



**brut nordwest**

**Nordwestbahnstraße 8–10, 1200 Vienna**

Tue, 15<sup>th</sup> November, 7:00 pm

{Gathering}

{Radical democracy}

{Art & politics}

**With Lisa Ito-Tapang / Concerned Artists of the Philippines,  
Wolfgang Kaleck / ECCHR & Madlyn Sauer**

**Hosted by Florian Malzacher**

## **Gesellschaftsspiele: The Art of Assembly XX**

**Nous Accusons! People's Tribunals between Politics, Activism & Art**

brut series / lectures, discussions, online platform

in English

***Gesellschaftsspiele: The Art of Assembly*, a series by Florian Malzacher and brut Wien, in cooperation with Münchner Kammerspiele, Wiener Festwochen, Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz (Berlin), BIT Teatergarasjen / METEOR 2021 and Goethe-Institut / Performing Architecture.**

### Supporters



 **Bundesministerium**  
Kunst, Kultur,  
öffentlicher Dienst und Sport

### Co-production partners

**WIENER  
FEST  
WOCHEN**

Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz Berlin

**MK:**  
Münchner  
Kammerspiele

**bit teatergarasjen**  
bit-teatergarasjen.no  bitteatergarasjen

**PERFORMING  
ARCHITECTURE** |  **GOETHE  
INSTITUT**

**Inspired by People's Tribunals like the one organized by philosopher Bertrand Russell in 1966 to investigate American war crimes in the Vietnam war, but also by artistic influences such as Brecht's learning plays or the popular agitprop theatre of the early Soviet Union, civic courts between activism and art have become a dramaturgical form and a political tool at the same time. The 20th edition of *The Art of Assembly* looks at concrete attempts to turn exercises of symbolic justice into concrete change: Art historian and activist Lisa Ito-Tapang threads through different historic people's tribunals in the Philippines fighting against state terrorism till today. Wolfgang Kaleck, founding director of the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR) and lawyer of dissidents like Edward Snowden, gives insights into Milo Rau's *Kongo Tribunal* and connects the political and artistical with the legal struggle for human rights all over the world. Activist author and artist Madlyn Sauer shows, how the non-governmental tribunals, convened parallel to the state trials against the far-right terror group NSU in Germany use aesthetic and transformative means to practice other forms of recognition and justice.**

About *The Art of Assembly*. Lectures, discussions, online platform

Whether in Tunis, Cairo, Madrid, or Lisbon, in Athens, New York, London, or Istanbul, in post-Fukushima Tokyo, in the midst of Niemeyer's iconic parliamentary architecture in Brasilia, under the umbrellas of Hong Kong, or on the streets of Minneapolis: social and political movements of recent years have often been characterized by their search for alternative forms of gathering, of arguing and making decisions, of negotiating community and society. The potential of these assemblies lies in more than just the demands they put forward; many of them change reality merely by practicing radical models of democracy.

The arts have also shown a renewed interest in concepts of gathering and creating public spheres in which society is not only mirrored but constantly tried out, performed, tested, reimagined, or even reinvented. There are court hearings on artistic freedom, religion, and censorship; tribunals on exploitation and violence; summits on climate change or cultural policy; parliaments allowing those who are usually silenced to speak... Theatre in particular has become a stage for assemblies on the fine line between art and reality, a democratic arena of radical imagination.

But what is the future this concept of gathering has ahead of it after months in a state of emergency that has thrown pretty much all areas of social life out of step? *Gesellschaftsspiele: The Art of Assembly* brings together protagonists from various fields of art, politics and theory to speculate on the future of assembly in a time of experiencing that nothing is certain – a time in which every form of physical togetherness has become precarious.

*Gesellschaftsspiele. The Art of Assembly* is a series of lectures and conversations on the potential of assemblies in activism, art and politics hosted by Florian Malzacher. Former and future guests include Judith Butler, Jodie Dean, Radha D'Souza, Didier Eribon, Max Haiven, Oliver Marchart, Alia Mossallam, Chantal Mouffe, Sibylle Peters, Milo Rau, Oliver Ressler, Jonas Staal & Dana Yahalomi. The series is produced by brut Wien, in cooperation with Münchner Kammerspiele, Wiener Festwochen and Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz.

