

For Immediate Release

September 3, 2015

**PERFORMA ANNOUNCES PIONEERING PARTNERSHIP WITH LAFAYETTE ANTICIPATION,
FONDATION GALERIES LAFAYETTE, PARIS FOR PERFORMA 15**

**PRESENTING WORKS BY ULLA VON BRANDENBURG, VOLMIR CORDEIRO, PAULINE
CURNIER JARDIN, SIMON FUJIWARA, CHRISTODOULOS PANAYIOTOU, AND ERIKA
VOGT**

New York—Performa, the internationally acclaimed organization dedicated to live performance across disciplines, announces a pioneering partnership with Lafayette Anticipation, Fondation Galeries Lafayette in Paris to launch during Performa’s 2015 biennial. Since its inception in 2004, Performa has been a leader in commissioning live performances by artists working in the field of visual arts. Likewise **Lafayette Anticipation has established itself as a major player in producing ambitious new works by contemporary artists and designers** since its creation in 2013. Both organizations strive to deepen this shared commitment and actively collaborate in mentoring and supporting artists to conceive, create, develop, and deliver stunning new works that will shape the visual art landscape of the twenty-first century.

In anticipation of its 2017 Grand Opening in a building rehabilitated by internationally renowned architect Rem Koolhaas in the heart of Paris, Lafayette Anticipation organizes temporary peripatetic **sessions**. Part-workshops, part-showcases, these gatherings unfold as intense research programs that explore the various missions of the upcoming operational foundation, from its relationship to design and fashion to its creative online presence or the role of an artists’ library within the building. Since the beginning, **performance has held a special place in the program**, including projects such as the nighttime poetic street procession conceived by British artist Simon Fujiwara and the commission of a short film by French experimental ballet dancer Benjamin Millepied captured in the building’s construction site. This interest will dramatically deepen this November, when Performa and Lafayette Anticipation partner to present a *session* fully dedicated to the critical role of performance in contemporary visual arts production.

From November 4 to 15, as part of the Performa 15 biennial, this collaboration will showcase cutting-edge works by artists **Ulla von Brandenburg** (Germany/France), **Volmir Cordeiro** (Brazil/France), **Pauline Curnier Jardin** (France/The Netherlands), **Simon Fujiwara** (United Kingdom), **Christodoulos Panayiotou** (Cyprus), and **Erika Vogt** (USA). This program is curated by **Charles Aubin**, Associate Curator for both Performa (since 2013) and Lafayette Anticipation (since March 2015), and will take place at various locations across New York City. This exciting collaborative program will establish the basis for

an even more ambitious series of programs conceived together and co-presented by the two organizations in 2016 and 2017.

“It is rare for two organizations to be as thoroughly in sync as Performa and Lafayette Anticipation including in their willingness to collaborate,” **said RoseLee Goldberg, Founding Director and Curator of Performa.** “The working relationship with the foundation’s director, François Quintin and the rapport of both our teams, has been seamless and we’re thrilled to be building future programming together in Paris and New York but also further afield.”

--

Lafayette Anticipation’s *session* as part of Performa 15 will feature an ambitious roster of international artists. Taking the Renaissance—Performa 15’s historical anchor—as a point of inspiration for her Performa Commission, Amsterdam-based French artist **Pauline Curnier Jardin** will create *The House of Resurrection*, an immersive theatrical event of singing *tableaux vivants* presented at Pioneer Works in Red Hook on November 4, 5, and 6. Drawing from sources as diverse as black magic, voguing and the animal kingdom, *The House of Resurrection* will showcase Curnier Jardin’s uniquely exuberant sensibility, deploying a campy abundance of pop-cultural references to celebrate such Renaissance “misfits” as Arcimboldo, Rabelais, and Palissy, and imagine a new cosmology of witches, regenerative animals, and precious stones.

Returning to Performa following her Performa 07 début, German-born, Paris-based artist **Ulla von Brandenburg**, has developed a series of live performances that explore the rituals of the 1830s Saint-Simonian movement, a short-lived cult often cited as the origin of early French socialism. Those performances now culminate in *Sink Down Mountain, Rise Up Valley*, an atmospheric black-and-white film shot in a single 18-minute take. Presented as a film installation in a new intimate setting specially designed by the artist, the theatrical and choral performance onscreen elaborates on Saint-Simonian humanist values of liberty, equality, and emancipation (from November 5 to 15).

