

**02 | CHRISTIAN GIERATHS**  
born in Cologne, lives and works in Cologne

Christian Gieraths’ photographs are exclusively created during his travels, for example to Havana, Sochi, Cape Town, Tokyo or the US. Beyond all classic travel documentation, his large-format colour photographs are dominated by backdrop-like sceneries, abandoned architecture, and an almost painting-like character. Between 2010 and 2011 Christian Gieraths lived in Mumbai for six months as an awardee of Kunststiftung NRW. The Indian metropolis is known as a loud and often ungracious mega city, which posed an additional challenge for his precisely composed photographs, which are often devoid of humans. Uncommon lively pictures were created during that time. And yet, “Beautiful Hell – Mumbai” contains the same focused outlook for charged compositions as does “Pastime Paradises” in Los Angeles or Las Vegas, for example.

WORKS: series “Pastime Paradise” (2006–2010) and “Beautiful Hell” (2010–2012), photographs in various dimensions (framed diasec)

**06 | BETTINA MARX**  
born in Bonn, lives in Bonn

Bettina Marx’ paintings do not only not only take place on the classical canvas, but also conquers space. Her installative exhibitions and works often develop during longer, specifically initiated research journeys. During these stays she collects forms, colours, and materials, which she abstractly integrates in her work. For “Currently living in...” the artist seizes the track-like floor structure of the exhibition hall. Along these lines she orders free-standing frame constructions which are covered by bright, large-format watercolours. Light-footed and delicate objects come into being, which dissolve the borders between painting and sculpting as well as frame and picture; and which transfer the multifaceted impressions of Bettina Marx’ latest trip to the park landscapes of southern England to Cologne-Deutz.

WORK: “Soar”, wood, enamel, paper, ink, acryl- and wood-printing paint, various dimensions, 2015

**03 | ECHO HO**  
born in Beijing, China, lives and works in Cologne & everywhere

Echo Ho’s artistic practice often shows a complex migrational context and conceptual links of culturally diverse materials and artistic discipline. Within her media-, sound- and performance-based work, Echo Ho researches the narration of the body and urban metamorphoses in the context of globalisation tendencies. “Xiaoqing” is the artist’s childhood nickname and translates to ‘little green’, an expression referring to a snake in Chinese ghost narratives that has the ability to adapt. This little green snake is a metamorphic symbol for the artists’ live with both a Chinese and a European cultural background. Entering the stage as a modern nomad, Ho researches the weight of ‘sneaked in memories’ and how they influence the present urban and cultural life.

WORK: “Xiaoqing”, performance, costume, beamer, installation, 25 minutes, 2015  
Saturday, October 17, 7pm, Belgisches Haus

**07 | BETTINA WENZEL**  
born in Frankfurt, works and lives in Cologne and New Delhi

Bettina Wenzel is a vocal artist and composer developing intermedial performances since 2000. She works with diverse, often also extreme, vocal sounds, video and movement. The installation and performance “new\_delhi\_distillation” which she developed for “Currently living in...”, transports traces and impressions of her second homeland India in an experimental way. “new\_delhi\_distillation” brings together the artists’ voice and the sounds of the traditional Indian one-string instrument Akappaikinnari, both intervened by a mis-used shruti box as well as video recordings from New Delhi and field recordings from the series “airport void”.

WORKS: “new\_delhi\_distillation” for voice with video and field recordings, performance, 35 minutes, 2015; “Mumbai Diary”, video, 3:23 minutes, 2010  
Thursday, October 15, 8 pm, TanzFaktur

**04 | DWAYNE HOLLIDAY**  
born in Louisiana, USA, lives and works in Cologne

“Can’t you see...” is an excerpt of the feature-length production “Can’t you see that I’m busy right now” by choreographer Dwayne Holliday. The 20 minute in-progress performance researches the aesthetics of exhaustion. Contemporary dancers explore their bodies and challenge them to the extreme, approaching their individual physical limitations. The short piece “Can’t you see...” is characterised by a pure but powerful choreographic figuration and transports the dancers beyond their state of exhaustion. In the context of “Currently living in...”, the performance illustrates the conflict between an increasing demand on flexibility and mobility and the artist’s natural physical limitations.

WORK: “Can’t you see...”, contemporary dance performance, 3 dancers, 20 minutes, 2015

Choreography: Dwayne Holliday  
Dance: Jennifer Döring, Dwayne Holliday, Karoline Stryz  
Music: William Saunders  
Saturday, October 17, 7pm, Belgisches Haus

**08 | MI YOU**  
born in Beijing, China, lives and works in Cologne & everywhere

Mi You’s work distils the experiences of an (im)personal journey along the Silk Road that the artist and theorist completed in 2014. Dating back to the Bronze Age and first mentioned by Herodotus at 430 b.c., this network of routes was the first intercontinental trade route connecting central Europe with Asia, exchanging not only goods but also ideas, religions and culture. While playing “if on the silk road, a traveler”, one follows that path via ancient archives and at the same time contributes from a contemporary perspective by using a pen-and-paper game.

WORK: “if on the silk road, a traveler”, mixed media, interactive installation, 2014