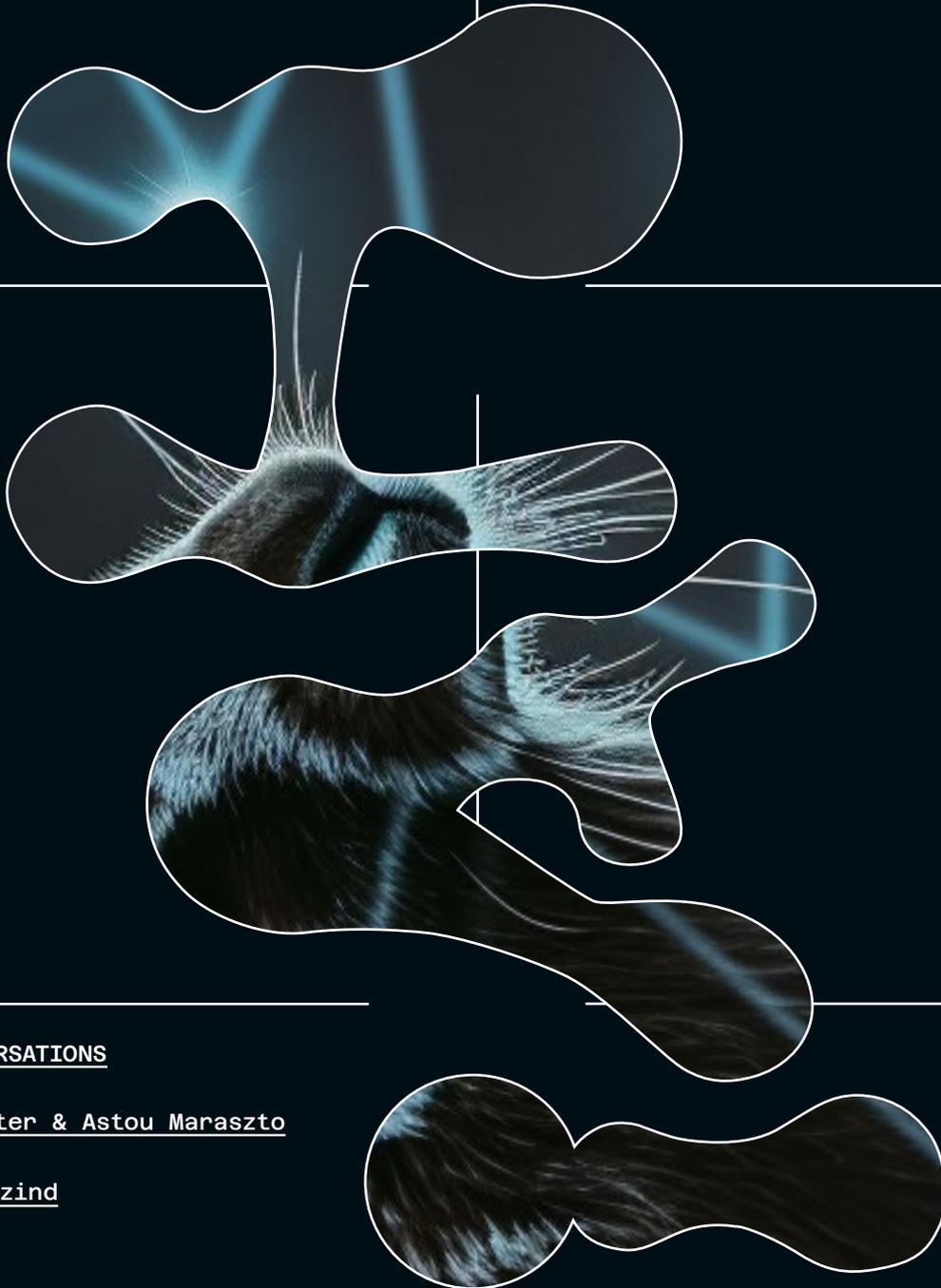


INTERSPECIES ART HUB

Verein für speziesübergreifende Kunst

Sniffing Conversations is an interdisciplinary dialogue series that puts non-human animals in focus, addressing topics in Interspecies Art, Human-Animal Studies, Philosophy, and Animal Ethics. Through workshops, lectures, and artistic projects, it explores the contemporary human-animal relationship, fostering exchange between art and science. The series is curated by Lisa Jäger, Gianna Virginia Prein, Lena Lieselotte Schuster and Eva Seiler.



SNIFFING CONVERSATIONS

1 Caroline Ritter & Astou Maraszto

2 Samuel Camenzind

3 Alex Bailey

4 Eva Seiler

5 Ivana Filip & Lisa Jevbratt

6 Jessica Ullrich

7 Isa Klee

8 Gianna Virginia Prein

9 Disco Cavallo

10 Pascal Marcel Dreier & Lena Lieselotte Schuster

11 Judith Benz-Schwarzburg



Horses are a frequently used motif in art. Conversely, there are now also horses conditioned to paint with a brush in their mouths on a canvas. However, this will not be the focus of this human-animal encounter with Disco Cavallo.

Instead, the focus lies on promoting positive interactions between humans and horses: whether abstract, concrete, expressionistic, or surreal - as long as it's edible.

