

Press Release

Zurich, 25 April 2023

Dimitri Chamblas
Slow Show Installation

9 June – 17 September 2023

Luma Westbau, Zürich



Slow Show performance, Luma Arles, 2019. © Anne-Sylvie Bonnet

Conceived and choreographed by Dimitri Chamblas, *Slow Show* is an intensive, collective dance performance whose visible repercussions are minimal, precise, and concentrated. The first performance took place in 2018 with dance students from the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) at Hauser and Wirth Los Angeles and at the MAK Center at the Schindler House, the performance is rooted in the principles of trance, exultation, telepathy, and unconscious memories, revealing its strength and vivacity through movements slowed to the extreme, almost imperceptible, almost invisible. The invisible is not emptiness, nor is it calmness or absence. The subtlety of the movements doesn't take away the intensity nor the exhaustion growing from a stretched time instead of a possible frenetic trance.

Slow Show has been performed in different locations around the world; each repetition is unique, gathering around 50 local people from all ages and backgrounds and answering to their immediate context. The 20-minute performance is accompanied by sound and music composed by musician, artist, and DJ Eddie Ruscha.

Presented for the first time in Zurich, *Slow Show Installation* brings together a selection of 18 filmed portraits depicting participants over the course of worldwide performances that took place in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso), Arles (France), Minneapolis (USA) and Charleroi (Belgium). Chamblas, in collaboration with Manuela Dalle, captured these moving images that are now shown in a specially devised environment at Luma Westbau. Submerged in a blue, low light - which has a calming effect on the brain - and surrounded by projections of floating bodies that move to a site-specific soundscape, the reclining structure in the space invites the audience to lay down, slow down and immerse themselves in a shared experience.

Preceded by a four-day workshop, on Saturday 2 September 2023, Dimitri Chamblas in collaboration with Eddie Ruscha will stage a *Slow Show* performance in a public space in Zurich with around 50 local amateur dancers. Further details to be announced.

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About Dimitri Chamblas

Born in 1974. Lives and works in Los Angeles, USA

Dimitri Chamblas joined the Paris Opera School of Dance at the age of ten. During his career, he has collaborated with choreographers Boris Charmatz, William Forsythe, Emmanuelle Huynh, Benjamin Millepied and Mathilde Monnier. In 1992, he co-founded the association Edna with choreographer Boris Charmatz. Together, they created the duet *À bras-le-corps* (1993), which has been performed all over the world and entered the repertoire of the Opéra national de Paris in 2017. He participated in the creation of Benjamin Millepied's Los Angeles Dance Project. In 2015, he was appointed Artistic Director of the 3e Scène of the Opéra National de Paris. From 2017 to 2021, he was Director of Dance at the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) in Los Angeles. Since 2020, Chamblas has been a guest lecturer for Dance and Choreography at the Zurich University of Arts (ZhdK).

His recent projects include a duet with rockstar Kim Gordon and *Crowd out*, an opera by David Lang for a thousand singers. His work has been presented at Tate Modern in London, the Centre Pompidou (Paris), the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles, the Opéra National de Paris, Performa New York, and the Louvre Museum. Dimitri Chamblas is currently creating, in collaboration with Kim Gordon, a piece for 10 dancers, and is pursuing his academic research on experimental pedagogies.

Dimitri Chamblas

Slow Show Installation

On view: 9 June - 17 September 2023

Venue

Luma Westbau
Löwenbräukunst
Limmatstrasse 270
8005 Zurich, Switzerland
www.westbau.com

Opening Times

Tue – Sun: 11:00 – 18:00

Thu: 11:00 – 20:00

Mondays closed

Free admission