

# MOTHER'S TONGUE

**MOTHER'S TONGUE FESTIVAALI 14.-18.10. 2014**

Mother's Tongue festival presents thirty internationally renowned performance artists in a five-day festival. All artists are migrants, ten from Finland and twenty from abroad.

They are invited to present works on the theme of "A Lack of Mother Tongue". The festival is organized and hosted by artists Willem Wilhelmus and Egle Oddo. Mother's Tongue opens the door at Universum Theater on Tuesday October 14th at 18:30.

## ARTIST'S

Alejandra Herrera, Ali Al-Fatlawi, Alvaro Terrones, Ana Matey, Beate Linne, Diana Soria, Isabel Leon, Ignacio Pérez, Johanna MacDonald, John Court, Tania Alice, József Juhász, Lala Nomada, Marcus Lerviks, Marcio Carvalho, Magnus Logi Kristinsson, Melanie Jame Wolf, Nathalie Mba Bikoro, Nezaket Ekici, Maurice Blok, Olga Prokhorova, Oliver Whitehead & PK Keränen, Roi Vaara, Shinji Kanki, Tamar Raban, Tomasz Szrama, Wathiq Al-Ameri, Yingmei Duan, Elvira Santamaria Torres, Nastja Säde Rönkkö.



## PROGRAM

Solo performances:

Tuesday 14th to Saturday 18th October every evening from 19:00 to 22:00. Each evening has a different program with six artists presenting their work. Venue: Universum Theater, Perämiehenkatu 13, Helsinki. The daily program is built up in collaboration with the artists. The detailed program will be published on the site at the beginning of the festival.

Round table discussions and collective performance:

Wednesday 15th October,

13:00 - 16:00, discussion on the theme The freedom of the migrant.

16:30 - 18:00, performance at the exhibition space.

Friday 17th October,

13:00 - 16:00, discussion on The correlation between a lack of mother tongue and artistic work.

Venue: the Finnish Museum of Photography, Tallberginkatu 1 C 85, Helsinki. The discussions are moderated by professor for performance studies Ray Langenbach, Anu Lounela and Willem Wilhelmus.

Free entrance to all events.



## INFO

WWW.MOTHERSTONGUE.NET

FACEBOOK EVENT AND GROUP: MOTHER'S TONGUE

## BACKGROUND

Organizing Mother's Tongue leans on the joint experience and expertise gained in the previous events: Fake Finn Festival in 2011, Fake Finns and Wannabe Swedes in 2012 and Uprooted Fake Nations festival in 2013.

Parallel to the festival the artists will participate in an anthropological research lead by dr. Anu Lounela. Through the stories and the work of the artists we aim to answer the questions: How not speaking a mother tongue bears effect on artistic work and life of performance artists? How significant this experience of shifting languages is?

Experimental live art, where communication and interaction with audience is such an essential ingredient, is especially suited to transcend the limits of word-based languages.

## COLLABORATIONS

Universum Theater, Finnish Museum of Photography, the Department of Social Research, Social and Cultural Anthropology of the University of Helsinki, the MA Programme in Live Art and Performance Studies of the University of the Arts in Helsinki, Amorph! festival, Catalyستي ry Association of Transcultural Artists in Finland.

## SUPPORT

Kone Foundation, the Arts Promotion Centre Finland, the Cultural Office of the City of Helsinki.

## CONTACT

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The artists' rich variety of cultural backgrounds will form the basis for a unique collaboration between arts and science, exploring the effect of not speaking their mother tongue on trans-cultural artists.

