

HAUNTED LANDSCAPES or the breathing out of earth

a performance by claudia bosse



HAUNTED LANDSCAPES or the breathing out of earth by claudia bosse, tanzquartier wien, 2024, photo: eva würdinger

we
the leftovers
with our bodies we connect expand and learn
in reading and listening and marveling at the different languages
that we can hear
if we listen
listen to the space
of an amputated world
that connects
or expands and learns on what is left
which calls engages changes
a world in which WE
or our leftovers
become prostheses for other living beings
or vice versa

with *HAUNTED LANDSCAPES or the breathing out of earth*, claudia bosse creates a walk-in, performative environment together with various materials, bodies and sounds from the inside of the earth, which exhales from exhaustion.

our planet is a living organism and covered with landscapes that visibly bear the signs of their encroachments, wars, climatic changes, the extraction of resources. *HAUNTED LANDSCAPES or the breathing out of earth* is dedicated to wounded landscapes and bodies and the human intervention in them. the landscapes change, shift, overlap, are used, excavated and destroyed. some of them are pervaded by ghosts that leave their traces in the layers of the earth and make them perceptible.

claudia bosse's performative landscape unfolds the skins of the earth into which humans dig themselves. haunted bodies encounter the layers of the planet and enter into a dialogue with them. sounds deform the lamenting bodies and wander through them, like the environments inhabited by the monsters of the past and present.

with *HAUNTED LANDSCAPES or the breathing out of earth*, claudia bosse creates a space in which porous bodies, autobiographical texts, images and sounds condense into a plural structure. on unstable ground, the relationship between human and non-human actors becomes a walk-in assemblage of materials and remembrance. together with marcela san pedro, lena schattenberg, jianan qu, carla rihl and irwan ahmett in a soundscape by g nther auer, the artist makes the enormous transformations of our planet tangible.



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previously performed

premiere october 24, 2024

october 25/26, 2024

halle G, in co-production with tanzquartier wien (at)

[claudia bosse / theatercombinat : HAUNTED LANDSCAPES or the breathing out of earth](#)

duration

120 min

photos: [LINK](#) © eva würdinger and markus gradwohl

website link TQW: [HAUNTED LANDSCAPES or the breathing out of earth - TQW](#)

trailer: [TRAILER - HAUNTED LANDSCAPES or the breathing out of earth by Claudia Bosse](#)

full video: [HAUNTED LANDSCAPES or the breathing out of earth by claudia bosse - extended preview](#)

SELECTED PRESS

"[claudia bosse's] performances, whether they take place in free or artificially unfree nature or in built interiors, repeatedly tear open seals in political thinking. [...] it also becomes clear that in the theatre space, text, video, spatial installation and performative actions can be used to indicate what the human species has done to its habitats - and therefore to itself - so far."

([helmuth ploebst, der standard](#))

"everyone in the room is on the same level, the performers, the spectators, whereby the distances between the performers are always present. everyone is actually alone, on their own, in order to suggest closeness for a short time, a moment. [...] the wounded landscape has a beauty of its own, which includes the grief. which also means that the history sedimented in it finds an expression that touches us in the ambivalence of living and dead."

([monika meister](#))

"for two hours, we experience in multiple dimensions an earth that has been and continues to be caused considerable damage by human activity, but which is also subject to constant change of its own accord. a massive image of this is the plate tectonics simulated with tracks of dance floor, which are applied to the stage, our traditional theatre living space. acoustics, light, video, text, performance and dance, objects that shift and deform under their own power or induced by others, which develop a life of their own and become co-performers. they achieve their greatest effect, however, when they, like ghostly messengers sent from a speechless earth, with swelling sounds coming from deep within, sounds, then screams, coming from deep within, they press their agonies through the ears into the hearts of the audience. claudia bosse finds her way into our often so tightly closed empathy centre. resistance is not possible."

([rando hannemann, tanz.at](#))

"extensive research, the variety of perspectives, the poetry and the emotional impact of some of the images make this work immensely valuable. [...] we cannot escape our responsibility, any more than we can escape the magic of this piece."

