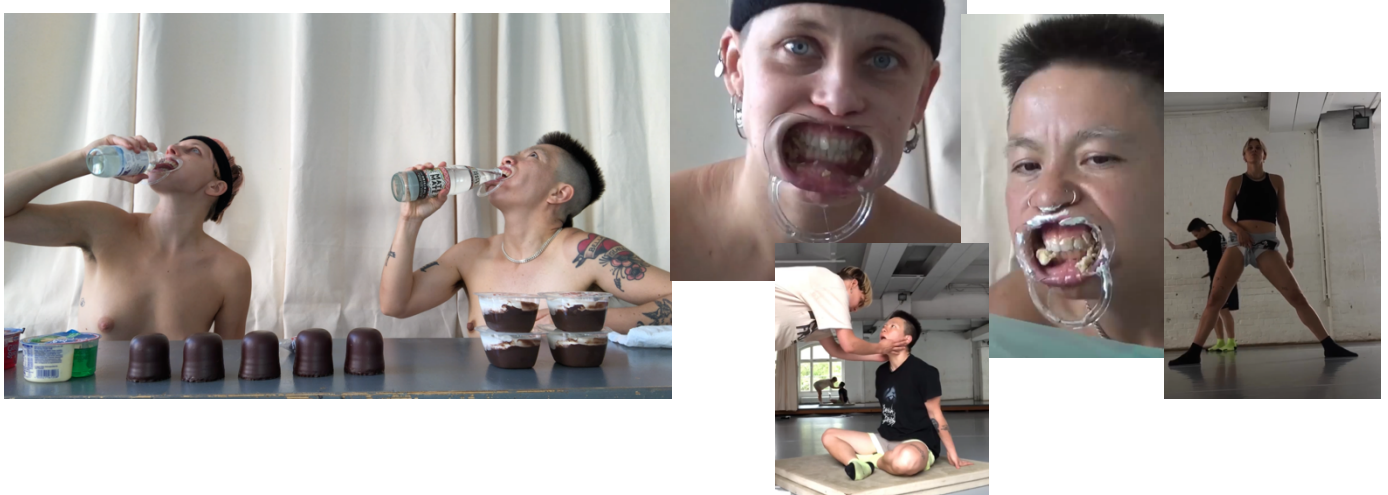


Between the 29th of June until 5th of July, I (performer) together with Cajsa Godée (performer) and Hanna Kisch (set design), was invited to a residency at Tanzfabrik in the frame of the European network project Life Long Burning, Creative Crossroads, funded by the program European Culture.

During this residency I, together with Cajsa, wanted to use the time to explore themes surrounding the lesbian gaze and camping as an aesthetic. The themes come out of a framework that further will be developed to a full-length performance, a duo, a lesbian cabaret! This piece will premiere in Stockholm spring 2023.

During the residency we worked with practices that in different ways were connected to *feeling*: good feeling, feeling yourself, feeling each other etc. We explored this by trying out different scores and reflect on what happen. Further we also copied scenes from some lesbian movies and begun to do a medley with the material. This medley will probably develop to a movie quiz where the audience will be able to guess the movie we are doing.

We also talked about how queer bodies can from a heteronormative gaze be interpreted as being *too much* of something: too sexy, too naked, too extreme in gender conventions and so on. Further we talked about how an acceleration of something makes the person experiencing it, needs to be connected with their own body and evaluate when something turns into being “too much” of something. Queer bodies, when misunderstood, the feeling of being *too much* touches upon disgust (and therefore something u push away from if not being able to recognize and relate yourself with this kind of queer expressions). Further Cajsa and I wanted to explore the “too much” by eating a lot of different stuff while having a mouthguard on. By doing this we wanted to see what feelings are created when succeeding with being too much and at the same time have fun while doing it. In a way, searching for fun and an emancipating moment by not caring about the outcome of this practice.



We enjoyed our stay at Tanzfabrik. Thanks to the residencys financial framework travel and accommodation was covered for me, Cajsa and Hanna. Because of the residency we had the possibility to come up and explore practices that we will continue working with in Stockholm. We are very grateful for the opportunity NDA Slovenia and Tanzfabrik offered us!

