



CON TAKT



CON TAKT

Genre: Contemporary Circus

Duration: 60 minutes

Number of performers: 6 (5 acrobats, 1 musician)

Cast: Kerstin Oschabnig, Lily Colleen,
Uwe Sattelkow, Yasmine Heyer, Klovis Acapell'hiphop, Ben Walker

Outside Eye: Pau Portabella

Produced by the Grazer Akrosphäre and Cameo Acrobatix

Producer: Charlotte Kachelmann

booking@kontakt-circus.com | www.kontakt-circus.com

The show

Looks, touches, rhythms.

ConTakt is a contemporary circus piece that is guided and accompanied by exquisite live music. Sounds and instruments blend with the movement and interaction of the six performers.

The piece fuses various partner acrobatic disciplines such as hand to hand, Icarian and group acrobatics into flowing movements. The acrobatic construction creates physical imagery flowing to the dynamics of the emotional realm.

"Live on site, a live musician provides the perfect sound backdrop, from beatboxing, to sounds that are precisely matched to the movements of the acrobats, to atmospheric instrumental interludes. The interaction with each other and with the audience resulted in a harmonious whole, which could always surprise and provide for laughter."

Report by Fabian Kleindienst on grazer.at

The music

The music is a constant but ever evolving accompaniment. All sounds (vocal beatbox, vocals) and instruments (saxophone, harmonica, clarinet) are recorded live with a loop station and mixed directly to electronic beats.

In some moments, the performers are instructed through the music, other times a synergistic and constantly reciprocated collaboration between the musician and performer is the status quo. In this way different atmospheres are brought together by a common thread of music. Apart from the sound system, the piece is unedited and personal. We go without a backstage, lights or make-up.





Our artistic intention – a real and human show

We strive to present a real and human show to our audiences. We desire to bring as much contact as possible in our new socially distanced reality, using creative techniques to highlight our similarities and take a moment to breathe amidst the stress and loss that defines 2020.

We as a company adore the contrast that group acrobatics proposes between strength and power whilst also having threads of fragility and vulnerability woven in. We want to showcase the magic that musicians and acrobats can create when collaborating to make scenes that effortlessly blend visual and auditory stimulation. We also play on our constellation as a company. Indeed, men can be strong and powerful holding up flyers. They can also be lifted, show fear and apprehensions. Equally, women can be lifted gracefully and effortlessly, but they can also be the ones who lift and create stable foundations. We want to show the whole story – not just the curated and the manicured.

“It is really great when such young people, like the team of “CoTakt”, support young people who do not have it so easy in life and give them their full attention!”

Marek Zeliska, SOS Children’s Village
Manager at SOS-Kinderdorf.at



As seven performers who have worked on many external shows, we felt an itch to create something of our very own that contains our signature energy. We strive to present our fresh and light-hearted approach to group acrobatics to the public in a raw and honest way – without the distractions of artificial lights. We want the audience to be captured in the beauty and awe of tall towers and thrilling throws, but simultaneously feel directly connected to us through the quintessential human details that unite us all.

Creation and showing

From August 10-22, 2020, our group was in residency at L'embellie bains douches in France to develop "ConTakt" with the help of outside eye Pau Portabella. Afterwards, the piece was shared as a work in progress show for the community at L'embellie in France and afterwards performed one week in various social institutions (homes for the elderly, homeless and children) and a street art festival (MurKultur) in Graz, Austria. Since then we have performed ConTakt on various stages of the Vienna Summer of Culture, Open Air Cinema Graz, and in public spaces in Berlin.

The project was financed and implemented with the support of the Austrian Federal Chancellery and the City of Graz.

The social aspect

We are continuing this social aspect as part of our production concept and keep working with institutions and public spaces to make them our stage.

As a group we are constantly seeking new ways to lift one another, our audience, and our environment, sometimes literally and sometimes metaphorically. We seek to elevate our individual talents through the amplifying power of collaboration. We aim to elevate a space to beyond its everyday function so that the audience can see through new eyes their hometown as a place of wonder as well as mundane. We aim to elevate people's spirits through our explorations of limits of our physique and our creativity.



“The entertaining program is accompanied by the brilliant musician Klovis, who beatboxes the steps, daring jumps and breaths of the six artists, wraps them in loops and weaves them into a tailor-made soundtrack. The Graz troupe need not fear international comparison.”

Report by Wolfgang Kühnelt
on Haubentaucher.at

“The powerful, mostly balance-based acrobatics take place in a balanced, aesthetically pleasing flow. It is the necessary attention and precisely timed responsibility for one another that, in addition to the recognition of technical achievement, is what inspires, even touches, above all in its wordless conformity, its fine communication of the glances.”

Review by Eveline Koberg from tanz.at





Ben Walker

Ben has been performing circus since he was 18 years old. He completed 2 years training at Circomedia contemporary circus school in Bristol, UK. Since then he's been in a number of productions across the UK and in Europe. Specializing as a juggler, acrobat and ropewalker. Besides throwing and catching people/juggling props, Ben enjoys playing his accordion. He is the newest member to join the ConTakt team, and loves the unique musical circus blend the show has to offer.

