

Forced Memories

<http://arts.rfsat.com>

The concept

Forced Memories is an international domestic tele-video-performance art project created in order to unite the emotions and memories of locked down artists from around the world in the middle of the pandemic. This project has been created as a reaction to the unique human isolation that the planet went through during Covid-19 crisis. Artists from Greece, Canada, Argentina, Sweden, UK, and France inspired by Samuel Beckett's confined and socially disabled characters, each decided to perform the sentiments of their memories during Covid-19 trying all together to sculpture the One human of nowadays; attempting to envision the One human after the locked down. This artwork will be a contemporary «memory recorder» of a global human; a lonely, locked down universal individual. All these memories, created by a team of artists, are merged and interconnected, come to life and die on an electronic platform, in an intangible place to seek communication and create a contact with their untouchable global world, before the arrival of their oblivion.

Forced Memories is a study in surrealism; an attempt towards the freedom, a human effort to escape from her/his own prisons. In a locked-up globe, our memory cannot be free. We needed to experience a pandemic in order to realize it; and this is surreal. We are obedient global citizens fed by mass media and raised as agents who transmit images and expectations. We have always been *locked up*, raised with forced memories and choices that we have never decided for ourselves. Forced Memories is a project that seeks to create the human with free recollections. Isn't this surreal?

When

The performance art event will take place on the **11th of July 2020 at 21.00 Greek time**. The artists will stream their artwork via ZOOM Webinar platform and will be there for an open discussion with their audience. Audience may book their spot to the free event here: <http://arts.rfsat.com>. After the first screening of the event, **Video Art Miden** will host the video of the collaborative performance art on Miden' s youtube channel, from July 15 to August 30, 2020. For more information regarding the screening of **Video Art Miden** please see here: <http://www.festivalmiden.gr/> and/or <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8ly7FIRWx2-fXyrAulY-DQ>.

Forced Memories Participants

(according to alphabetical order)