All the best,

2020-2022 I was invited to be part of the Creative Crossroads artists cycle 2, in the frame of the European network project Life Long Burning, funded by the program European Culture. During this time, I, together with creative team, created a new solo piece called *Yet Familiar* that premiered at MDT in Stockholm in 10-13th November 2021.

MDT has given me the opportunity to continue my research and develop my dance practice by offering me a financial framework and studio time continuously during these two years. The main purpose of *Yet Familiar* was to create a second solo work and thus be able to deepen my artistic practice by having the opportunity to further contextualize my experiences as a queer lesbian of color in a performing arts format. The collaboration with an creative team with special expertise in various areas (costume, set, light, sound design) is something that has taken up more space than in my previous works, which I am very pleased with. All of us in the creative team share the experience that all parties have been given a greater artistic space to be able to reflect and process the content and the interaction we all had with each other.

As a part of this artist cycle 2, I've also been invited to have two residencies in Berlin. In July 2021 between 16-26th, I together with Hanna Kisch (costume and set design), visited Uferstudios. During our stay in Berlin I was able to try out new directions of the choreographic material I already had with me from earlier residencies by, for example, inviting Ivan Ekemark (based in Berlin) to a closed work in progress showing and then together reflect, change and try out different practices that were connected to my main idea of the performance. The dialogue we have had became an important and valuable component in the artistic process. I took the conversations with me and further used the different methods we had talked about to refine elements in the final performance. During our stay in Berlin Hanna and I also initiated contact with Kitty Schumacher regarding visuals to the performance. Later on, our conversation developed to a collaboration. She, together with Maxi Galgenmaier, made posters and video material that included elements of VFX and CGI.

Due to the pandemic, the other residency in Berlin, at Tanzfabrik, will hopefully happen during 2022.

MDT and LLB has also co-produced *Yet Familiar*, supported me with a producer, technical residency and fees to me and crew. MDT and all the staff there has always been present and help me and my team with whatever question we had during the whole process. MDT has become our second home and we are very grateful for the opportunity Anna Efraimsson and MDT has offered us!

In July between 16-26th, I together with Hanna Kisch was invited to a residency at Uferstudios in the frame of the European network project Life Long Burning, Creative Crossroads, funded by the program European Culture.

In 2022 I am making a new solo piece called *Yet Familiar* that will premiere at MDT in Stockholm in november. During our stay In Berlin I was able to continue my research and develop my practice when working in the studio. I was able to try out new directions of the choreographic material I already had with me from earlier residencies by, for example, inviting Ivan Ekemark (based in Berlin) to a closed work in progress showing and then together reflect, change and try out different practices that were connected to my main idea of the performance. The dialogue we had became an important and valuable component in the artistic process. I took the conversations with me and further used the different methods we had talked about to refine elements in the upcoming performance.

My close collaboration with Hanna (costume and set design) got a chance to flourish and develop during this residency. We had an idea of creating a new skin for me. She was able to try out this idea by first making a mold of my face and later on, with that shape, cast a new face in thin silicone. All the creative material we bought in Berlin and was refunded by Uferstudios.



Hanna and I also met up with Kitty Schumacher regarding visuals to the performance. Later on our conversation developed to a collaboration. She, together with Maxi Galgenmaier, will make a poster and video that includes element of VFX and CGI.

Because of covid19 we couldn't invite an audience for work in progress showing and neither had the opportunity to explore the city as we intended. Even If we were a bit limited due to the pandemic, the visit to Berlin has been crucial in the continuation of our artistic process. To be able to work 24/7 at Uferstudios gave us the possibility to work undisturbed all day If we wished for so. The administration staff helped us out when we had questions and we really felt welcome.

Thanks to the residencys financial framework travel and accommodation was covered, also Hanna, Ivan and I all got personal fee during our work at Uferstudios.

We are very grateful for the opportunity Simone Willeit and Uferstudios offered us!

My best to you /