

REMOTE CITIZEN

INSTANT URBAN STREET PERFORMANCE



Some words >>> but then >>>

LET'S HIT THE ROAD !

REMOTE CITIZEN

INSTANT
URBAN
STREET
PERFORMANCE



START

REFLEXION

FORM

WORKFLOW

WIN - WIN

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ABOUT US

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BUDGET

REMOTE CITIZEN is a mobile performance in the public space which has been performed 17 times within the last 2 years in Switzerland, Germany, France, Armenia and Turkey.

REMOTE CITIZEN is interactive, subtly anarchic, fast, and moves within cities from location to location.

REMOTE CITIZEN mingles with passers-by who only eventually realize being within a staging.

REMOTE CITIZEN is open to all: Anyone, regardless of age or abilities can participate.

Each newly formed group of up to 55 performers represents an autonomous system, which has the ability to appear and disappear again ghostly in the superordinated system of public space. To achieve the precise synchronization of actions we use a radio system, which gives us the possibility to take influence on the actions at any time.

This and the preliminary training of the participants lets the performance appear as if it were a laboriously trained choreography: Subtle, poetic moments are interspersed with quick, dynamic elements. The use of small objects provided by the participants enables us to playfully stage ephemeral, absurd mini-stories.

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Were are the boundaries of our freedom? Freedom of thought and effectuation? Up to what point are we self-determined and where does the subordination to externally defined structures start? Are we partly automatons that synchronize to a superimposed rhythm? Is the vanishing of individuality a daunting or just a logical, evolutionary development, which allows the human survival in the first place?

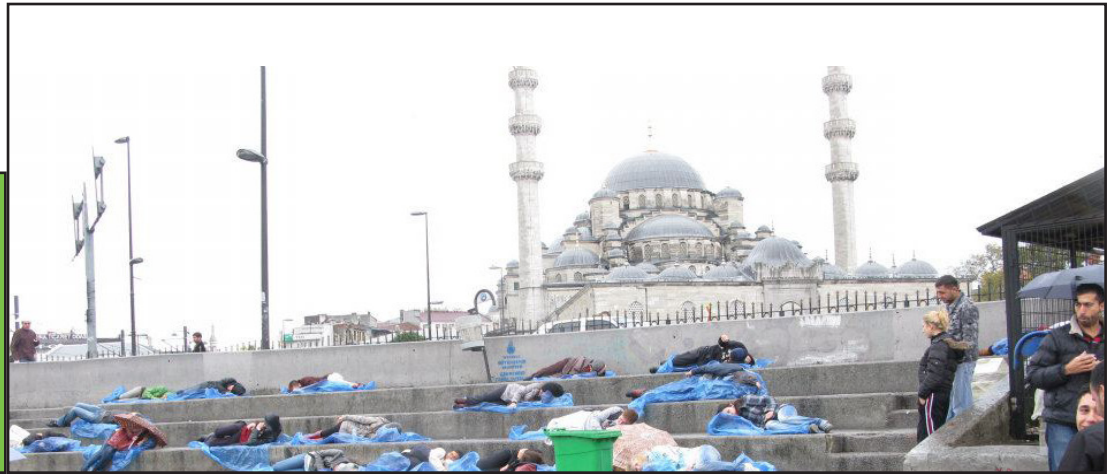
Our goal is to perceive the motion flow in public places, directly analyse it and use it in its spontaneous evaluation via performative elements. Through direct control of the actions, we influence the flow of normality, deflect it, bring it to a standstill, or speed it up. Our intervention is subtle, it gives the place a slight temporary stir that can be mysterious, eerie, or funny.

The decoding of human behavioral and movement patterns within the crowd and their arbitrary subsets is pivotal to our work.

REMOTE CITIZEN uses controlled intervention on the happenings of crowded locations and evokes a seamless transition between reality and staging.

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Christian Kuntner and Astride Schlaefli and Martin Schick have for some time been involved with interventions in public space. Despite being the vastest imaginable theatre hall, public space has so far been widely disregarded as workspace. Facing the thrill of reality, creativity, coincidence and focused manipulation blending into each other is the goal of REMOTE CITIZEN. We do this in a place belonging to everybody, knowing no discrimination and allowing the passersby to either get involved at their own discretion, or go on to do their shopping.

The briefing with the actors has been condensed to one day. The actors are instructed how to orchestrate their movements, do freezes and choreographic combinations. These acting components are designed to be easily memorised and are given pictorial titles. On briefing day, the whole project procedure including technical details and equipment is explained. We have deliberately chosen this compact approach with the intention to keep up the actors' swing and curiosity and on the other hand boost their power of concentration and give them a healthy serving of stress to make them feel alert and alive. In this way, each performance feels like a premiere.