[art-of-assembly.net](http://art-of-assembly.net)

**Florian Malzacher** is a curator, dramaturg and writer. 2013–2017 he was artistic director of Impulse Theater Festival (Cologne, Dusseldorf and Mulheim/Ruhr), and 2006–2012 co-programmer of the multidisciplinary arts festival steirischer herbst (Graz). He (co-)curated e.g. the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> International Summer Academy (Mousonturm Frankfurt, 2002 and 2004), *Dictionary of War* (2006/07), *Truth is concrete* (Graz, 2012), *Artist Organisations International* (HAU Berlin, 2015), *Appropriations* (Ethnological Museum Berlin, 2014), *Sense of Possibility* on the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the revolution (St. Petersburg, 2017), *Training for the Future* (Ruhrtriennale 2018/19 with Jonas Staal), *After Supervising the Machinery* (2020). As a dramaturge he worked with artists like Rimini Protokoll (DE), Lola Arias (ARG), Mariano Pensotti (ARG), and Nature Theater of Oklahoma (USA). Florian Malzacher has edited and written numerous essays and books on theatre and performance and on the relationship between art and politics. His latest publications include *Gesellschaftsspiele. Politisches Theater heute im* Alexander Verlag Berlin.



**Madlyn Sauer** is researching the worldwide convening of non-governmental Peoples' Tribunals as an independent, diverse and heterogeneous justice practice in her PhD at the University of Zurich, in the Department of Cultural Analysis. Her research focus lies on civil society tribunals, that move beyond a legalistic framework and combine in different ways in their procedures and practices the three big justice ideas of restoration, retribution and transformation. Previously, she studied stage and costume design and applied theater studies at the Academy of Fine Arts in Dresden. In addition to her doctorate, she is a freelance writer and artist. Her practice focuses on justice practices, anti-racism and decolonization. She lives and works in Berlin and Zurich. In December 2023 her first monography *Wir klagen an! (We indict!)* on the NSU-Tribunals will be published at Unrast Verlag.

**Wolfgang Kaleck** is a lawyer and author who founded the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR) in Berlin in 2007 and is now its Secretary General. He has published several books, including *Die konkrete Utopie der Menschenrechte – Ein Blick zurück in die Zukunft (The Concrete Utopia of Human Rights – A Look Back into the Future, 2021)* and *Law versus Power (2018)*, which has been translated into four languages. In 2020/22, Kaleck was a visiting lecturer at the Sorensen Center for International Peace and Justice at CUNY School of Law in New York. In recognition of his human rights work, he has received several awards, including the Bassiouni Justice Award and the Max Friedlaender Prize of the Bavarian Bar Association.

**Lisa Ito-Tapang** is a cultural worker, writer, and independent curator based in Manila. She is the Secretary-General of the Concerned Artists of the Philippines (CAP), an organization of progressive artists and cultural workers founded in 1983 as a response to censorship during the Marcos dictatorship. CAP continues to organize artists to assert the Filipino people's right to justice, genuine democracy, and freedom of expression today. Since 2012, she has been teaching art history and art theory as a faculty member of the Department of Theory, University of the Philippines College of Fine Arts. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts (major in Art History) and her Masters in Art studies (major in Art History) from the University of the Philippines Diliman. Her research, creative, and curatorial interests explore intersections between art practice, socio-political engagement, and ecology. She was among the fellows of *Condition Report*, a Southeast Asia-wide curatorial development program of the Japan Foundation from 2015–2017.

# Special recommendation

brut nordwest

Nordwestbahnstraße 8, 1200 Vienna

Thu, 24<sup>th</sup> to Sun, 27<sup>th</sup> November, 8:00 pm

## **Gin Müller, Sandra Selimović, Mariama Nzinga Diallo, Edwarda Gurrola** **JUSTITIA! Identity Cases**

Theatre / Performance / Lecture

In German and English

‘Who are you? Who are you really? Can you prove that you are who you are?’

