

MALTA FESTIVAL POZNAŃ

21-30/06/2019

Theatre | Music | Dance | Film | Visual Arts | City

IDIOM:

Armia jednostki

/ Army of the Individual

SAVE THE DATE

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

The 29th Malta Festival Poznań is taking place in an unusual time when the world around us, both the global and the local one nearby, is breaking down into many incompatible narratives and images. As Europeans, residents of democratic countries, we have become used to the concept that we live in the most peaceful times since World War II. What we tend to forget is that conflict is what determines the dynamics of our lives, our relationships within society and our opportunities. This why conflict, a tension between two states: war and peace, informs the Malta programme this year.

The Malta Festival is a unique meeting place for artists and intellectuals, people of diverse worldviews who share their knowledge, experience, passions and circumstances. Moreover, the Festival audience is not merely a participant, but also a co-creator. For this reason, the ten Festival days will be an amalgam of various projects: the *Army of the Individual Idiom* (curated by Nástio Mosquito), the community art programme Generator Malta, outdoor performances and theatre premieres (including *Hańba*, based on John Maxwell Coetzee's novel *Disgrace*, coproduced by Stefan Żeromski Theatre in Kielce), and the Art Stations Foundation dance programme. All this will be accompanied by film shows, discussions and concerts. The diversity and general accessibility of the

events is what gives Malta its special character and provides abundant opportunities to meet at the intersection of various disciplines, forms and expectations.

By creating a special gravity field in our everyday lives, we want the Malta Festival to trigger reflection on how we can take part in our reality, on how we care about it and on what we do not notice. We want the Festival to open us up to a variety of viewpoints, narratives and different types of sensitivity. The Festival stage is the city, with its architecture and public space, as well as the matters that are important to the residents. Hence, within the various programme sections we will be present on stages and in galleries, in neighbourhoods that remain on the margins of cultural life, in parks and squares, and also in the heart of the Festival which beats on Liberty Square, in the very centre of Poznań.

See you in Poznań!

Michał Merczyński
Malta Festival Poznań Director

Liberty Square

📷 KLAUDYNA_SCHUBERT



IDIOM

Armia jednostki /

Army of the Individual

In many parts of the world war is happening imperceptibly. The world, despite seeming smaller and more perfectly reported, is breaking into fragments. We are divided by fences and walls, by systems and categories, which segregate people, define their sense of freedom and their identity. War and peace: you cannot think of one without the other. All the time, they are inseparably entwined. Is it possible to give an undisputable answer to the question: Where is war actually happening? Is peace not more and more like war, and is war not losing its weight by pretending to be the norm? What is war that has become civilised, familiar, infixed in our everydayness?

These are some of the questions that give rise to the *Army of the Individual* Idiom. The curator of the Idiom, Nástio Mosquito, says: 'Today ... when I hear ... the word "conflict," the other word that comes to me is "inevitable." We can only choose what type of conflict we want to have. A good question could be, "what conflict [do you want] to be part of?"' All the artists invited by the curator to cocreate the programme: Priscila Rezende, Benjamin Abras, Alice Joana Gonçalves, Geração 80, Vic Pereiró, Li Ran, Kelly Schacht and Radouan Mriziga, hail from different cultural and social contexts. All of them are members of the *Army of the Indivi-*

dual and thus have their own 'political body,' their reasons to accept Nástio Mosquito's invitation, and their own artistic practice which they want share with the participants of Malta. As a result, as part of the 10th Idiom (Malta's thematic section) the artists will show us installations, dance performances, concerts and films, as well as an audiovisual happening which will open the Festival. This will be the first time that these artists will show their work in Poland.

Kasia Tórz, Dorota Semenowicz
Malta Festival Poznań programme section

Kelly Schacht

📷 SANDRINA ROSSEEL



Benjamin Abras

📷 PABLO BERNARDO



Priscila Rezende

📷 LUIZA PALHARES



CURATORIAL TEXT

Nástio Mosquito

This is our Army of The Individual.

An army in which our individual development is paramount and serves the ecosystem we call community.

This is our Army of The Individual.

An army where our individual discipline and tangible experience must be present at the service of the diverse community, because there are people worth dying for .

This is our Army of The Individual.

A bunch of creative people from all corners of the world, wanting their value to translate into the lives of those that will dare to reach out, and touch.

All individuals engaging with The Army of The Individual were busy and focused on their destination. When summoned to come to Poland they recognized the journey, acknowledging the fundamental relevance of its passengers.

We come to serve.

Maybe we'll reconsider what we are willing to die for...

We come to serve.