Drawing upon both Performa’s and Lafayette Anticipation’s commitments to innovative dance, the *session* will partner with Danspace Project to premiere, on November 6 and 7, the work of Brazilian-born, Paris-based choreographer **Volmir Cordeiro**, trained at Centre National de Danse Contemporaine-Angers under Emmanuelle Huynh. Conceived and performed by Cordeiro, *Inês* refers to an absent figure, a determined woman craving fame. With the desire to infiltrate the show business of Reality TV, *Inês* demands the worship of the public at large. Alternating between feline gait and carnival grotesque in this charismatic solo, Cordeiro explores the titillating relationship between performer and spectator, mirroring the audience’s hunger for new bodies and performers to discover, observe, evaluate, and eventually discard.

Dance history will be at the heart of **Christodoulos Panayiotou’s** lecture-performance *Dying on Stage* (November 7). Inspired by Rudolf Nureyev’s lavish 1991 staging of the classical ballet *La Bayadère*, choreographed while his health was critically deteriorating, *Dying on Stage* is a romantic meditation on the impossible theatrical representation of death. Exploring various literal, metaphorical, and symbolic deaths and playing dead on stage, the lecture-performance incorporates a wide range of readings, video clips and archival material, and includes interludes by dancer Jean Capeille addressing the concept of “tragic irony.

Continuing with Performa’s longstanding exploration of how we can redefine exhibitions through the *live*, Los Angeles-based artist **Erika Vogt**, with her *Artist Theater Program*, will treat the stage as a site for a time-based exhibition (November 12 and 13). Vogt will convene a bevy of like-minded artists, including

fellow Angelenos Math Bass and Shannon Ebner, to build a utopian community that explores new potentials of selfhood and desire, individual creativity and public engagement. Set at Roulette, an Art Deco gem in Brooklyn, this live exhibition will play with the mechanics of the theater, unfolding in an atmospheric continuum where artworks move, collide, and overlap. Combining performers, artworks, sets, props, songs, and lighting effects, the *Artist Theater Program* establishes an “in-between” space where roles and identities, between artist, concept, object and individual aesthetics, resist simplification.

Performa 15 will welcome the return of Performa 11 artist **Simon Fujiwara** with his film *New Pompidou*, produced by Lafayette Anticipation, which followed his performance orchestrated in 2014 in the heart of Paris. During a six-week residency at the foundation, Fujiwara reflected on his youthful aspirations of becoming an architect cut short by the overwhelming feelings he experienced upon his first encounter with the actual Centre Pompidou building designed by Renzo Piano and Richard Rogers. A talented storyteller, Fujiwara conceived an elaborate narrative merging personal memories, ephemera, and architectural tools that led to the creation of a sculpture, which embarked on a poetical procession through the streets of the French capital to the Centre Pompidou.

ABOUT LAFAYETTE ANTICIPATION:

Lafayette Anticipation is the first multidisciplinary center for contemporary art, design, and fashion in France. Founded in October 2013, the non-profit foundation will inaugurate its new home in the Marais district of Paris in 2017. As a place of experimentation and creative research, the foundation offers artists, creatives, designers, and performers unique conditions and tools for developing prototypes, implementing projects, and taking their work in new directions. Solo exhibitions and group shows will take place alongside a variety of public programs, from conferences and symposiums to performances and screenings. Lafayette Anticipation is distinguished by its operational flexibility and its willingness to keep a window open to the unexpected. Attentive to the latest developments in art as well as in society, Lafayette Anticipation is a permeable, constantly evolving space, motivated by a desire to surprise and be surprised.

Join the conversation:

@PerformaNYC @LafAnticipation (Twitter) @lafayetteanticipation (Instagram) #Performa10Years #LafayetteAnticipation

ABOUT PERFORMA:

Founded in 2004 by art historian and curator RoseLee Goldberg, Performa is the leading organization dedicated to exploring the critical role of live performance in the history of twentieth-century art and encouraging new directions in performance for the twenty-first century. Since launching New York's first performance biennial, Performa 05, in 2005, the organization has solidified its identity as a commissioning and producing entity. As a “museum without walls,” Performa provides important art historical heft to the field by showing the development of live art in all its forms from many different cultural perspectives reaching back to the Renaissance. The Performa Biennial is celebrated world wide as the first biennial to give specialized attention to this remarkable history, transforming the city of New York into the ‘world capital of artists’ performance’ every other November. Performa attracts a national and international audience of more than 200,000 and receives more than 5,000,000 website hits during its three week run. In the last decade Performa has presented 592 performances, worked with 732 artists, and toured commissioned performances in 17 countries around the world.

