



HEADLINELEON LOCHER

What is to be negotiated behind these microphones? A transcript of a conversation between two people. A long table and a strange wooden construction. Who speaks here of the Red Army Faction, of tenderness and militant resistance in the West Germany of the 1980s? There is a performer wanting to inform the audience of something. But it's not possible to proceed: Each word changes the very circumstance it tries to convey. Each act of speaking bears the potential of complicity in flattening out its subject.

This performance is based on a year-long research process into how language was and is used as a denunciatory tool in Germany, during the time of the RAF and today. The first stage of the research was a polyphonic intervention in the novella 'The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum' by Heinrich Böll, a book about media smear campaigns in the West German 1970s.

In a writing group, bringing together individuals with various experiences with smear campaigns in today's context, we developed writing strategies to intervene in the original text, aiming to articulate a criticality towards our own and Böll's use of language through exploring performative, embodied and collective dimensions of writing.

Tonight's performance is informed by this experience in the writing group, the challenges and questions we faced and the strategies we developed. It is guided by the question just how closely one can trace the judgements, interpretations and alterations one performs when putting words to something.

Concept, Direction, Text, Performance: **Leon Locher** Movement Supervision, Video, Performance: **Masha Shalagina**

Scenography: Helen Weber, Leon Locher

Lighting Design: Rob Prideaux

Lighting Assistance: Núria Carrillo Erra

Audio Design: **Nino Dava**

Special Guest: Udi Raz

Mentoring: Jen Rosenblit, Udi Raz, Joanna Ostrowska

Tutoring: Janez Janša

17 & 18 November 2025 20:00h

陸肇欣 Frieda Shao Shin Luk This Uncharted Tongue 母知

Artist talk in English after the show on 17 November

23 & 24 November 2025 20:00h

Leon Locher Headline

Artist talk in English after the show on 23 November

29 & 30 November 2025 20:00h

Angélica Roa To Critter

Artist talk in English after the show on 29 November

5 & 6 December 2025 20:00h

Michael(a) Daoud The Insisting Body:

Chor(e)ographies of Erasure and Return

Artist talk in English after the show on 5 December

11 & 12 December 2025 20:00h

Jemima Rose Dean Working Title

Artist talk in English after the show on 12 December

18 & 19 December 2025 18:00h & 20:00h

Andrii Romanenko SHELTERS in direct strike

Artist talks in English after the second shows on 18 & 19 December

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SODA Team: Prof. Janez Janša, Prof. Dr. Sandra Noeth, Rima Najdi | SODA Support: Nils Beck. Technik: Ernesto Cárcamo Cavazos, Mattef Kuhlmey, Jan Römer, Nicolas San Martin Mohr, Susana Alonso, Rob Prideaux.

HZT Berlin | Künstlerischer Direktor: Prof. Nik Haffner | Verwaltungsleiterin: Sabine Trautwein

Sachbearbeitung: Maria Sperl | Technische Leitung: Max Stelzl | KBB: Elena Polzer

Kommunikation: Judith Brückmann, Eli Vardzhiyska.



The HZT Berlin is administrated by the Berlin University of the Arts and the Ernst Busch University of Theatre Arts in cooperation with the Network TanzRaumBerlin.