Who are we?



Klovis Acapell'hiphop

Lover of everything that makes music, Klovis turned to live performance where he puts his talent and energy to serve many creations:

Circus, concerts, shows for children or activist theater. Sometimes behind the drums, other times behind his loopstation to create musical atmospheres with his voice, beatbox, flute, and effects. Do not be surprised to see him one day playing the piano or dancing behind you!



Kerstin Oschabnig

Already as a child Kerstin was fond of circus arts, but never would have imagined herself performing on stage one day. It happened by chance that in 2009 she took her first circus class, got hooked and has been teaching and performing ever since. She's a very active member in the circus arts community; co-founded Akrosphäre in 2015, is involved in running Katapult training space Berlin and produces own shows with Cameo Acrobatic.



Yasmine Heyer

Yasmine was born walking on her hands and is one of our most versatile member's. She bases, she flies, she middles, plays saxophone, and was the producer when ConTakt was first born. When she isn't standing on her hands, Yasmine teaches trapeze, partner acrobatics and python, and manages the Akrosphäre.



Lily Colleen

Lily discovered her love for circus on her travels, training in different circus spaces and schools to further deepen her skillset in theater, movement and acrobatics. She has worked in a social circus production touring the border of Turkey and Syria, and furthered her training in physical theatre, improvisation and circus in the international street theatre project MIGR'ART in France and Poland. While training at DOCH School of Dance and Circus Stockholm she met Pao Portabella, who joined ConTakt as an Outside Eye a year later for the creation process. When she isn't working in circus projects, she is campaigning for environmental justice or is out in the forest hunting for mushrooms.



Uwe Sattelkow

Co-founder of the Akrosphäre, acrobat and musician with a background in IT and philosophy - a generalist; teaching in his community and abroad, performing as an acrobat for many years, preferring projects that blend disciplines and reveal hidden structures of human experience.

Shows 2022

01.+02.10.2022 Küchwaldbühne Chemnitz (Chemnitz, Germany)
22.09.2022 ATOLL Festival (Karlsruhe, Germany)
13.+14.07.2022 Wien Kultursommer (Vienna, Austria)
19.06.2022 Villa Kuriosum (Berlin, Germany)
18.06.2022 Kulturhof Klingenberg (Dresden, Germany)
17.06.2022 Buschkrug, Fair Play im Park (Berlin, Germany)
16.06.2022 Hasenheide, Fair Play im Park, (Berlin, Germany)
26.-29.05.2022 Imaginarius Festival (Santa Maria de Feira, Portugal)
25.05.2022 Arroz Estúdios, (Lisbon, Portugal)
26.03.2022 Katapult (Berlin, Germany)

Shows 2021:

08.07.2021 Wien Kultursommer, Donauinsel (Vienna, Austria)
09.07.2021 Wien Kultursommer, Oberlaa (Vienna, Austria)
10.07.2021 Lesliehof Open (Graz, Austria)
01.09.2021 Görlitzer Park (Berlin, Germany)

Shows 2020:

26.08.2020 Nursing home Aigner-Rollett (Graz, Austria)
27.08.2020 VinziWerke (Graz, Austria)
28.08.2020 Erika Horn nursing home (Graz, Austria)
29.08.2020 SOS Children's Village (Pinkafeld, Austria)
30.08.2020 MurKultur, Mur Island (Graz, Austria)



Residencies:

Past residencies:

02.-15.05.2022 Katapult (Berlin, Germany)
10.-23.08.2020 L'Embellie bains douches (France)
18.-23.10.2021 Katapult (Berlin, Germany)

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/X7jBMTmQjVQ>

Links to reviews:

<http://www.tanz.at/index.php/kritiken/kritiken-2020/2370-con-takt-in-graz>

<https://www.haubentaucher.at/2020/08/show-des-monats/>

<https://grazer.at/de/Ekm30Zv6/mit-spektakulaerer-show-sommer-open-air-bei-den/>

ConTakt - technical requirements

Sound:

2 x 1000-watt speakers with stand

1 amplifier (or 2 amplified speakers)

1 subwoofer

1 mix table (only needs 2 lines in) Power extension cords on stage

Stage:

6m x 8m (minimum 5x5m) even, hard surface – preferred concrete or wooden floor puzzle mats in the size of the stage

black dance carpet (3 rolls á 2x8m)

Indoor (minimum height 4m)

ConTakt was conceived as outdoor show, therefore no light set up has been made yet.

The show can be adjusted to indoor performances too.

ConTakt us!

booking@kontakt-circus.com

www.kontakt-circus.com



Landeskommission
Berlin gegen Gewalt



 Bundesministerium
Kunst, Kultur,
öffentlicher Dienst und Sport