Anna Birch

Katerina Diareme

Yiouli Garofalaki

Kostis Georgakopoulos

Kathleen Irwin

Dorian Kristmanson

Kyrie Kristmanson

Pavlos Krukowski

Tina Memou

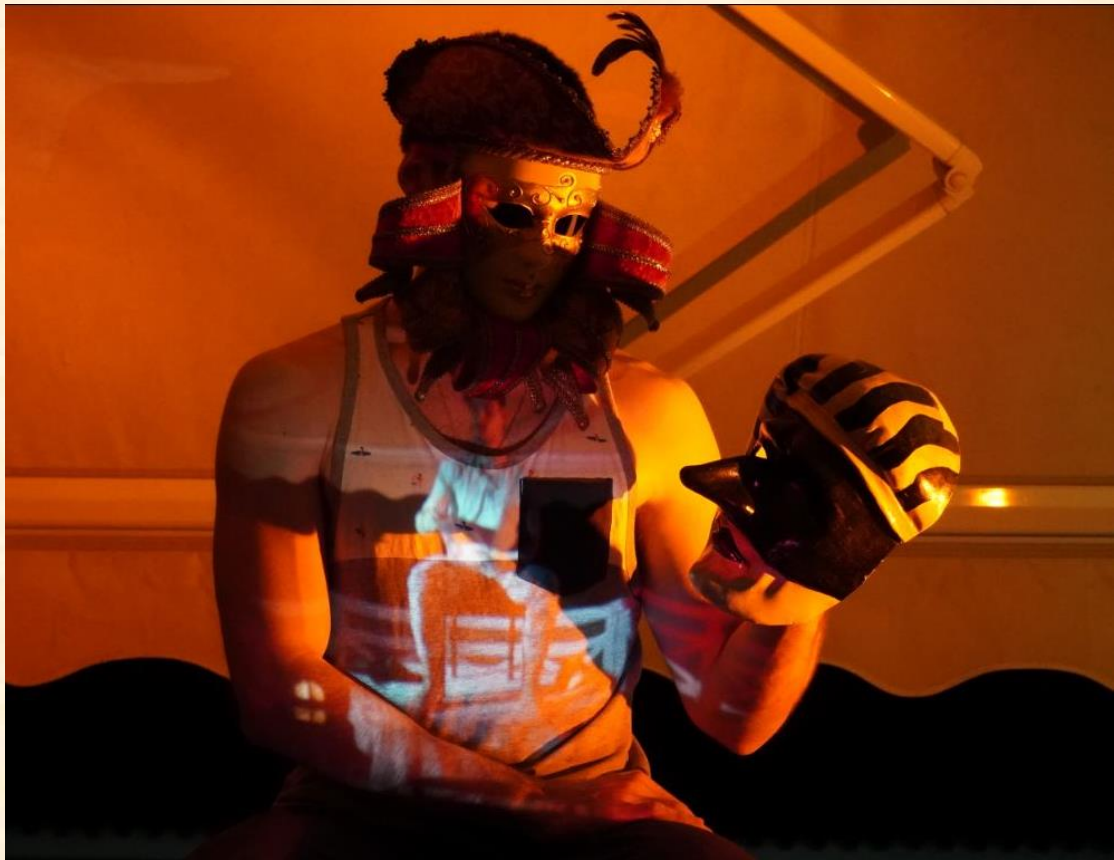
Natalia Patrinely

Eva Reichberg

Emmanouela Vogiatzaki Krukowski

Mariana Kutulas Vrsalovic

Photographs



A neighbour with his eyes closed

Lost in the maze,
an unforgettable memory.

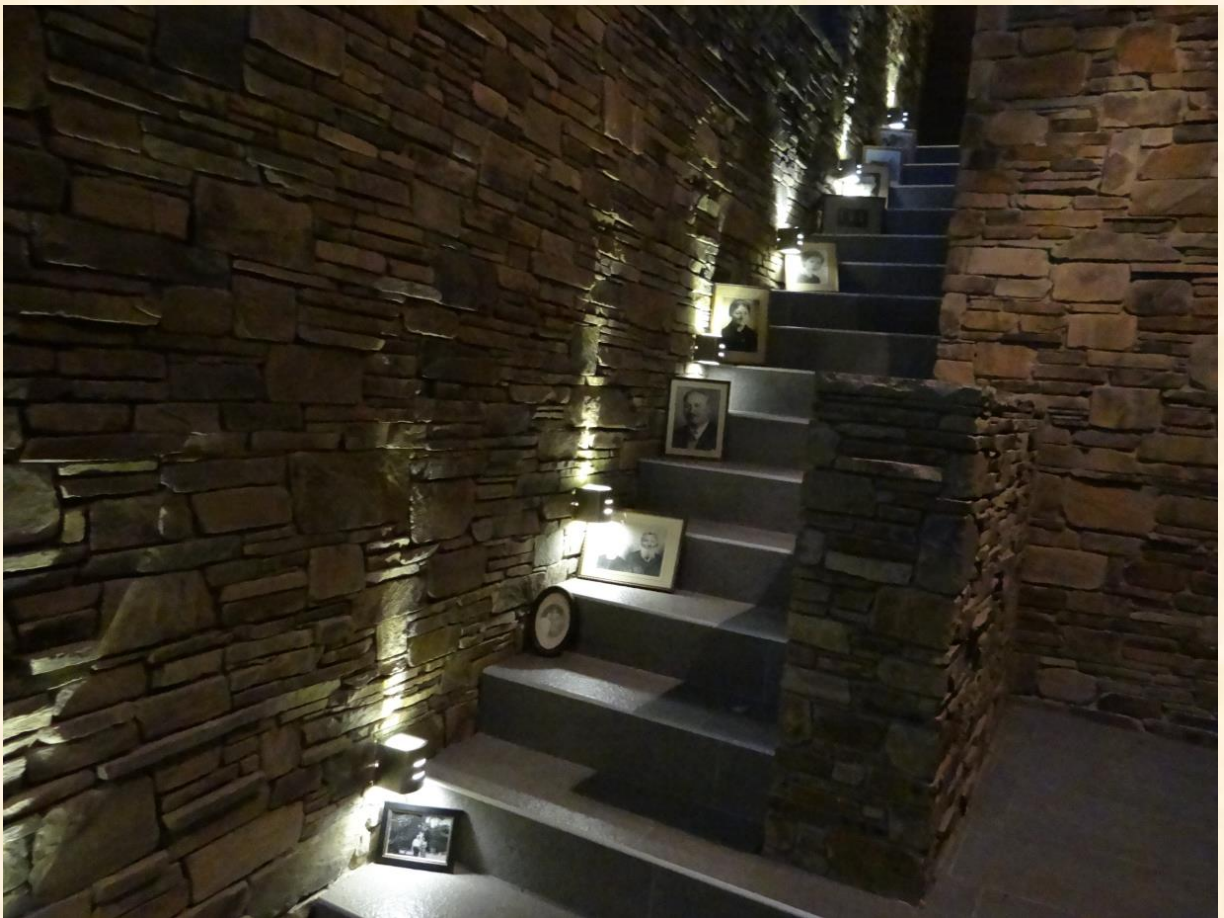
I caress the absence of all of you
and I resist those memories that were never forgotten,

