



Urban Silence | Literary Trace Rogoś curated by Artur Rogoś

Introduction

Silence, stillness, tšcere, tystnad, sessizlik, isiltasuna... So many - so different - words to describe one and the same denotation. So it cannot be denied that there is not a single silence, but that there are countless conceptions of it, incarnations, problematisations... The sounds and senses of silence are subject to constant metamorphoses, and it itself constantly eludes us. Letters, alphabets and symbols metaphorise this fleetingness and draw it into the realm of the primary function of language: communication and the narration of reality.

Silence therefore cannot simply be passed over in silence. It also demands stories, and the most eloquent ones at that, literary stories. Literature responds to this demand with the most diverse means at its disposal; in attempting to describe it, it sometimes distances itself from it; it balances on the edge and runs the risk of drowning out or suppressing silence. However, good literature is able to emerge victorious from this paradoxical situation. It gets through to us.

How do we write and speak about silence in cities that, at their core, seem to be their negation? The artists taking part in this year's edition of the 48-hour festival have attempted to address this dilemma. Will they find the answer? Perhaps. But they will certainly confront us with new questions. Take a walk along the literary path of the 48-hour festival. Be attentive. Lend your ears and don't hesitate to freely interpret the stories of silence that appear here - in search of the one that speaks to you in your own language.

Stop 1: Maybachufer

Fri 28.06.2024 19:00 - Sun 30.06.2024 19:00

Audio walk 'The moment / takes its time'

Victoria Hohmann has proposed a poetic-philosophical walk along the Maybachufer. The route starts at Schönleinstraße underground station and leads along the Landwehr Canal to Hobrechtbrücke.

The direction of the walk is marked by large QR codes on the pavement. They allow you to play audio files with text excerpts that tell of identity and transience in the context of the big city. The individual parts can be listened to one after the other or separately.

The audio stations create enclaves of calm amidst the hustle and bustle of the city, while a walk along the banks of the canal offers the opportunity to listen to your own rhythm.

Stop 2: Buchbund bookshop

Sat 29.06.2024 11:00 - Sat 29.06.2024 18:00

Buchbund / KLAKE publishing house

It's worth popping into the Buchbund bookshop on Saturday. It's practically on the way. Two events will take place at this unusual location.

The first is a project by **Azzurra Cecchini**: a series of bookmarks consisting of 100 drawings. The artist has placed them in forgotten, abandoned books that she came across on her daily forays through the neighbourhood. Hidden between the pages, lost among the texts, they engage in a

dialogue. This chance dialogue unfolds in silence: between the language of the drawings and the letters of the scattered books. Thus two languages meet, speaking in silence - the writing and the drawing.

The second event will take place at 7 p.m. It will be the premiere of the Persian-language poetry volume 'Schicksalsanschläge' ('Ordinations of Fate'). The anthology brings together works by Iranian and Afghan authors living in Berlin.

Author/innen: Ali Abdollahi | Shahla Aghapour | Hadiyah Armaghan | Faryar Asadian | Mohamad Reza Rostam Bigloo | Asef Hossaini | Mariam Meetra | Siavash Mirzade | Nasir Nadeem | Shahrouz Rashid | Musthafa Samady | Jalal Sarfaraz | Karima Shabrang | Sada Soltani | Afshina Javadi Torshizi.

Stop 3: Fincan

Sat 29.06.2024 17:00-18:00

'WEGhören / AUDissey'

In Fincan you will meet members of the **MischMash collective**. Inspired by their walks in the area, they have written short texts - literary miniatures, anecdotes, sketches - which have been woven together with the sounds recorded during these walks to create a sound collage. The whole thing took the form of a radio play reflecting the experience. The 48 Hours Festival also offers the opportunity to listen to them live.

Stop 4: New St Jacobi Cemetery

Fri 28.06.2024 19:00 - Sun 30.06.2024 19:00

'Scenography like a musical instrument - Song Offerings'

The artists **Mikako Kura** and **Eszter Parragi** offer a performance at the interface of music, dance and literature, a play between poetry, movement and environment. Their 'fake musical instrument', the wind disc, moves the air via loudspeakers that record the movements of the wind and reproduce them in a different form. In the composition, the sounds of the wind are combined with voices and songs in different languages. In the choreography, the guiding principles are echoes and vibrations in the body and between the bodies.

Since the musical instrument is 'false', we are rubbing up against a kind of deception, a lie, an imperfection. The wind disc is a symbolic station of communication and at the same time its impossibility.

Stop 5: Anita Berber Park

Fri 28.06.2024 19:00-21:00; Sat 29.06.2024 16:00-21:00; Sun 30.06.2024 12:00-16:00

'Lass Reden / Let's Talk'

This participatory project by **Jule Vowinckel** and **Lukas Bessel** focusses on conversation, listening and empathy. Inspired by contact with people they met by chance in Neukölln, the artists asked what silence is (silence in Neukölln...?) and where it can be found. The conversations became the breeding ground for the poems and pictures, which are presented together with background music in Anita Berber Park.