SNIFFING CONVERSATION 1

Caroline Ritter & Astou Maraszto - Disco Cavallo

May 12, 2024, 1 PM

1

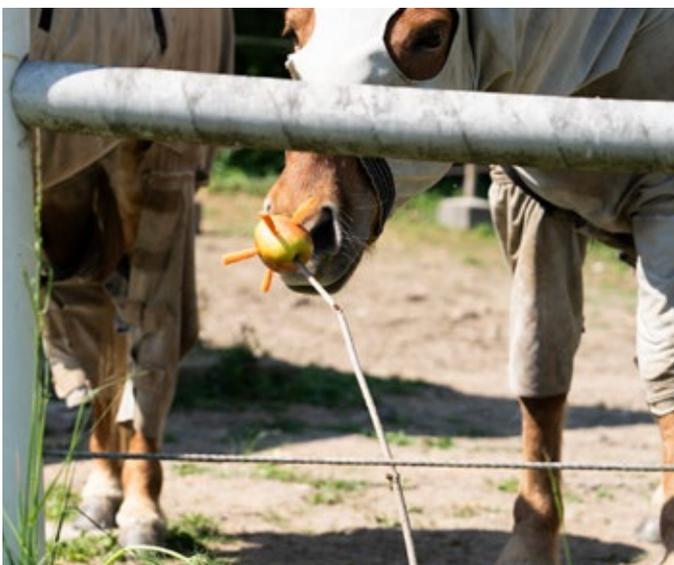
Caroline Ritter and Astou Maraszto have created with Disco Cavallo a space for equal human-animal encounters and communication, particularly with horses. The work of Disco Cavallo represents a science-based and mindful approach to how humans and animals can learn to understand each other.

Based on insights from cognitive science, ethology, psychology, and sociology, they create a protected space for mutual learning and growth.



Caroline Ritter is currently studying cognitive science at the University of Vienna, is an animal trainer, Feldenkrais teacher in Awareness Through Movement, and passionately shares her fascination with the topic of learning.

Astou Maraszto has been working in the animal-assisted field for over 10 years. She is currently studying educational science at the University of Vienna and focuses on learning in the context of social inequality.



SNIFFING CONVERSATION 2

Samuel Camenzind - Follow the White Rabbit: An Aesthetic and Ethical Investigation into the Art of Magic

Lecture, June 24, 2024, 7 PM

Location: Magic World Vienna,
Riesenradplatz 6, 1020 Vienna

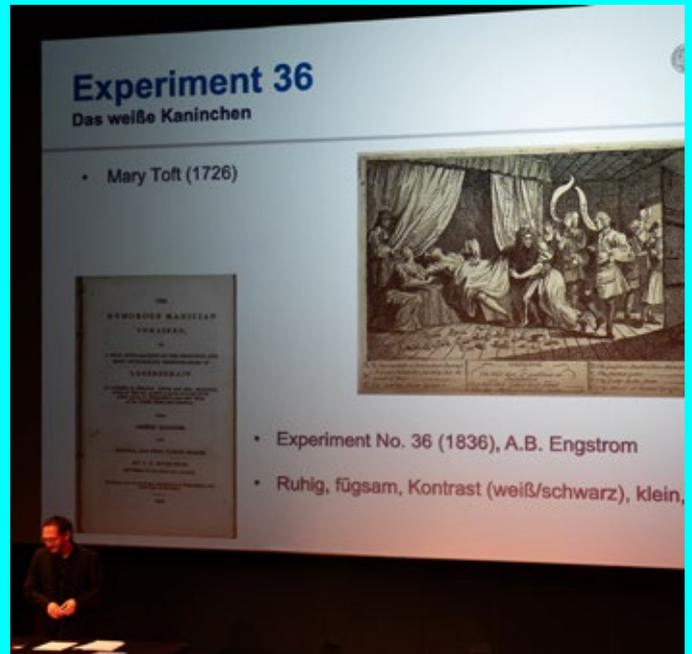


Samuel Camenzind, PhD, is a philosopher who focuses on applied ethics, the ethics of human-animal relationships, and bioethics. He works as a postdoctoral researcher and APART-GSK Fellow (ÖAW) at the Department of Philosophy at the University of Vienna. His questionnaire, „Beastly Ethics of Aesthetics - An Analysis and Reflection Tool for the Ethical Evaluation of Animals in Art,“ should serve as the basis for any collaboration with non-human co-partners. Samuel Camenzind has been a member of the Vienna Association for Magical Arts (VMKW) since 2023.

The white rabbit in the black top hat stands as an icon of magic today. With stoic patience, it appears night after night out of nowhere, leaving the audience in awe. However, magic with animals is not a modern phenomenon; early descriptions of it can be traced back to the Egyptian Westcar Papyrus tales around 1800 BC. But has anyone actually seen a live rabbit disappear on stage? Is it still acceptable to perform magic with animals today? What ethical norms apply to the treatment of animals on stage?

Starting from the assumption that secular magic is a contemporary form of performance art, this contribution explores the various roles of animals in magic from both ethical and aesthetic perspectives. Using exemplary, and sometimes bizarre, examples – such as a levitating cow or a mind-reading hamster – human-animal relationships are discussed within the context of the „rare arts.“ It also asks to what extent magic can benefit from engaging with the demands of a sensitive approach to animals in art.