Nástio Mosquito

Curator of the Idiom

Nástio Mosquito

📷 KLAUDYNA SCHUBERT



OPEN CALL
Nástio Mosquito

An audiovisual happening is going to happen on 22nd June, at 20:30 CET and with the contribution of individual collaborators, institutions and independent organisation – online and offline, all around the world.

This event will crown the processual stage of gathering footage documenting the moment of human birth. On the website armyoftheindividual.com we call everybody who wishes to share their home video of what we call, 'the purest manifestation of human dignity'. Once the home videos are collected, Nástio Mosquito will edit an 8-minute-long video. This video will be screened once – online, at the big square in Poznan, and on numerous screens in all possible locations; nationally and internationally.

Before any identity comes to the surface and we start to be defined by external circumstances, like: what is one's birth place, there is a dignity, a stage which is equally given to all human beings who come into this world; the act of birth. This is what Nástio wants to edify in favor of sober, inclusive and consequent departure points.

A vivid illustration of a concept that is a result of merging 'equality' and 'democracy' is intended. The audiovisual collage will be a homage to human dignity.

Visit www.armyoftheindividual.com, learn more about the project and upload your video. The deadline for your submissions is 30 April, 11:59 PM. Should you have any questions or doubts, feel free to email us: contact@armyoftheindividual.com.

OPEN-AIR OPENING OF MALTA FESTIVAL

DIVAS, MOBILE HOMME Transe Express

This year, Malta Festival will open with a colourful parade featuring acrobatics in the air, headed by the French theatre company Transe Express. Dancers, acrobats, musicians and... huge five-metre-tall puppets will walk along the main streets of Poznań to Adam Mickiewicz Square. The parade will end with a new version of *Mobile Homme*, a performance which Transe Express showed at Malta Festival in 1993. Once again, the company will perform high above the spectators' heads

Transe Express

📺 ARCHIWUM ZESPOŁU



**THEATRE
PREMIERE**

**HAÑBA [DISGRACE]
J.M. Coetzee**

A stage adaptation of *Disgrace*, a novel by J.M. Coetzee, the recipient of the 2003 Nobel Prize in Literature and two-time winner of the Booker Prize. In his novels, Coetzee intriguingly combines historical, social, ethical and existential themes. Among these, the creators of the performance are focusing on the question of responsibility and empathy, of ethical and imaginary boundaries and limitations. In the light of the recent debates triggered by the #metoo campaign, the violent relationships in the professional and private sphere described by Coetzee have become especially relevant. The performance is not a journalistic commentary on these events, but a reflection on the limits of imagination. It concerns both the sphere of ethics and of theatre itself.

The play is directed by Maciej Podstawny, whose work merges an abstract sense of humour with bizarre visuality and philosophical reflection on social phenomena. He believes that the mission of art is to send out 'civic denunciations on reality.' Podstawny is also a lecturer at the Academy of Theatre Arts in Krakow, and between 2015-2018 was the artistic director of the Dramatic Theatre in Wałbrzych.

MALTA STAGE



**GET
READY
FOR
PEACE**

GENERATOR MALTA
Szykujemy się na pokój /
Get Ready for Peace

Is it really possible to say that there is peace in a territory where there is no armed conflict? How can we shift the focus from a culture of war that dominates Poland and Europe to a culture of peace? What are the chances of peace in a world threatened by a global ecological disaster?

80 years after the outbreak of the cruellest war in the 20th century, the residents of the European Union are enjoying a sense of relative stability. There is, however, a growing tolerance for neofascist and fascist views which, in the past, led to the outbreak of World War II. Our goal is to initiate a local approach to peace not as a sense of security which is given to or taken away from us, but as a plane for working towards peace in every instance of the 'here and now' and by each and every one of us. We want this approach to convey a clear message that peace does not have to be a consequence of war.

During Generator Malta 2019, we will share with the audience some artistic and everyday practices that produce, imply and enroot peace. Some of these practices are based on the affirmation of and respect for all beings. Using tools of care, they construct a local reality where there is no acceptance of violence and positions of power exercised to the detriment of others. This perspective guides the soldiers of Army of Love and the members of the group Sprostowanie, established with a view to the Festival's peace focus. We will meet with people who build peace during armed conflicts around the world (Stereo 48), and who fight for social justice and freedom of speech using tools of resistance (Mosireen). We will take part in projects created by those who work against fascist movements (Rok Antyfaszystowski), and those who bring to attention the situation of war victims in different parts of the world and who support them (Poznańska Garażówka).

Let peace be our homework. Let us do it on a personal, local and global level.

