



The festival takes place under the auspices of

Elfriede Jelinek (2004 Nobel Prize Winner in Literature)
Valie Export (Multimedia Artist)
Barbara Prammer (Second President of the National Council)
Austrian Commission for UNESCO

District turns stage

For the first time ever, the Vienna - Neubau (one of Vienna's 23 urban districts) becomes the backdrop for an international women art festival. Artists from all over the world will be presenting their shows, performances and installations at the time of the Austrian EU Presidency. For two weeks you will have the opportunity to enjoy no fewer than 26 carefully selected productions from 18 countries in 20 different arts and cultural spaces of this district! A series of public discourses focussing on the art presented at the festival centre KosmosTheater will round off the Festival.

The title *her position in transition* is central to the programme: Worldwide women artists and performers are concerned with gender relations and constructions, identities and their own artistic role in the global processes of transformation. Contemporary and experimental art cannot be separated from the gender aspect, and neither can socio-cultural projects. The hosting institutions in Vienna Neubau support the festival by taking part in the selection procedure and providing their resources, while the city councils as well as the district and the Federal Government subsidize the event.

Many well-known artists will be there: They are going to experiment with informations from outer space, work with New Media or search for their own roots. Young artists will be looking for new paths, for instance through the amusing "Textile-Sound-Performance" or a radical utilisation of their own bodies. Most of them perform across all genres - they are equally at home in modern poetry slam as in the digital worlds. They mix exhibition and workshop and investigate public space using a "women taxi". They will be dealing with global migration or violence, look back on their own feminist history, or create new places more suitable to women's needs.

The performers come from both the North and the South, from East Europe and Latin America, from the USA and Central Europe - and they are going to bring their utopias and strategies with them. They will provide us with an insight into their worlds - a two-week journey of exploration. Neubau goes Kosmos.

Barbara Klein, MA (idea and concept)
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Festival Management