



Xing in collaboration with **MAMbo**
presents

Saturday 1 June 7 pm > 10 pm

Sunday 2 June 5 pm > 8 pm

DANA MICHEL (Can)

MIKE

durational performance, Italian première

MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna

Via Don Minzoni 14

Saturday 1 June from 7 pm to 10 pm, and **Sunday 2 June 2024** from 5 pm to 8 pm **Xing** presents at **MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna** the durational performance **MIKE** by Canadian artist **Dana Michel** (Italian première).

MIKE is a performative reflection about labor and 'work' culture that Dana Michel develops in the empty spaces of the museum over the course of two long events: a shared experience with the audience revealing from the fringes a silent rebellion that takes its time. Michel breaches social norms from a position of curiosity rather than provocation, gently ushering supposed 'marginal figures' to the center of the conversation. She creates a series of situations that develop through their own internal logic, and moves in a world of objects to which she gives new meanings and purposes, away from binary and linear thinking. With humor and sensitivity she questions our very modes of existence, starting from a reflection on her business education and office work past, her personal and professional present, and a conjuring of a working revolutionary and inclusive future. **MIKE** proposes a certain horizontality in the approach to materials and dimensions of space and time - slow down - that follows non-hierarchical thinking. An ecology unfolds emerging from a horizon of objects that echo procedures stripped of any functional value. For Dana Michel "the creation and production of **MIKE** is a commitment to highlighting the idea that without trust in ourselves and in others, it is impossible to safely live public lives that reflect our interior lives. We are sure to stagnate in a state of half-life and disharmony... gridlocked in the endless traffic of not knowing how to respect or even truly recognize the other. We must believe in each other."

*"What I share with the public is an amalgam, a system of thoughts, sounds, silence and dissonances that have reached, over time, a density that I get to explore in public. Minute details pop into my kinetic vision, manifesting movements, resonations, colours and textures. I become very intimate with all of this and then share them loud. I want to make visible the process of thinking about a question. Using difficulty as a navigational methodology comes naturally and coerces my performances into places of vulnerability and discovery. This is where I am able to listen at closest range, and to share with the least hesitation. Thinking about beings as mathematical proofs or portals, made up of billions of possibilities, deepens this listening. My offering is a repository that remains open to interpretation, a vast space for encountering and broadening one's own logic of seeing and experiencing. With **MIKE** I'm interested in exploring how it shifts my and the audience's engagement. Even entering a building that is not a theater space brings about subtle changes in the mindset that we bring to experiencing a performance and in how we inhabit our bodies while preparing to watch and while watching other bodies in action. I know that the notion of trust is there, that it flows through and leads to the choices I make. I really feel the need to explore this subject, and I don't think I'm the only one, so I trust that it will resonate with those who are present. As with all my works, I'm not trying to illustrate any particular point. I'm mainly interested in creating more space for a diversity of perspectives and of ways of being and living. It seems evident that our societies have been constructed based on models of efficiency. My work is aimed at loosening our social reins and behaviours and at generating more space in the process. It seems to me this is the only way we can evolve together: by creating more space for everyone. It's a proposal perhaps idealistic, and at the same time, not at all."* (D.M.)

MIKE

created and performed by Dana Michel

artistic activators Viva Delorme, Ellen Furey, Peter James, Heidi Louis, Tracy Maurice, Roscoe Michel, Karlyn Percil, Yoan Sorin
scenographic consultant/technical direction Romain Guillet

sound consultant David Drury

production SCORP CORPS - Viva Delorme, Dana Michel

distribution Key Performance - Anna Skonecka, Koen Vanhove

coproduction ARSENIC - Centre d'art scénique contemporain (Lausanne,), National Arts Centre (Ottawa,), Festival TransAmériques (Montréal), Julidans Amsterdam (Netherlands), Kunstenfestivaldesarts (Brussels), MDT (Stockholm), Montpellier Danse, Moving in November (Helsinki), Wexner Center for the Arts of The Ohio State University in Columbus

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Dana Michel is a live artist based in Montreal, Canada. Her works interact with the expanded fields of improvisation, choreography, sculpture, comedy, hip-hop, cinematography, techno, poetry, psychology, dub and social commentary. Her artistic practice is rooted in exploring identity as disordered multiplicity. She works with notions of performative alchemy and post-cultural bricolage, using live moments, object appropriation, personal history, future desires and

XING

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current preoccupations to create an empathetic centrifuge of experience between her and her witnesses. Before graduating from the BFA program in Contemporary Dance at Concordia University in her late twenties, she was a marketing executive, and a competitive runner and football player. Since 2012 she created solo performance works including *Yellow Towel*, *Palna Easy Francis*, *Mercurial George*, *Cutlass Spring* and *MIKE*. In 2014, she was awarded the ImPulsTanz Award (Vienna) in recognition for outstanding artistic accomplishments, and was highlighted among notable female choreographers of the year by the New York Times. In 2017, she was awarded the Silver Lion for Innovation in Dance at the Venice Biennale. In 2018, she became the first ever dance artist in residence at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa, Canada. In 2019, she was awarded the ANTI Festival International Prize for Live Art in Kuopio, Finland.

Supported by Regione Emilia-Romagna, Comune di Bologna, with the collaboration of MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna. Media partners: Zero Edizioni, ATP diary, NEU Radio.

Where

MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna

Via Don Minzoni 14 – Bologna - I

www.mambo-bologna.org

facebook.com/MAMboMuseoArteModernaBologna instagram.com/mambobologna twitter.com/MAMboBologna

Tickets

E 10,00

The performance is 3 hours long. The public is encouraged to stay for the full length of it to feel the complete experience, but there is full autonomy: anyone can arrive, leave and circulate at any point.

With the same ticket one can access on both days.

Xing info

info@xing.it

www.xing.it <https://www.xing.it/event/533/mike>

facebook.com/xing.it instagram.com/xing.it twitter.com/xing_italy

Press kit

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/bzjzmd1a0lf1emi3s1cul/h?rlkey=2l0zfrwf3yxqx02x5lo1o8shv&dl=0>

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