*Identity Cases* moves the debates over identity politics into specific media court settings. How are identity cases negotiated in court, in theatre, and in the social networks? Who judges or even condemns? Who feels in the right and what is justice? *Identity Cases* is a performance lecture and court game in several acts that shows one thing very clearly: Identity is never a done deal.

Accompanying the performance is a program with workshops, panels and discussions.

**Thu, November 24<sup>th</sup> / Location: brut nordwest**

Premiere party with DJ sets by Noushin & JOIE DE FILLE

**Fri, November 25<sup>th</sup> / Location: brut nordwest**

Artist talk following the performance

Afterparty with DJ set

**Sat, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm / Location: brut nordwest**

*(De-)Constructing Identity*

*Gender, race a construct? – and what about belonging?*

Roundtable with Marty Huber, Authentically Plastic, Lea Susemichel, Faris Cuchi Gezahegn, Gin Müller, Sandra Selimović, moderated by Carmen Gheorghe

**Sat, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 pm / Location: brut nordwest**

Authentically Plastic

Concert & DJ Set

Info: Admission free with ticket for one of the performances of *JUSTITIA! Identity Cases* / without a ticket to the performance: Pay as you wish (Recommendation: €9)

**Sun, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm / Location: brut nordwest**

Talk with Şeyda Kurt & Selina Shirin Stritzel

About radical tenderness, friendship and identity politics

# Coming up

brut at Studio Wiener Tanz- und Kunstbewegung

Pernerstorfergasse 5, 1100 Vienna

{Terrorist tactics}

{Assassinations}

{Explosive}

Wed, 16<sup>th</sup> & Thu, 17<sup>th</sup> November, 7:00 pm / Mon, 16<sup>th</sup> & Tue, 17<sup>th</sup> January, 7:00 pm

**Roland Rauschmeier**

**Handle with care: Assessment**

Talks / Showings

brut Extras

in German and English

---

brut nordwest

{Teenage brut}

Nordwestbahnstraße 8–10, 1200 Vienna

{Roller disco}

{Dance till you drop}

Sat, 19<sup>th</sup> November, 7:00 pm

**Powerjam / A party called JACK**

**Anniversary party**

15 years of brut

Party

---

brut nordwest

{Who are you?}

Nordwestbahnstraße 8–10, 1200 Vienna

{Who judges?}

{Who condemns?}

Thu, 24<sup>th</sup> to Sun, 27<sup>th</sup> November, 8:00 pm

**Gin Müller, Sandra Selimović, Mariama Nzinga Diallo, Edwarda Gurrola**

**JUSTITIA! Identity Cases**

Accompanying the performance is a program with workshops, panels and discussions.

Theatre / Performance / Lecture

In German and English

---

brut nordwest

{Fluid Identities}

Nordwestbahnstraße 8–10, 1200 Vienna

{Belonging}

{Roundtable}

Sat, 26<sup>th</sup> November, 5:30 pm

**Roundtable mit Marty Huber, Authentically Plastic, Lea Susemichel, Faris Cuchi Gezahegn,**

**Gin Müller, Sandra Selimović, Moderation: Carmen Gheorghe**

**(De-)Constructing Identity: Gender, race a construct? – and what about belonging?**

**Rahmenprogramm JUSTITIA! Identity Cases**

Panel/Roundtable

in German and English

---

brut nordwest

{Queer party}

Nordwestbahnstraße 8–10, 1200 Vienna

{Gqom}

{Vogue}

Sun, 26<sup>th</sup> November, 10:00 pm

**Authentically Plastic**

**Concert & DJ Set**

Concert / DJ Set

**Tickets and info: [brut-wien.at](http://brut-wien.at)**

Media partners

**FALTER**



01 CLUB



**DERSTANDARD**

**NIE**  
**WIEDER**  
**KRIEG**

**DIE  
VIELEN**