The Curatorial Team for Performa 15 is led by RoseLee Goldberg and includes Performa curators Adrienne Edwards, Charles Aubin, and Mark Beasley, as well as curators from a consortium of more than 30 cultural institutions. Performa 15 is produced by Esa Nickle.

For more on Performa and its programs including the Performa Biennial, please visit <http://performa-arts.org/>.

Join the conversation: @PerformaNYC #Performa10Years

CONSORTIUM PARTNERS:

3-LD, A+E Studios, Aperture Foundation, Art in General, BAM, Bridget Donahue Gallery, Customs House, Danspace Project, El Museo del Barrio, French Cultural Services, Goethe Institute, Jewish Museum, Kai Matsumiya Gallery, Klaus von Nichtssagend Gallery, Marian Goodman Gallery, Martha Graham Studios, New York Society for Ethical Culture, Oberon, Participant Inc, Pioneer Works, Printed Matter, Ray Johnson Estate, Rhizome, Roulette, St. Barts Church, Swedish Cottage Matrionette Theatre, Swiss Institute, The Museum of Modern Art, Times Square Alliance, White Columns. Performa Consortium projects are curated, produced and presented by participating organizations and institutions.

BIENNIAL SUPPORTERS:

Performa 15 gratefully acknowledges Lead Underwriting Support from Toby Devan Lewis, Leslie Ziff, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Australian Council for the Arts, The Ford Foundation, Lafayette Anticipation – Fondation d'entreprise Galeries Lafayette, Paris, Lambent Foundation. Major Sponsors includes Aviv, Marian Goodman Gallery and Via Art Fund. Supporting Sponsors include the Danish Arts Foundation, Galeria Luisa Strina and the National Endowment for the Arts. The Commissioning Fund is generously supported by Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, Renée and Robert Drake, Galerie Perrotin, Amy and Ronald Guttman, Barbara Hoffman, ICA Miami, The Keir Foundation, Bernard I., Lumpkin and Carmine D. Boccuzzi, PSM Gallery, Erica and Joseph Samuels, Fern and Leonard Tessler, and Suzanne Vielmetter – Los Angeles Projects. Additional support has been received from the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, FUSED, Institut Français a Paris, Young Kim, the Times Square Alliance and Sutton PR.

Special thanks to Aesop, Triumph Hotels (Exclusive Hotel Partner), Dig Inn, Goose Island Beer Co., Hôtel Americano, Neuhouse, Stella Artois, and SUTTON.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT:

Performa's annual programs and operations are supported by the Lambent Foundation, the David and Elaine Potter Foundation, The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and The New York State Council for the Arts, a State Agency. The Performa Institute and fellowship program is supported by Lambent Foundation, Ford Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and NYU Steinhardt Department of Art and Art Professions. Additional support provided by Artnet, Brooke Blashill, The Boston Foundation, Donor Advised Fund of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland grant recommended by Toby Devan Lewis, The Jedra Charitable Foundation, Lisa K. Lippman (in honor of Emily Glasser and William Sussman), Noam Andrews, Gregory Miller, and Anne Bergeron. Special thanks to the Performa Board of Directors, including Laurie Beckleman, Irving Benson, Todd Bishop, Amy Cappellazzo, Toby Devan Lewis (Honorary Chair), Wendy Fisher, Stephanie French, Emily Glasser, RoseLee Goldberg, Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn (Chair), Ronald Guttman, Barbara Hoffman, Rashid Johnson, Aditya Julka, Edward T. Nahem, and the Performa Producers, Curators and Visionaries Circles.

MAJOR SPONSOR:

AVIV 613 Vodka is dedicated to celebrating multi-disciplinary arts and supporting artists who move their work in new directions. AVIV 613 Vodka believes in the creative spirit of artists and their ability to inspire new audiences. <http://www.avivvodka.com>

MEDIA CONTACT:

Concetta Duncan, SUTTON, +1 212 202 3402 / concetta@suttonpr.com

Becky Elmquist, Performa, +1 917.971.9401 / becky@performa-arts.org

****NOTE TO THE EDITORS****

Ulla von Brandenburg (b. 1974, Karlsruhe, Germany; lives and works in Paris) creates complex, multi-layered narratives through film, drawing, installation, and performance. Permeated by recurring themes and images sourced from literature, expressionist theater, early cinema, and pre-Freudian psychoanalysis, von Brandenburg engages with popular cultural forms from multiple epochs as a means through which to explore contemporary collective experience. Von Brandenburg's work has been presented at Witte de With, Rotterdam (2014); 19th Biennale of Sydney (2014); Palais De Tokyo, Paris (2012); Performa 07, New York (2007), and Tate Modern, London (2007), amongst others.