2



SNIFFING CONVERSATION 3

Alex Bailey - Dancing with dogs

Workshop for dogs and humans,
July 21st, 7 pm

Location: Dog Park Mexikoplatz

Please register via dm or e-mail:
mail@interspeciesart.world

The event is for dogs and their human companions but If you would like to come without a dog then please let us know.



photo credit: Marcella Ruiz Cruz

Alex Bailey is a performer and artist based in Vienna. Since 2014 they've made Performances for Pets. These experiences lead to Workshops by Pets and independently they've worked with differently abled children at various schools in Vienna. They have performed with their young child & co-parent as a non-nuclear family in Codomestication, and their work has been performed widely across Europe.

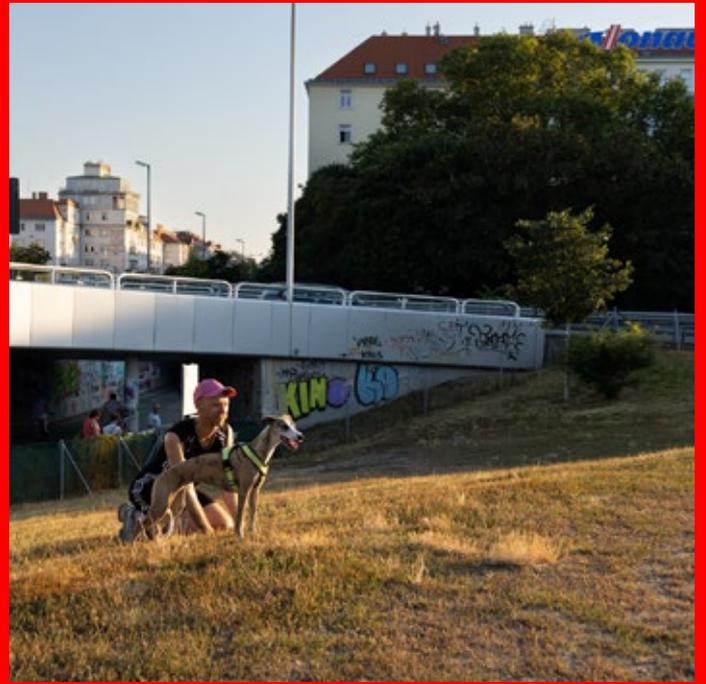
3

Dancing with dogs

Dancing with dogs, invites people to come with their canine companions to question the roles of human and animal in order to explore the dynamics of companionship. Here, dogs become the teachers, instructing us on how to become part of the pack, form cross-species bonds, and embody more „dogness.“ Humans can bring their own dogs to explore their relationship on a connected and empathetic level. Or you can come with the dog of a friend.

Human participants will engage in activities such as shared „being together“ and mirroring behavior to learn to be and understand the other. Human participants should be open to the idea that their dog or the dog of their friend is an equal partner in their relationship. Together friendship becomes an extended consequence and artistic material arising from bonding acts with the canine perspective.

Inspired by a dog living in Vienna called Salat.



4



SNIFFING CONVERSATION 4

Johannes Hohenegger, Eva Seiler - TAUBENTURM

August 18th, 11 am

Location: Studio Liebhartsgasse 22,
Courtyard

The event will be held in German and will last approximately 1.5 hours.

The location is wheelchair accessible.

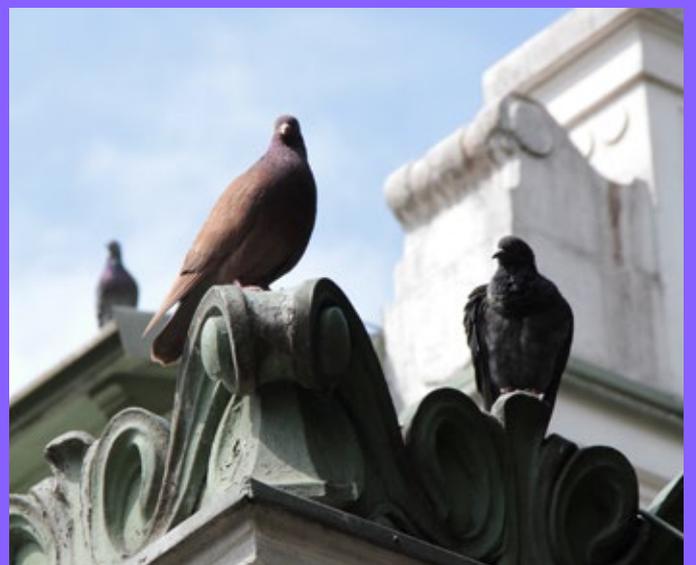
TAUBENTURM

Ornithologist Johannes Hohenegger and artist Eva Seiler will discuss the history between humans and (urban) pigeons and develop a possible narrative about the future of shared living spaces from a contemporary perspective. The discussion will cover seemingly contradictory aspects such as resistance and adaptability, feeding and foraging, responsibility and evolution, reproduction and plaster eggs, as well as windowsills and cliff ledges. Ultimately, we face the question of whether we need to grant pigeons more shades of gray.

