

MYRIAM LEFKOWITZ

LECTURE

ARCHITECTURE LECTURE SERIES
2018, UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS

SPACE AND PERFORMANCE: PRACTICES OF ATTENTIVENESS



Festival Theaterformen 2017, Hannover, Germany (photo by Andreas Etter)

FRIDAY 20 APRIL, 2018
19.00 - 21.00

LEDRAS 68, 1010, NICOSIA
GROUND FLOOR EXHIBITION AREA
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE



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Investigating intimate links between perception and imagination, Myriam Lefkowitz' practice seeks to create conditions for augmented perceptive experiences. She designs situations generated in direct encounters between artists and spectators. Working across kinaesthetic and sensorial fields of knowledge developed in dance, somatic, and energetic practices, Lefkowitz triggers artificial sensorial crises which disrupt normative perceptive patterns through which people experience urban and natural landscapes. She is primarily interested in setting up registers of attentiveness that take place in non-verbal forms of communication. By shifting focus towards liminal states of awareness, such as keeping one's eyes closed, and by employing touching as a means of communication, Lefkowitz attempts to unfold and share the political potential resting between sleep and wakefulness. Her diverse practices are crafted within and thanks to collaborative contexts which bring together artists, students, social workers, researchers, healers, and activists. Transmitting and disseminating tools and devices elaborated in her work has become not only a way of working but the work itself. Insisting on the significance of perceptive experiences in imagining different ways of relating to "reality," Lefkowitz uses her practices, some of which will be presented during this talk, to come to terms with social and political urgencies.

MYRIAM LEFKOWITZ



Myriam Lefkowitz (born in 1980, lives in Paris) is a performance artist. Since 2010, her research focuses on questions of attentiveness and perception by developing various immersive devices that involve one spectator and one performer. Her work has been presented at, Kadist Foundation (San Francisco), MOT (Tokyo), Med15 (Medellin), De Apple (Amsterdam), Le Mouvement (Biel), Center for Contemporary Art (Vilnius), Venice Biennale (Lithuanien and Cyprus Pavillon, 2013), ImageTanz (Brut, Vienna), Le Nouveau Festival (Centre Pompidou), Bergen Triennial (Council), FRAC (Besancon), Public Art Agency (Stockholm). In 2011, she attended the master's programme, Art and Politics (SPEAP, Sciences Politiques, Paris) which was initiated by Bruno Latour. In 2013, she became part of SPEAP's teaching team and contributed in the making of its educational programme until 2015. She is regularly invited for workshops and talks by the Museum of Modern Art Georges Pompidou (Paris), Three uses of the knife (Vilnius), Open School East (London), HEAD (Geneve), Royal Institute of Art (Stockholm), L'ERG (Brussels), Institute of Fine Arts (Besançon, Angers, Angoulême), University of Paris 8 (St Denis). Her book, titled, Walk, Hands, Eyes, (a city) was co-published by Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers and L'Ecole des Beaux Arts de Paris in 2015. Lefkowitz is a contributor in the current edition of If I can't dance I don't want to be part of your revolution (Amsterdam) in collaboration with La Ferme du Buisson (Paris).