Brazilian-born, Paris-based choreographer **Volmir Cordeiro** (b. 1987, lives and works in Paris) trained at Centre National de Danse Contemporaine-Angers is currently working on a PhD thesis on figures of marginality in contemporary dance at Paris VIII University. Cordeiro's studies and time spent in the favelas of Rio with Lia Rodrigues' company inspired a desire to bring to life those who are "condemned to weaken, disappear, derail." In previous works Cordeiro has shown a strong interest in exploring the physicality of marginal and underprivileged figures such precarious workers, displaced intellectuals, disengaged and immigrants. Cordeiro took part in Xavier Le Roy's live exhibition *Retrospective* in Rio de Janeiro (Panorama festival, 2013) and Paris (Centre Pompidou, 2014).

Pauline Curnier Jardin (b. 1980, France), currently a Rijksakademie resident in Amsterdam, creates fictional scenarios and theatrical narratives that are presented as installations, performances, films, drawings and objects. Through text, lighting, color, texture, costumes, soundtrack, and props she creates and inhabits highly stylized visual settings that recall the fascinating worlds of Niki de Saint Phalle and Alejandro Jodorowsky. Curnier Jardin graduated in 2006 from both École nationale supérieure d'arts (Cergy-Pontoise) and École nationale des arts décoratifs (Paris). Her work has been presented internationally at Fondation Cartier, Paris (2015); MIT List Visual Center, Cambridge (2014); Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin (2013); Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2013); Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris (2012); Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris (2010) and ZKM Museum of Contemporary Art, Karlsruhe (2010).

Simon Fujiwara (b. 1982, London; lives and works in Berlin) creates novels, lectures, performances, and installations that involve his personal biography. Fujiwara plays with the role of the artist as itinerant globetrotter and multi-cultural guru, acknowledging a collective desire for exotic or foreign narratives, without casting judgment. Fujiwara's work has been presented in solo and group exhibitions internationally such as MUSAC, León, Spain (2010); 29th São Paulo Biennial, Brazil (2010); 53rd Venice Biennale, Italy (2009); *Bringing Up Knowledge, Impersonator*, MAK Center for Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (2009), and The Architecture Foundation, London.

Christodoulos Panayiotou (b. 1978, Limassol, Cyprus, where he lives and works). His work frequently takes ceremonies, festivals, and theatrical spectacles as points of departure from which to explore the structures and customs that inform social experience. Recent group exhibitions include Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia; *The Living Currency*, 6th Berlin Biennale - Hebbel am Ufer (HAU1), Berlin; and *Catastrophe*, The Quebec City Biennial, Quebec City (all 2010); *Insiders*, CAPC Musée d'art

contemporain, Bordeaux, France; *Lyst*, Overgaden Institute of Contemporary Art, Copenhagen; *The Columns Held Us Up*, Artist Space, New York; and *Convention*, Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami (all 2009). In 2011, he received the Future of Europe Prize from the Museum of Contemporary Art, Leipzig. Panayiotou represented Cyprus during the 2015 Venice Biennale.

Erika Vogt (b. 1973, Newark; lives and works in Los Angeles) uses a range of media and techniques in order to explore the mutability of images and objects. The plaster-cast object is a recurring motif in Vogt's work, often based on recognizable functional forms—a screw, an anchor, a tooth—though made strange through changes in scale and color. Within her installations often suspended from ropes or on mobile racks, Vogt fuses elements of sculpture, drawing, video, and photography to produce heterogeneous constellations. Recent solo exhibitions have been presented at Triangle France in Marseilles (2014), Hepworth Wakefield in West Yorkshire, UK (2014), and the New Museum in New York (2013). Vogt's work has also been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Centre Pompidou, Paris; the Hammer museum, Los Angeles; and SFMOMA, San Francisco.

ABOUT THE CURATOR

Charles Aubin (b. 1981, Nantes; lives and works in New York) is Associate Curator at Performa in New York City and Lafayette Anticipation in Paris. He earned his Master of Humanities from Sciences Po Paris and is currently enrolled as a PhD student at the Royal College of Art in London, where his research explores the conceptual strategies of French choreographer Jérôme Bel. Previously, Aubin worked as Assistant Curator for the 2005 Nuit Blanche in Paris (Henrik Håkensson, François Morellet) and then from 2006 to 2010 at the Centre Pompidou's performance department (Trisha Brown, Boris Charmatz, Forced Entertainment, Xavier Veilhan). As an independent curator, Aubin organized exhibitions for Printemps de Septembre in Toulouse and Biennale de Belleville in Paris.