Cold then,
walking in the rain
since I had nowhere else to find solace.

Until I got lost too,
there in the labyrinth
the unforgettable oblivion.

Behind a curtain the whole world celebrates.

Emmanouela Vogiatzaki Krukowski



Ancestors tree

Ancestors tree... the staircase. Steps of time. Labyrinths of blood.

The branches that touch each other, separate, meet, get lost, meet
again, come together again.

The lines of the pages where history is written, our history. Because
that's what people are made of. Of stories.

A person without history would be a leather bag full of bones, of empty
cartilage.

The transit through time with all its nostalgia, its scars, its hopes, its
fears, its longings and projections.

Every time we look in the mirror... there they are, at every step, in
every cell.

If we look closely through the tunnel of the pupils, we will be able to
touch them, feel them, embrace them and tell them that we are here,
linked by an eternal embrace that never breaks.

I'm daughter of the ships...

Mariana Kúttulas Vrsalović



I boil my gluten-free spaghetti, but I don't care if my relationship with others is
glutenic anymore.

I can't move freely and interact with others, be it merely glutenicly, I lose experience
and thought.

Factum becomes fictum and truth mixes with lies.

Isolation leads to terror, that conquers. I read about "common-sense" solely in books
and hear about in political fiestas.

Arendt tells me that I am uprooted and superfluous, but I don't believe her and I eat
my spaghetti. Those are terms that match only totalitarian governments and those
belong to History.

Tina Memou



I kept the worst company to myself when I was alone,
As soon as I opened my eyes
With the shutters down
the umbilical cord that connected me to the outside world
TV screen, my most insidious enemy

Katerina Diareme

Reading To the Lighthouse: Time Passes



How beautiful! For the plateful of blue water was before her; the hoary Lighthouse, distant, austere, in the midst: and on the right, as far as the eye could see, fading and falling, in soft low pleats, the green sand dunes with the wild flowing grasses on them, which always seemed to be running away into some moon country, uninhabited of men.



Life in a square

a safe zone

Self isolation.

life in pause

human's relationships criminalized

I am counting down until the liberation moment

This is a free time stock.

My life in a vicious circle.

Kostis Georgakopoulos



As Lockdown 2020 releases in the UK the Black Lives Matter movement mobilises across the world; *Rivers of Blood* is a mediation on racial injustice, slavery and the history of fascism in the UK. As a witness and ally my experience is close up and not distanced ...

Anna Birch



You see shadows,
a woman alone.
I am everywhere.

Eva Reichberg

Conceived, coordinated and directed by Emmanouela Vogiatzaki Krukowski
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