It's a game of perception and its reversal: What is real, what is random, what is controlled. Am I the spectator, or is the actor in the role of an observer who regards daily routine as a constantly changing stage, which may seem chaotic, but is often aligned with invisible grids.

The participants are not degraded to robots devoid of their own will, since we take into account the personal resources of all performers and in fact, specifically apply these resources. The individuality of the participant, though, is abandoned in favor of the functionality of the system as a performance platform, as soon as an action is triggered by the stage direction.

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Before the performance:

Our partners abroad are asked, to help us finding participants.

Everybody can participate, no skills needed, people only have to do what we tell them to do.

We will supply you with all information and a newsletter-kind email, which can be forwarded, using your networks (mailinglists, facebook, and so on). People that like to participate can sign in on our homepage (we will provide the direct link)

Workflow, the day of the performance (as an example for day X):

10am	get in, meeting of all participants
10am - 12am	briefing and training
12.00 - 1pm	pause
1pm	last preparations
1.30pm - 3.30pm	performance
4pm	eat, drink and talk

During the training, clearly named, simple movement elements and actions are presented and practiced, which are then accessed during the performance. The training can also be performed on another day before, but as close as possible to the actual performance.

The performance lasts between 90 and 120 minutes. Practiced elements are used by the stage direction to interact with the events in the squares and streets. Added are spontaneous assignments, depending on external conditions and the composition of the group.

After the performance we gladly spend some time with the participants, as experience has shown that there is a great desire for exchange of the just experienced.

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The promotional presentation of the performance REMOTE CITIZEN in the public space can serve the organizers to promote the festival or other activities in this way.

Since we don't need a stage and / or technology on the part of the organizer, the programming is logistically simple.

Advertising of the performance as a workshop is possibly at any time.

Participants will register on our website, so there is no additional overhead for the organizer. All communication with the participants is done by us.

Since we were supported by the Arts Council Pro Helvetia in the development of the project, there are real chances that transportation and travel costs are covered by it (though this requires an effectual contract 8 weeks before the event).

What we need

A room (basecamp) for one day where everybody can meet and some space for introduction and training.

If the weatherconditions are suitable, we can do the training outdoors.

Help by our partners in finding participants (Networking): we will provide a link for a sign- up formular on our homepage. After signing in, we will inform the participants ourselves about further development.

Some food and beverages for the participants after the performance.

Acommodation for 2 persons, 2 till 3 nights. Hotel is not necessary, private accommodation would do as well.

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PERFORMANCE OPERATORS and REMOTE CITIZEN are planning on teaming up to seek partnership with various institutions. We are aiming at setting up systematic cooperation with acting academies, drama schools and theatre companies. Existing structures, facilities, utilities and communication channels could then be used more effectively, which would further facilitate PR work. Working with locals can also significantly increase public awareness of the project as all people involved have their own personal network, which can be fed with up-to-date project information.

The existing network of our partners is important, but we will work also with the different social networks.

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Christian Kuntner >>> www.kuntner.ch
Astride Schlaefli >>> www.collectif-barbare.ch
Martin Schick >>> www.martinschick.wordpress.com

Those responsible for the project REMOTE CITIZEN have been cooperating as performers for several years. They perform nationally and internationally as individuals as well as a group. Christian Kuntner is a musician and performer and operates with his audio installations in the neighboring areas of the performing arts, Astride Schaepli is a pianist, stage director and performer, Martin Schick is a dancer and comedian.

Their interdisciplinary projects, often represented as interventions in the public space, combine elements of theater, music, multimedia, object-art and performance.

„minds are like parachutes - they only work if they're open“

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More information:

Homepage: www.remote-citizen.ch

Performances:

www.remote-citizen.ch/dokumentationen_FR/01.dokumentation_RC_Baden_FR.html

Documentaries: www.remote-citizen.ch/documentary/01.documentary_Istanbul_FR.html

Download-area for promoters:

www.remote-citizen.ch/nonpublic/RC_nonpublic.html

Christian Kuntner: www.kuntner.ch

Astride Schlaefli: www.collectif-barbare.ch

Martin Schick: www.martinschick.wordpress.com

Contact:

Email: citizen@remote-citizen.ch

Adress:

performance operators c/o
Christian Kuntner
Benkenstrasse 61
CH-5024 Küttigen / Switzerland

Telefon:

+41 79 450 63 17

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The performance will be undertaken with a minimum of 2 persons of the PERFORMANCE OPERATORS group. Renumeration is a negotiable matter.

For the applied radio technology we charge an amount of € 500.00

If an agreement with the organizers is reached early enough, we will ask Pro Helvetia for coverage of travel and transportation costs.

Accommodation is expected to be covered by the host. Hotel is not necessary, private accommodation would be fine as well.