After presenting material sketches for a pigeon tower, we will proceed to the nearby Lerchenfelder Gürtel/ Burggasse corner to visit the resident flock of pigeons.

Eva Seiler questions anthropocentrism in her sculptures and spatial settings and imagines how the coexistence of human and non-human animals, the environment, and technology will be realized in the future. In line with hybrid relationship modalities, she uses both organic materials and industrial products. Special consideration is given to materials that facilitate interactions between human and non-human beings.

Johannes Hohenegger works as a scientific associate at BirdLife Austria. His areas of expertise include illegal persecution, „conflict“ species, and conservation law. As a freelance ornithologist specializing in bird protection, he is involved in various surveys for NGOs and technical offices and leads birdwatching excursions.



What does Interspecies Art actually mean? And how does Interspecies Art look like in practice? Two artists of the exhibition Start Sniffing provide insights into artistic processes with non-human animals.

In addition to the Zoomorph-app for simulating animal vision, California-based artist Lisa Jevbratt also presents her oft-cited, pioneering project Interspecies Collaboration, which she launched back in 2006 at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Students were invited to collaborate with individuals of other species. In her works, which she views as collaborative systems, both she and the audience become citizen scientists and make discoveries together.

Croatian artist, activist and researcher Ivana Filip also works in interspecies collaborations. In her project FREEROAMING the artist co-created a series of interspecies communication and utopian experiments between humans and cats, while observing a community of free-roaming cats in the Spinut neighbourhood of Split.

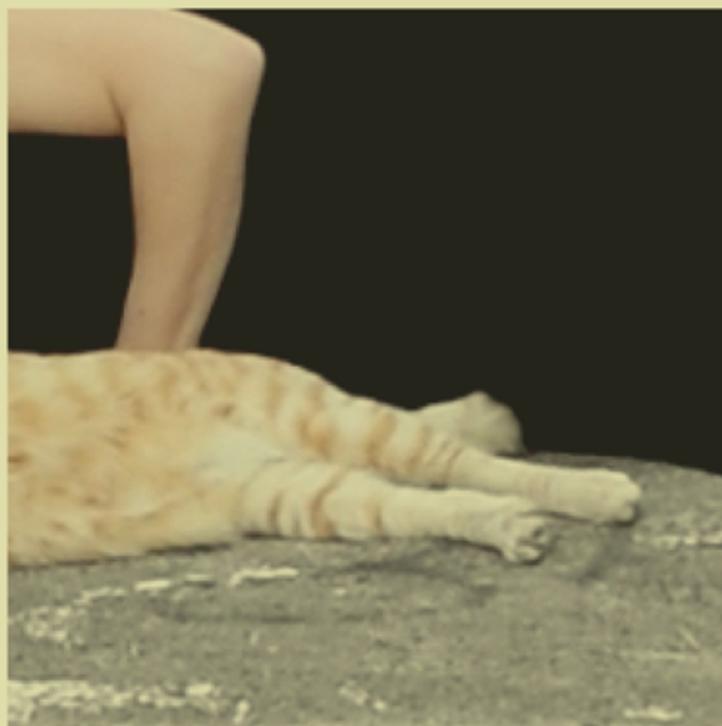
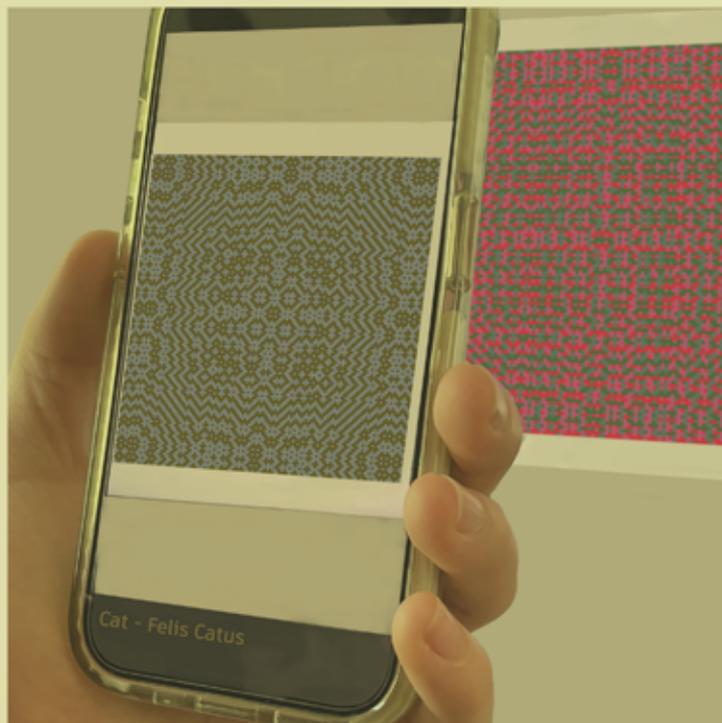
Both artists present their long-standing artistic practice and engage in dialogue with each other and with all those interested.

