



Xing
presents

saturday 27 january 2018

ISABELLA MONGELLI (I)
Splendor Solis
performance

Raum
Via Ca' Selvatica 4/d Bologna

Saturday 27th january at 10pm Xing presents at Raum ***Splendor Solis***, a new performance by **Isabella Mongelli**.
(Xing production)

Splendor Solis is a project that belongs to the realm of the visionary, not because it privileges fantasy (an escape from reality), but because of its precise and daring choice of color, magic and mannerism. Its excessive force is novel because it stages the impossibility of faithful reproduction, of recalling past nor future. It emphasizes the present as a pool of elements that should not be commented on, but that push beyond, elsewhere. *Splendor Solis* brings together things in a flow of non-sense miniatures. It is unprecedented and baroque. In this performance the Baroque is a formal, conceptual and spiritual fact. The objects of vision are: the sun, the Dodo's extinction in the seventeenth century, Russian sunsets and M. Rothko as he contemplates them before emigrating to America, colonial forces leading to extinctions, rising temperatures worldwide and human being, the search for truth, horizontal and vertical dimensions that meet in the fold, divination, premonition, the crocodile, dreams, and more ... The way all this comes together is informal in character - it spreads in a space of becoming. *Splendor Solis* is inspired by the Baroque and sees it as an encouragement to seek truth in canopies, hermeticism and invented ephemeral sets that emerge out of mimesis and the transference of properties from one thing to another. The making of this work has been influenced by eminent thinkers. Deleuze on the Baroque, in particular the ideas of infinity, of the line that continually folds, of informality as the ontology of becoming, of the Baroque as an operational process, functional (production and overproduction) and as an absolutely creative force. Mongelli also stumbled upon the cheerful spirit of anthropologist Michael Taussig, in particular his *The Sun Theatre* and *The Cry of the Donkeys* and his attention towards orphaned language, unusual correspondences, and the idea of overproduction as the primary tool of a new attitude. Following her own metaphysical vein, Isabella Mongelli tries to "do something difficult, that is, to create an atmosphere of good omen". "In practice you make peace with dreams as freedom to act correspondences whose sense needs time to reveal itself. And in any case a dream does not reveal itself to everyone because it is not for everyone.."

Splendor Solis is an installation and performance project of which the first two parts will be presented in Raum: *Delphi Situations* and *Baroque Salotto*. A third and last part will follow in 2018: *Dodo Resurrection*.

Splendor Solis

by Isabella Mongelli
with Isabella Mongelli & guests
technical assistance Antonello Greco
production Læra, Xing
thanks to Mimmo

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 Produktjions, a theatrical and video project. 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 included the show *my personal tarànto*, and the performances *Lido Azzurro*, *Delegazione Tarànto*, and *Industrial Grand Tour*. In 2016, in collaboration with the English artist Tim Spooner, she created *The Surrogate*, a performance on matter, time and human thought, which later became *Surrogate Proliferation*, an online video series. She currently work on the project *Splendor Solis*. From 2015 she participated in the *Safari Here* project with the artists Maria Anastassiou and Milos Tomic for the Corners of Europe platform, realizing site related and community based actions. In 2014 she was artist in residence at the SAC-Fondazione Pino Pascali project in Bari, and in 2017 at Viagarini in Milan. She has collaborated with the artists: Motus, Dewey Dell, Philippe Quesne, Projet in Situ, Via Negativa, Mattin, Cosimo Terlizzi, Francesco Michele Laterza, OHT Office for Human Theater, and with Colonel Meteorologist Vito Antonio Laricchia. Her work have been presented in institutions and festivals such as Teatro Pubblico Pugliese, Rex Belgrade, Gdansk City Institute, Balinese Dance Platform, Xing, Short Theater, Peraspera, Pino Pascali Museum, Indisciplinarte, Zoom Festival, Play Festival, Santarcangelo Festival.
www.isabellamongelli.it

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Xing info

via Ca' Selvatica 4/d - Bologna (I)
tel +39.051.331099 info@xing.it
www.xing.it [facebook.com/xing.it](https://www.facebook.com/xing.it) twitter.com/liveartweek

Xing press

mob +39.339.1503608 presso@xing.it

RAUM

via ca' selvatica 4/d bologna
tel +39 051 331099