([rando hannemann, tanz.at](#))

"but the earth takes its revenge - brilliantly portrayed - when the dancers crawl under the dance floor and the whole floor seems to move."

([paul delavos, tanznetz](#))

"the movements of the great performers marcela san pedro, lena schattenberg, carla rihl, jianan qu, irwan ahmett and claudia bosse play through all the associations of the three letters [ant] and navigate the predetermined breaking points between the execution and limitation of movements with great precision."

([andrea seier, tqw magazine](#))

"a concept of destroyed landscape, of attacked and tortured nature, translated into a sensually concrete form, captivates through its precise arrangement of the scenic material: the bodies, the fabrics, the colour, the light, the sound, the projection, the visual level, the language level as a whole. [...] through the precise and open experimental arrangement in the space, grounded and protected by the sound that marks time, perceptible, for example, in the rhythmic efforts of breathing, the performers point to the possibility of making other openings, cracks and scars visible through the caesuras."

([monika meister](#))

ABOUT THE SERIES *haunted landscape/s*

at the centre of *haunted landscape/s* are volcanoes, open-cast mines, mines as endangered landscapes and their myths, stories or experiences. it is about our planet, how we understand it and live with it. it is about huge transformations of environments and their global impact. it is about wounded or poisoned landscapes and their healing. it is about traces of ghosts and monsters that inhabit these landscapes and their influence on the surrounding communities of human and non-human actors.

haunted landscape/s wants to encounter these landscapes, experience them, understand the material, changes, connections, histories and myths of different terrains and translate them into choreographic performative work or installative formats. encounters with and narratives of places become choreographies, lecture performances or installations. movements become performative condensations in dialogue with relics or witnesses and ghosts of the landscapes visited. voices of human and non-human inhabitants become scenic events, perhaps even choirs.

as part of the *haunted landscape/s* series, performances, installations and interventions have been created on derelict, forested or destroyed terrain. The series aims to encounter these landscapes, experience them, understand their materials, changes, contexts and stories and translate them into choreographic-performative works or installation formats.

the beginning of the expansive, multi-part series took place in may as a performance on a construction site in vienna's aspern seestadt. subsequently, the installation *entanglement with a haunted forest* intertwined with a forest on lake wörthersee. following the interventions *HAUNTED LANDSCAPE on an unseen wasteland* from the end of august to mid-september 2024, the area behind vienna's main train station will continue to be artistically activated until the end of september 2025. *HAUNTED LANDSCAPES or the breathing out of earth* marked the series' move onto the stage of tanzquartier wien.

ARTIST AND COMPANY INFORMATION

claudia bosse lives in vienna and berlin, is a director, choreographer and artist and heads the transdisciplinary constellation theatercombinat in vienna. she studied theatre directing at the ernst busch academy of dramatic arts in berlin. her works deal with forms of violence, history, the eerie, forms of life with non-human beings and concrete utopias. she sees her expansive choreographies as 'art of a temporary community', in which she interweaves myths, rituals, texts and documents with bodies, language, objects and choirs to create site-specific pieces. she develops works and installations within and outside europe, in museums, landscapes, architecture, theatres and urban spaces. she teaches, has held guest professorships and lectureships at various academies and universities, publishes, initiates and is involved in various research projects such as the *translocal performative academy (TPA)*. in 2009 she received the nestroy prize for *bambiland08*, in 2018 she was invited to the german dance platform with *the last IDEAL PARADISE*. in 2023, berlin-based alexander verlag published a monograph on her work entitled *Kein Theater. Alles möglich*. most recently, she created the intervention series *HAUNTED LANDSCAPE on an unseen wasteland* in public space, the installation *entanglement with a haunted forest* for mahler forum 2024, the performance *haunted landscape/s* on a construction site of aspern seestadt as part of the multi-part series of the same name; also *BONES and STONES* in vienna and copenhagen as well as *BONES and STONES in the landscape* and *ORACLE and SACRIFICE* in jakarta as part of the four-year cycle *ORGAN/ism - poetics of relations*.

theatercombinat is a nomadic production organism for internationally produced independent art and theatre works under the direction of the artist and choreographer claudia bosse. theatercombinat works in and outside and outside europe on site-specific collaborations with various institutions, initiatives and artists of different generations. **www.theatercombinat.com**

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GENERAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION

please find the general technical information here. a detailed tech rider is available ([here](#)). adaptations to the specific local conditions are possible in any case.

in this performance audience and performers share the same space. the work is placed on a stage, yet it is open to be re-imagined in a gallery space as installation with performative activation.