<https://ivanafilip.com>, <http://jevbratt.com>

Bildcredits:

©Lisa Jevbratt, Zoomorph – Impareidolia, Animal vision simulation app, Random animations, 2013/2024

©Ivana Filip, FREEROAMING, videostill, 2020



5

SNIFFING CONVERSATION 5

Talk with Ivana Filip & Lisa Jevbratt

The artist talk is part of the exhibition „Start Sniffing“ in KEX, curated by Lena Lieselotte Schuster

Thu 26.09.2024, 5 pm

Location: KEX Kunsthalle Exnergasse
Währinger Str. 59, 1090 Wien

SNIFFING CONVERSATION 6

Jessica Ullrich - Radikale Multispezies-Utopien: Künstlerische Kohabitation und Kollaboration mit anderen Tieren

Freitag, 18.10.2024, 18:30 Uhr

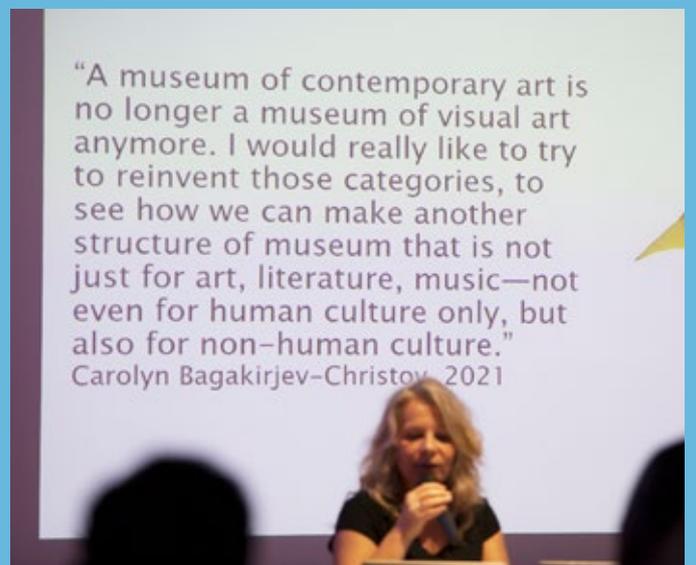
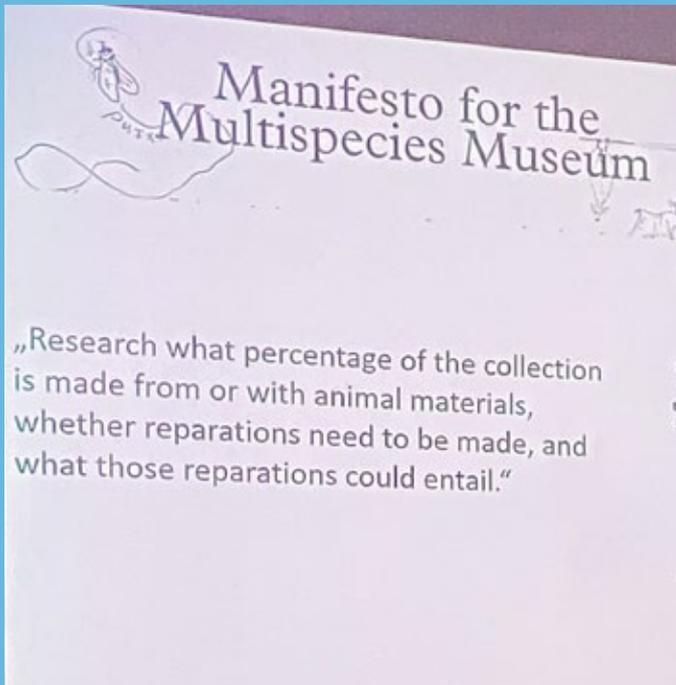
Ort: KEX Kunsthalle Exnergasse
Währinger Str. 59, 1090 Wien



Von engagierter aktueller Kunst wird erwartet, dass sie irritiert, das Bestehende kritisiert, Normen in Frage stellt, systematische Ungerechtigkeiten anklagt und sich immer wieder neue, eigene, experimentelle Regeln gibt. Kunst ist deshalb ein ideales Spielfeld für utopische Spekulationen und Entwürfe. Sie findet immer wieder Wege, utopischer Imagination Gestalt zu verleihen und somit eine radikale Neuorganisation der Welt vorstellbar zu machen. Das kann z.B. eine postanthropozentrische, solidarische Multispezies-Gesellschaft sein, in der Tiere vollwertige Mitglieder sind und in der tierliche Individualität, tierliche Agency sowie tierliche Interessen und Bedürfnisse anerkannt werden.

Die schöpferische Gestaltungsfähigkeit der Kunst, Gedankenexperimenten eine Form zu geben, soll anhand von zwei exemplarischen Schwerpunktthemen diskutiert werden: Einerseits werden Mensch-Tier-Kohabitationsprojekte bzw. künstlerische Mikro-Sanctuaries als bereits verwirklichte Utopien vorgestellt. Andererseits eröffnen uns Ansätze einer ästhetischen Tier-Mensch-Kollaboration bzw. einer tierlichen Ästhetik mögliche Zugänge, Tiere zukünftig als kreative Akteur_innen in ihrer weltbildenden Kraft ernst zu nehmen.

