

Life Long Burning - Creative Crossroads 2020 - 2022

Report// Karin Pauer

During the Creative Crossroads cycle, I was able to realize two of my projects of my work series *dances of the anthropocene*.

The Solo *Planet Body// Perpetuum Mobile* premiered in June 2021 at TQW and my group piece *WE WERE NEVER ONE* premiered in April 2022 at Brut Wien.

For *WE WERE NEVER ONE* I had the chance to conduct a research phase during my residency at Workshop Foundation Budapest (Aug.23rd - Sept. 3rd 2021) as well as a first development phase together with my performers at MDT Stockholm (Nov. 28th - Dec. 11th 2021).

Furthermore through the network I got introduced to the hungarian choreographer Anna Biczok whom I ended up collaborating with for both my group piece as well as her project *,Delicate,* which premiered at Trafo/ Budapest in May 2022.

Planet Body// Perpetuum Mobile

„This body is fragile.“ — Karin Pauer

How is it possible to challenge and shake the anthropocentric perspective by means of empathy and care? To conduct such an experiment, Karin Pauer has chosen to embody the Earth. Starting with her own body, she searches for analogies between mankind and the planet. The perpetual movement of the Planet is juxtaposed with the body's limitations. The performing body turns into a hard-working, fearless, tireless body. Pauer counters the notion of destruction and exploitation with a contemporary ritual. A space for contemplative rebellion emerges, filled with sound from the album *Agora* by Austrian electronic pioneer Christian Fennesz.

CREDITS:

Concept, performance: Karin Pauer

Light: Sveta Schwin

Sound: *Agora* (2019) von Christian Fennesz

A co-production by Kunstverein ARGO and Tanzquartier Wien. Supported by Wiener Festwochen.

With the support of Life Long Burning - Towards a sustainable Eco-System for Contemporary Dance in Europe (2018–2022), a project supported by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union.

Links:

<https://tqw.at/event/planet-body-perpetuum-mobile-pauer/>

Text by Karin Harrasser: https://tqw.at/staying_with_the_planet/

Video Links:

Planet Body/ the movie 12": <https://vimeo.com/568070453>

Planet Body documentation: <https://vimeo.com/639632945> PW: orbit



Planet Body// Perpetuum Mobile

WE WERE NEVER ONE

In WE WERE NEVER ONE, choreographer Karin Pauer creates a constantly transforming performance installation, in which sculptural elements and live performance coalesce. Embodied texts meet poetic images, human and more-than-human creatures interact. Four performers, a musician, and a visual artist bring to life a circulation of metamorphoses, where each 'I' learns that it is also a 'We'.

Humanity is realising how much everything is tied to everything else – how much we are connected with other people and the world around us. If not before, we learned this the hard way during the pandemic. In her performance installation WE WERE NEVER ONE, choreographer Karin Pauer develops a language of the present and of mindfulness, an 'embodied language of oneness', translating this new state of awareness into choreography and movement.

The realisation of our overall connectedness transforms into text, embodied thoughts, hybrid objects, haunted landscapes, sounds of extinction, and encounters in the moment of movement. This creates a practice by which we can learn to perceive our damaged planetary situation. WE WERE NEVER ONE is part of Karin Pauer's series dances of the anthropocene, which challenges and examines our anthropocentric world view while at the same time trying to devise embodied practices of empathy and care.

Credits:

Artistic direction: Karin Pauer

Artistic assistance: Arttu Palmio

Performance, choreography: Anna Biczok, Arttu Palmio, Hugo Le Brigand, Karin Pauer

Objects: Maureen Kaegi

Sound: Paolo Monti/the starpillow / Record label Dissipatio Records

Lighting design: Sveta Schwin

Lighting technology: Nicholas Langer

Costume design: Karin Pauer

Production management: mollusca productions

Special thanks to Pauline Bouzek and many more.

A co-production by Kunstverein ARGO, brut Wien, and MDT Stockholm

With the kind support of the City of Vienna's Department of Cultural Affairs, the Federal Ministry of Art, Culture, Civil Service and Sport, and Life Long Burning – Towards a sustainable Eco-System for Contemporary Dance in Europe (2018–2022, funded by the European Union's Creative Crossroads programme) as well as the „Workshop Foundation“ Budapest.

Links:

<https://brut-wien.at/de/Programm/Kalender/Programm-2022/04/Karin-Pauer>

Video Link:

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/714910582>



WE WERE NEVER ONE
© Franzi Kreis

Residency @ Workshop Foundation Budapest
(Aug.23rd - Sept. 3rd 2021)

My residency at the Workshop Foundation Budapest, I used to conduct the first research phase for WE WERE NEVER ONE.

Together with my collaborators - visual artist Maureen Kägi and performer and choreographer Anna Biczók, I explored the interrelational aspects of bodies of sculpture and the performing body in collaborative symbiotic structures.

The aim for these two weeks was to find an overall structure for the work and to analyze methods and strategies used within my practice and ways of sharing them with collaborators. The first week I spent working with Maureen Kägi, initiating a shared process of embodiment relating with textural/ sculptural materialization of ideas.

We rendered different shapes, materialities, textures, imagery and possibilities for the spatial installation that is part of the work.

The second week I spent together with Anna Biczók, investigating the methods for embodiment and material creation for the project based on the loose structure, that was decided upon in week 1.

Residency @ MDT Stockholm
(Nov. 28th - Dec. 11th 2021)

The residency at MDT marked the first meeting of the performers' team for WE WERE NEVER ONE.

Together with performers Anna Biczók, Hugo Le Brigand and Arttu Palmio, during the residency I was able to lay the ground for the project and clarify working methods.

In addition to explorations with the underlying 'empathy practice' of the work, the overall structure was developed during the two weeks at MDT.

The basic element of the work is an alphabetical list of the main notions we associate with the anthropocene. For these notions, embodied material was created and then taken further to embodying a text, which is made up of said notions.

In addition to creating this core material for the piece, we could also through long explorations find clarity about the role of the objects created by visual artist Maureen Kägi.

The time at MDT gave us a focused platform to come together as a group for this project, which is the first collaboration in this constellation.

Further I was able to share my practice in form of a workshop at MDT Stockholm.

Overall the Creative Crossroads program provided me with opportunities to extend and deepen my research period for my projects and build meaningful connections with a co-creator and the teams of both Workshop Foundation/ Budapest and MDT Stockholm.

Both works developed during the Creative Crossroads cycle were received well by diverse audiences. For WE WERE NEVER ONE I received a number of positive reviews and PLANET BODY/ PERPETUUM MOBILE was invited to be presented at Klagenfurt Festival in June 2022.