Joanna Pańczak, Agnieszka Różyńska
curators of Generator Malta

**GRUPA
SPROSTOWANIE
[Rectification Group]
community action
/ Liberty Square**

'Our goal is to rectify several things. We want to examine the paradigms that shape our being in the world, and to make visible certain norms that are imposed upon us in terms of society, culture, nation and species. The core of our action will consist of open activities for peace: workshops and interactive tours of Liberty Square, whose specifics will create a plane for debating and negotiating the Rectification content, in addition to performance art.'

ADELINA CIMOCHOWICZ is a visual artist and activist based in Warsaw.

CRISTINA FERREIRA is an interdisciplinary artist focused on issues concerning displacement, foreignness, multiculturalism and language through participatory art, interactive installations and performance art.

ALEKSANDRA POLEROWICZ works within the fields of art and activism, motivated by a sense of global and interspecific accountability and solidarity.

BARBARA PRĄDZYŃSKA is an actress, performance artist, art manager, and theatre maker and educator. She works within social contexts in Poland and abroad.

ANNA SIEKIEWSKA uses art and activism to affirm the community of all beings and speaks on the behalf of other species that are exploited and discriminated by homo sapiens.

STEREO 48

ALAA ALIABDALLAH



ARMY OF LOVE

performance art / Liberty Square

Loving is an exceptional process. We share love, experience it as something unique which we usually associate with people, objects or beings that are important to us. Army of Love is formed by those who practice sharing all-embracing love: various forms of caring, longing, sex and respect with all who need it. Army of Love explores the social foundation of our love preferences, and demand love for the excluded, abandoned and nonobvious.

STEREO 48

dance performance and workshop
for young people culminating
in a show

Stereo 48 are a group of dancers who see breakdance as a way to reclaim their freedom of movement which they have deprived of growing up in Nablus, Palestine. In 2000, the city was surrounded by checkpoints, and since the time when Israel began to see it as a hub of attacks on its citizens, the residents of Nablus have been regularly forced to remain within its limits. In addition to their artistic projects, the dancers provide a safe place for workshops intended for young Palestinians. They believe that dance has the power to release and share emotions and dreams, which in an area of armed conflict is something that is not readily available.

Army of Love

📺 ARCHIWUM KOLEKTYWU



858. ARCHIWUM OPORU
[Archive of Resistance]
installation, workshop /
Liberty Square

SANATORIUM
Anna Siekierska
permaculture garden

In 2011, when public spaces in Egypt became full of demonstrators against Mubarak's regime, national television showed empty streets. Subsequently, the Mosireen Collective gathered hundreds of videos from people who captured the events with their cameras and mobile phones. The Archive contains 858 hours of indexed footage: thousands of photographs and documents. All together, they show thousands of narratives of the rebellion told from hundreds of perspectives. These comprise a set of tools which we can use to challenge state-controlled history and to build new stories.

The Sanatorium aims to preserve the Szyc Stadium in Poznań as a space where vegetation develops without human intervention: a habitat for all forms of life. The goal is to build a symbiotic relationship between the residents of the city, whilst emphasising the marginalised presence of our non-human neighbours. The hyper causal power attained by humankind must go hand in hand with accountability and duties towards other species.

Sanatorium

📷 DAMIEN BRAILLY



**POKOJOWY
NARZĘDZIOWNIK
[Toolbox for Peace]**
nationwide meeting
of Polish activists

**POZNAŃSKA
GARAŻÓWKA
[Poznań
Garage Sale]**
charity sale /
Liberty Square

On the first festival weekend, voice will be given to activists who care about human dignity: the dignity of people who are just like us with their dreams and ambitions, people who want to live without permanent fear and who are deprived of such possibilities by armed conflicts or regimes. Together with Poznań Garage Sale, we will organise a nationwide meeting to share good practices and to plan joint action in the future.

Poznańska Garażówka (Poznań Garage Sale) is a collective who seeks to provide material aid to people who have experienced displacement and to prevent their social marginalisation. For the third time, a charity sale of books, clothes, records, tickets, pastry, etc. will be held in Liberty Square. This time, the organisers will work to raise awareness of how the EU-Turkey agreement impacts on refugees and the conditions they are forced to live in Turkey. The organisers will personally hand over the proceeds to the new youth centre at the Turkish-Syrian border.