In beiden Fällen entfaltet sich das emanzipatorische Potenzial nur, wenn Tiere als gleichberechtigte Gestalter_innen der gemeinsamen Räume und Praktiken beteiligt sind. Dann kann Kunst über ihre angestammte Rolle als Kommentatorin und Katalysatorin gesellschaftlicher Tier-Mensch-Verhältnisse hinauswachsen und zur Aktivistin und Propagandistin für bessere Zukünfte werden und weltverändernde Impulse setzen. Kunst führt dann auch vor, dass Utopien nicht unbedingt in eine ferne Zukunft oder eine entlegene Weltengegend projiziert werden müssen, sondern im Hier und Jetzt möglich sind.



SNIFFING CONVERSATION 7

Isa Klee - Multispecies Walk
mit Erdhummeln, Mauerseglern, Hainsalbei
und Fledermäusen.

Saturday, February 8st, 2025, 2 pm

tour duration: 70 minutes, held in DE/ENG

The event is accessible and inclusive

Location: WAF, Schadekgasse 8, 1060 Wien

Starting from Haus des Meeres, Klee navigates the city from a multispecies perspective, focusing on *earth bumblebees*, *house martins*, *common sage*, and *bats*. Surrounding streets, alleys, cracks in the earth, rooftops, and squares are examined for their suitability as habitats, and Klee engages the participants in exploring which species could live in the city and what is needed to create a shift toward improved quality of stay, habitat connectivity, and a biodiverse city. Because Klee's work revolves around nothing less than *the habitability of Earth*, *Seeding Practice*, as a transformative multispecies practice, is also part of the walk. Participants immediately enhance the local potential biodiversity in selected and suitable

areas, leaving seeds of common sage and columbine, which later serve as food for earth bumblebees during their blooming season.

**Seeding Practice* is an artistic-research practice developed by Klee to sustainably transform (urban) spaces into biodiverse environments, to connect intensively with places, to better understand species and ecological relationships, and to become an active part of these cycles.

© Photo Anton Lederer, rotor Graz



Isa Klee works as an Endangered-Species-Advocacy professional, intersecting for intact biodiversity.

Klee initiates, activates, and designs biodiverse spaces, art and spatial processes, and conceives cities as multispecies learning and living environments. Most recently, her works have been showcased at the KFA of the University of Applied Arts, the Forum Alpbach, the Vienna Secession, < rotor >, and the Climate Biennale (KunstHausWien). Klee is involved in various community projects and potential habitats, and in 2021, she co-founded the association Öko Campus Wien with like-minded peers.

7



SNIFFING CONVERSATION 8

Amphibians : Crossing Paths

Interactive walk with Gianna Virginia Prein

Green toads and other amphibians often have to cross roads to get to their spawning grounds - and they are in danger of being run over. To prevent this, fences are erected and subways built - a bureaucratically complex and lengthy process. Especially as it is never possible to predict exactly when the amphibians will migrate.

Gianna Virginia Prein provides insights into the research for her artistic subway sculpture project. Questions about the

characteristics of a sculpture will be addressed. After an expert introduction and accompanied by Anna Loupal, we will use buckets, safety waistcoats and headlamps to help the animals cross the road safely. Disclaimer: Despite all probability, it is always possible that there are no amphibians on the road.

Gianna Virginia Prein with the kind support of the amphibian protection coordinator for Vienna, Anna Loupal, MA 22 and MA 7.

Limited to 8 participants. Please book bindingly, at mail@interspeciesart.world, (with succession procedure.)

Between 10 and 15 March, at dusk (exact time will be announced by e-mail a few days beforehand)

Meeting point 450 bus stop 'Schloss Laudon'

Duration approx. 2-3 hours. Held in German.

Also takes place in the rain!

8



To take part, you will need:

- rainproof, warm clothing
- sturdy shoes
- washed, product-free hands

This Sniffing Conversation is not suitable for non-human animals (e.g. fire salamanders are poisonous to dogs).

Unfortunately, the area is not barrier-free. If you need assistance, please let us know in the email so that we can look for options together.





SNIFFING CONVERSATION 9

Disco Cavallo - Pferdemädchen* - Narrative von Female Empowerment oder Reproduktion von patriarchalen Machtstrukturen

Thursday, April 24, 2025, 7 pm
Lecture and discussion, approx. 90 minutes, held in German.

Location: Depot – Kunst und Diskussion,
Breite Gasse 3, 1070 Wien

Live stream - <https://youtu.be/TicvTHaSf38>

Internalized misogyny as a product of patriarchal projection:

Females socialized with a passion for horses – desired and rejected, sexualized and infantilized.

The lecture by Disco Cavallo sheds light on the „horse girl“ stereotype and examines the interplay of gender, class, and speciesism.

Who has access to horses?

What kind of image of friendship and relationships is being conveyed here?
What power structures are being legitimized?

The traditional ways of interacting with horses are discussed as a reflection of patriarchal dominance.

Supposed norms—such as empowerment through the exertion of violence on the “weaker”—are critically questioned.

Alternative approaches, such as non-violent training methods, open up new narratives for human-animal relationships beyond dominance.

A thematic collaboration between Disco Cavallo and the IAH is planned, which will take the form of a workshop and an exhibition.

