

# [ OBSCENE ]

Dramaturgy as practices of making (in)visible.  
A conference.

12. – 15.9.2019

The many deaths in old Greece's antique drama occurred *ob-scenae*, depicting a place beyond the scene and/or seen. Yet despise their placement, the dead weren't marginal or of no importance, quite on the contrary. Core motive to this conference is the figure of thought of the obscene as that which unfolds OFF stage both concretely and as such as well as figuratively and metaphorically. Postdramatic and possibly post-dramaturgical procedures of knowledge production address the not-shown, the un-seen, the hidden, the in-visible and the many ways of how things are situated [ OFF THE RECORD ].

**obscene {adj};** *offensive, lustful, disgusting, repulsive, dirty, raunchy, salacious, corrupt, shameless, frivolous, fescennine, lewd, profane, indecent, excessive, beyond all reason*

Since the 1990s and with the development of the performative, understandings of dramaturgy have pluralized and changed. This assumption serves as a starting point for [ OBSCENE ] which aims to explore where and how dramaturgy occurs – as an amalgamation of practices, relationships and positionings between people, institutions, rehearsal spaces, performances, temporalities and artistic strategies. The conference will bring together theatre and dance practitioners, students and interested members of the public, in order to discover, develop, reflect on and celebrate the art and dramaturgies of [ OBSCENE ].

The open call is addressed at thinkers in theater & dance science or performance studies at various points in their careers, members of neighboring or unrelated fields, at dramaturgs, artists, makers and activists of contemporary and future [ OBSCENES ].

Contributions of various formats are welcome, such as lectures (20min), proposals for panels (75min with 3 positions dealing with a particular topic & discussion), workshops or walks, all addressing a particular aspect [ OFF THE RECORD ]. Propositions / other forms of presentations not listed here are also welcome.

ZHdK Zurich University of the Arts, Professorship for Dramaturgy & IPF / Institute for the Performing Arts and Film (IPF). In collaboration with Gessnerallee Theater and the Schauspielhaus Zürich

with El Conde del Torrefiel, Phil Hayes, Hannah Hurtzig & Marian Kaiser, Bojana Kunst, Mamela Nyamza, students of MA Dramaturgy, artists of the Schauspielhaus Zürich and many more

Dramaturgy: Lucie Tuma & Monika Gysel

Possible yet not exclusive aspects of dramaturgy as practices of making (in) visible:

## dramaturgy as (non)knowledge

- dramaturgy as spam filter
- information vs. knowledge
- epistemologies of dramaturgical practice
- performance philosophy
- performance studies, theater- and dance science
- practices of un-learning
- dramaturgy as speculative practice
- affect theory
- the material turn
- dramaturgy and post-humanism / the non-human
- post-dramaturgy
- dramaturgy as artistic research

## deep down in the cellar – the hidden side of production

- discourse of work
- post-marxism and feminism
- intersectionality through dramaturgy
- labour and performance
- production/reproduction
- non-work, post-work futures
- feminization / erotization of work
- conditions of production and working methods in theater / in postfordism
- valorizing rehearsal time and practice based research
- workshop culture / fetishization of process
- post-institutional critique
- infrastructural performance

## dramaturgy as making things visible: geopolitical asymmetries in programming

- decolonial strategies and practices
- local and/or global self organisation
- production aesthetics
- commons / undercommons
- postcolonialism - where, by whom, for whom?
- forms of solidarity
- appropriation problematics
- decentralization of institutions
- dramaturgy as emancipatory practice
- dramaturgy and activism
- molecularisation
- (in)visibility as power
- hacking, cyberspace and dramaturgy

Please send proposals naming the form of presentation until 31.5.2019 as abstract (max 500 words) +CV to [ob.scene@zhdk.ch](mailto:ob.scene@zhdk.ch)



hdk

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