Poznań Garage Sale

📷 KLAUDYNA SCHUBERT



MAPY SENTYMENTALNE **[Sentimental Maps]**

Agnieszka Chlebowska,
Barbara Prądyńska
public archive

For several months of meetings, workshops and walks, our researchers have been collecting memories, legends, old photographs, movement trajectories and sensory associations with places. The residents' narratives will be used to create sentimental maps of several districts in Poznań, namely Naramowice, Wilda and Grunwald-Północ. The project finale will feature performance walks where the past will meet the future and collective memories will overlap with personal stories. The newly-drawn maps of local experience will record the unique everydayness of the stories.

Authors: Agnieszka Chlebowska, Barbara Prądyńska
Graphic designer and editor: Karolina Wojciechowska

Sentimental Maps Jeżyce

MACIEJ ZAKRZEWSKI



KORONA POZNANIA
[The Summits of
Poznań]
meetings at the top

For the fifth time, we are going to conquer the *Summits of Poznań* by climbing to the top of the city's high-rise buildings. This year, we will use the sky-high perspective to reflect on the chances of metamorphosing today's world. A democratisation of views will provide an opportunity to take a look into issues that are generally inconvenient and disregarded. The rooftops will be used to examine the potential of heterodox thinking which is not afraid to confront contemporary crises.

Concept: Mateusz Nowacki

The Summits of Poznań

📷 KLAUDYNA SCHUBERT



LIBERTY SQUARE **Festival Club**

For the past seven years, Liberty Square in Poznań has been transformed into a temporary arts & culture centre, open to all from morning to night. Filled with trees, huge cushions and hammocks, it is place where you can relax, meet new people and, most importantly, actively contribute to the festival events taking place here.

We invite you to performances by the younger generation of Polish theatre-makers: Maria Dąbrowska, Jakub Skrzywanek, Klaudia Hartung-Wójciak, Szymon Kaczmarek and Magda Szpecht; to Forum discussions with Piotr Andrusieczko, Wojciech Jagielski, Andrzej Leder, Janina Ochojska and Katarzyna Wężyk among others; as well as to Generator Malta, concerts and the well-loved Silent Disco, programmed this year by Nástio Mosquito. Malta at Liberty square will also feature art installations, the Children at Liberty programme, culinary workshops and yoga sessions. As we dance, take part in discussions and artistic activities or mindfully chill out, we will be creating our urban agora.

Silent Disco

MACIEJ ZAKRZEWSKI



OLD BREWERY NEW DANCE

In 2019, the Old Brewery New Dance programme is celebrating its 15th anniversary.

The 15 exciting years have been dedicated to contemporary choreography: its performance and creation, and to deepening our awareness of the latest trends. Hence the examination of the ever-expanding definition of choreography will be the theme of our anniversary programme during Malta Festival this year. This time, we will meet with artists who move smoothly between various genres and outline new autonomous territories for exploring choreography, as well as those who use their original creative practice to reach beyond the traditional understanding of choreography. Many of these artists have been with us from the very beginning of our work in Old Brewery and are already loved by the festival audience. We will celebrate our anniversary with some of the most celebrated Polish choreographers (Anna Nowicka, Agata Siniarska and Paweł Sakowicz) and our international guests (Sofia Diaz and Vitoriz from Portugal, Chiara Bersani from Italy, and the Brazilian duo Quatro). As befits an anniversary, we will also have the opportunity to be in a photograph with Ivo Dimchev during his concert.

We look forward to seeing you,

Joanna Leśniewska, curator of Old Brewery New Dance

GRAFIKA: MICHAŁ ŁUCZAK




art stations
foundation by Grażyna Kulczyk

stary browar nowy taniec na malcie

PRACTICAL INFORMATIONS

**Join us for Malta Festival Poznań 2019!
press materials / accreditations
will be available from mid May**

PRESS CONFERENCES

21 May, 12:00, Warsaw, Winosfera

22 May, 12:00, Poznań, Malta Foundation

**CONTACT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL MEDIA
media@malta-festival.pl**

**Fundacja Malta /
Malta Foundation
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malta-festival.pl/en

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maltafestivalpoznań

MALTA FUNDACJA

POZnań*

**Ministerstwo
Kultury
i Dziedzictwa
Narodowego.**



**SAMORZĄD WOJEWÓDZTWA
WIELKOPÓLSKIEGO**



**Flanders
State of the Art**

The background features a complex, organic composition of overlapping shapes in two primary colors: a vibrant red and a deep, saturated blue. The shapes are fluid and non-geometric, creating a sense of movement and depth. The red shapes are often layered over the blue, and the overall effect is reminiscent of a stylized, abstract landscape or perhaps a close-up of a textured surface. The lighting is soft, with subtle gradients within the colored areas.

Festival graphic design
Bękarty