An open call for interested participants will follow.

Caroline Ritter and Astou Maraszto have created with Disco Cavallo a space for equal human-animal encounters and communication, particularly with horses. The work of Disco Cavallo represents a science-based and mindful approach to how humans and animals can learn to understand each other. Based on insights from cognitive science, ethology, psychology, and sociology, they create a protected space for mutual learning and growth.



DISCO CAVALLO x Interspecies Art Hub

Das "klassische" Pferdemädchen* u Narrative

Wendy

Horse Movie Starterpack

- Where she place here. Probably grandparents house
- Basic premise: "Her life was awful, until she found a pony."
- Overal message about friendship or believing in yourself
- Old farmer who offers the protagonist advice about friendship or believing in yourself?
- Old farmer who offers the protagonist advice about friendship or believing in yourself?
- Forced lowpoint for protagonist: We probably ends with a race or



DISCO CAVALLO x Interspecies Art Hub

Pferdemädchen* als sexualisiertes Objekt

Zur Erklärung:
 "Lunging"/"Longieren" - das Pferd an einer Leine mit Hilfe einer Peitsche im Kreis bewegen. Wird oft eingesetzt damit sich das Pferd vor dem Reiten "abregiert".



SNIFFING CONVERSATION 10

dogs x pigs mit Pascal Marcel Dreier und
Lena Lieselotte Schuster

Donnerstag, 26. Juni 2025, 17 Uhr

3 Spieleinheiten: 17:00, 17:20, 17:40 Uhr
und Finissage STAY_VANISH_BECOME

Ort: Galerie OÖKunstverein, Landstraße 31,
4020 Linz

10



Vergleichen wir ein Hundeleben mit dem „Leben“ eines sogenannten Nutztieres, hat der Hund/die Hündin eine Sonderposition innerhalb unserer Gesellschaft. Speziesismus ist das Wort, das die Diskriminierung und Ausbeutung von Lebewesen aufgrund ihrer Artzugehörigkeit bezeichnet. Fähigkeiten und Interessen der unterdrückten Spezies werden bewusst gering eingestuft.

In der von Victoria Windtner kuratierten Ausstellung STAY_VANISH_BECOME, verbinden Pascal Marcel Dreier und Lena Lieselotte Schuster die Lebensrealitäten von Hund und Schwein und brechen mit binären, anthropozentrischen Denkweisen.

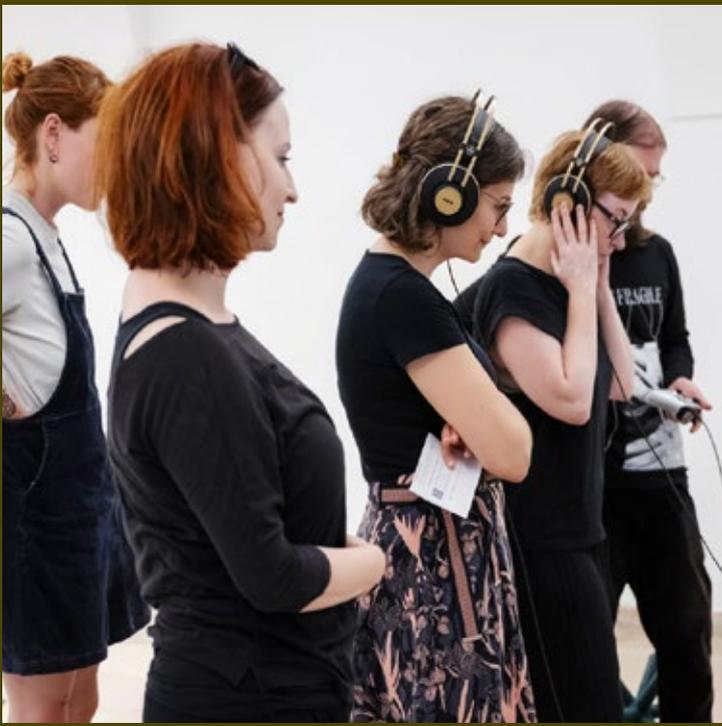
Hunde/Hündinnen und ihre Companions (Begleiter:innen) sind herzlich zu einer Spieleinheit mit den Künstler:innen eingeladen.

Neben der interaktiven Pawformance Zone, stehen den tierliche Besucher:innen Lunas - ein Utensil der zeitgenössischen Landwirtschaft - zur Verfügung. Weiters gibt die Video Game Installation „deprofundis.exe“ die Möglichkeit eines Video-Walkthroughs durch die dunklen Fabrikhallen der landwirtschaftlichen Schweine(fleisch)produktion.

Um Anmeldung für eine Spieleinheit mit Angabe der gewünschten Zeit wird gebeten: mail@interspeciesart.world

Bildcredits:

© still deprofundis.exe, Pascal Marcel Dreier
© Fotos Sniffing Conversation 10: Violetta Wakolbinger



Virtual Animals: An Ethical Discussion
with Dr. Judith Benz-Schwarzburg

Wednesday, 08.10.2025, 5:30 PM
Free access to the Immersium from 4:30 PM

Location: Immersium, Habsburgergasse 10,
1010 Vienna



The Interspecies Art Hub and the Vienna Animal Studies Group have accepted the kind invitation from Immersium Vienna. They were not involved in the exhibition 'Planet Wildlife' and do not agree with all forms of representation.