HAUNTED LANDSCAPES or the breathing out of earth by claudia bosse, tanzquartier wien, 2024,
show photo: markus gradwohl

SPACE REQUIREMENTS

dimensions: 15x15 (minimum) - 16x18 (original) - 20x20 (maximum)

floor: black floor (preferably dance floor) and white dance floor on top (not taped). both should cover the whole dimension of the space

walls: one white wall or opera on one side of the space, whole length

ceiling/rig: single point load of 120-150 kg for salt object, wire rope hoist installed to pull up one row of the dance floor, hanging of 7 letters (12,5 kg) with magnets on thirteen 3m rods

tribune: without seating

sound

audio setup necessitates 8 speakers (Everse 8), 2 subwoofers, 1 wireless microphone with stand

lighting (TQW as an example)

12 svoboda lights (tribune), 6x 6PAR in a row, 2x 6PAR in a stack, 18 moving lights / Sola Spot Frame 750 (3 rows with 5 in trussing, 2 down on tribune, 1 up on tribune), 14 GLP Impression X4, 1 HQI, unique 2.1 haze

video (TQW as an example)

1 projector for white wall (Panasonic PT- RZ970 LBE),
1 projector for tribune (Panasonic PT-VZ580E),
1 projector for the floor (optoma ZH450ST – brought by theatercombinat)
all projectors need a shutter / blacky. a video technician for the shows is required.

non-human actors

sandbags filled with soil (40 pieces, total of 800 kg of soil), 12 latex-skins, 8 kg of basalt in a bucket, 2 bones, 9 metal plates, 4 pairs of gloves, 4 feather collars, 10 kg of brown clay, 1 pomegranate, meshes (18 sheets), vapor, 15 plates, edible earth, 2 bells, 1 bell belt, salt object, table salt (125 kg/show), aluminium letters (7 pieces - "HAUNTED"), metal rods with magnets for hanging

travel party

(10 pax: 8x austria, 1x switzerland, 1x indonesia
claudia bosse / artistic director and performance (vienna, austria)
günther auer / live music (vienna, austria)
carla rihl / performance (vienna, austria)
jianan qu / performance (vienna, austria)
lena schattenberg / performance (vienna, austria)
marcela san pedro / performance (lausanne, switzerland)
irwan ahmett / performance (jakarta, indonesia)
paul grilj / light designer (vienna, austria)
christopher schulz / technical assistant (vienna, austria)
larry meyer / production and tour management (vienna, austria)

set transport: the set is stored in vienna, austria

schedule

day 3-4: get in, set up,
day 1-2: rehearsal on stage, runs
day 0: corrections, show

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credits

choreography/text/space/objects: claudia bosse

performance: marcela san pedro, lena schattenberg, carla rihl, jianan qu, irwan ahmett, claudia bosse

sound: g nther auer

dramaturgy: adam czirak, krassimira kruschkova

costume: julia zastava

lighting: paul grilj

production/artistic assistance: larry meyer

video setup/documentation: markus gradwohl

technical support/salt object: christopher schulz

production assistance: ines kaiser

press support: die kulturproduktion

communication: magdalena knor

thanks to liquifer systems group and alis jefimenko

a co-production of theatercombinat and tanzquartier wien. supported by the cultural department of the city of vienna and by federal ministry of arts, culture, public service and sport. the series *haunted landscape/s* was created with the support of bezirk donaustadt, mahler forum 2024, K R kunst im  ffentlichen raum wien and in co-operation with belvedere 21, impulstanz, jugend am werk, wien 3420 and  BB.



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