



Xing
presents

friday 11 december 7.30 pm

Isabella Mongelli/Tim Spooner (I/UK)
THE SURROGATE - Study I
performance

Raum

Via Ca' Selvatica 4/d Bologna

Friday 11th december at 7.30 pm Xing presents at Raum **THE SURROGATE - Study I**, outcome of a week of study and collaboration between **Isabella Mongelli** and **Tim Spooner**, two artists supported by Xing in 2015, one based in Italy and the other in Great Britain, who work inbetween the performative and visual field.

With the format of **studio/hospitality**, Raum has in mind a cultural acupuncture, a work on interstitial tissues. Raum as a space for research, not necessarily exposed to public consumption. A place of representation of knowledge and its mutability.

The surrogate is anything that replaces another, setting new criteria of adequacy.

"Walking through Rome we did not find the Trevi Fountain but some scaffolding with an image of the same, and a small tub of water. The gap between the size of the original fountain and the modesty of its stunt double was funny and had in it a force. A force that we joyfully called The Surrogate. We think of situations, forms, processes, images that replace something inaccessible, invisible or absent. Phenomena that result in surfaces, interfaces, emanations, representations offered to the world. For example an empty niche in a church. For example, a potato that gives water to its shoot and almost disappears, it becomes very small, now it's going to die. The Surrogate has to do with matter, its needs, with time but also with the human thought. This first study activates experiments, it collects some of the results and presents them to an audience. The public presentation at Raum will venture a guess with a certain demonstrative attitude."

Isabella Mongelli, italian performer and visual artist, interested in simple actions inside complex thematic areas, has produced different formats of shows and performances. Her debut was in 2010 with IRINA Produktjons, a theatrical and video project that has produced the drama *IRINA [Varietà] Deljirant*. In 2012 she started a long-term project about her home-town, Tàranto (distorted in *tarànto*), a name-concept that states a human way of life in some special places where life jumps between poisons. The project includes the show *my personal tarànto*, anf the performances *lido azzurro*, *Delegazione Tarànto*, and *Industrial Grand Tour*. In 2014 she was artist in residence in SAC-Pino Pascali Foundation program with the project *Offseason* in collaboration with the meteorologist V.Laricchia. She has collaborated with Mattin, Projet in Situ, Cosimo Terlizzi. She is part of IYMA network and her works have been presented in festivals such as Short Theatre, Peraspera, Santarcangelo dei Teatri and Zoom.
www.isbellamongelli.it

Tim Spooner is an artist working from London in painting and performance, presenting work in both galleries and theatres. Since 2010 he has been making and demonstrating collections of *performing sculptures*, presenting them in vibrating compositions of living and inanimate matter, sound and electricity. Exemplifying a low-tech, handmade yet magical quality, these shows aim to open up perspectives beyond the human scale and expand an understanding of the physical world by revealing something of its inner life. Recent work includes *The Assembly of Animals*, which combines performance with sculpture. Another current work is *The Telescope*, which uses a microscope camera to reveal a universe of miniature objects manipulated using magnets, electricity and chemical reactions. This has been performed in diverse contexts in the UK - theatres, galleries and symposiums (including Whitstable Biennale, Whitechapel Gallery, Cambridge Junction, Manchester Science Museum), and in France and Italy (TJP Strasbourg, Terni Festival, Natura dei Teatri Parma). Tim Spooner is an Artsadmin Associate artist, and also has an ongoing relationship with TJP Strasbourg, having developed work in residencies and contributed to a publication (Revue COI) as well as presenting several shows in their programme. His work has been supported and commissioned by Arts Council England, Bamboo Network/TJP, b-side Festival, Chisenhale Dance and the Homemade, Artsadmin Bursary, The Arts Foundation, the Juliet Gomperts Trust and the National Theatre Studio. He's been part of the *Troupe Mabuse* projects directed by Simon Vincenzi.
www.tspooner.co.uk

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