11

Dr. Judith Benz-Schwarzburg discusses the chances and challenges of virtual animals and the implications for ethical representation.

Humans like watching animals. But encountering them in nature has become problematic due to wildlife extinction and overtourism. Meanwhile, we most often encounter wild animals in captivity. As there are many animal welfare concerns surrounding captive animals and because we have new technological means, more and more circuses and zoos, conservation organizations, entertainment shows and museums go virtual: they offer to meet tigers on virtual safaris, orangutans through VR goggles, sharks on surround

screens, and elephants as 3D projections. In this talk, Dr. Judith Benz-Schwarzburg discusses the chances and challenges of virtual animals and the implications for an ethical representation.

Please register to attend the event:
<https://www.viennaanimalstudies.com/event-details/virtual-animals-an-ethical-discussion>
If you forget to register don't worry, come anyway!

Dr. Judith Benz-Schwarzburg is an animal ethicists from the Messerli Research Institute. She works at the intersection of animal cognition and animal ethics.

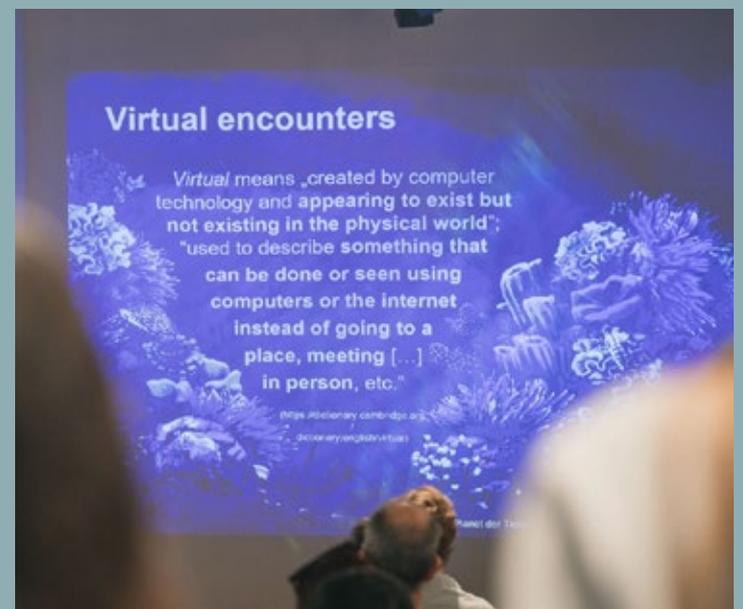
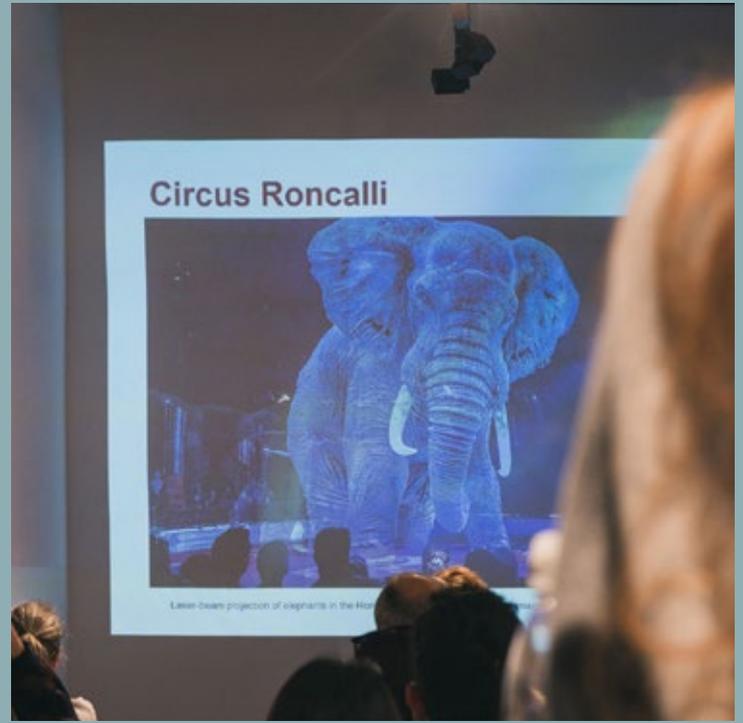
Her research addresses the (implications of) complex socio-cognitive abilities like culture, language, theory of mind, or morality in animals. Thereby, she is also interested in how representations of animals (for example in picture books or contemporary art) refer to the animals' perspectives, to their subjectivity and agency, their welfare and rights.

Photo credits:

@ Wien Uncovered

© Gianna Virginia Prein







Kollaborationen / Unterstützer:innen:
BOKU, Depot Wien, Immersium Wien,
kex - kunsthalle exnergasse, MA 22,
Magic World Vienna, Naturschutzbund Wien,
OÖ Kunstverein Linz, Vienna Animal Studies Group,
WAF Galerie

Gefördert von der Stadt Wien Kultur
