

→PERFORMA•19
NOVEMBER 1→24, 2019
NEW YORK CITY



KORAKRIT ARUNANONDCHAI,
BOYCHILD, ALEX GVOJIC

• *TOGETHER*

NOV 12, 8:00PM → 9:00PM
NOV 13, 6:00PM → 7:00PM
HARLEM PARISH

→ INTRODUCTION

New York and Bangkok based artist Korakrit Arunanondchai, with boy-child and Alex Gvojcic, in collaboration with musicians Bonaventure and Aaron David Ross, will present a performance in the form of an expanded cinema, collapsing oral storytelling and local mythologies in combination with Thailand's complex history with the American military, national policies and Buddhist kingship.

The departure point for the Performa 19 Commission is the redemptive news story of the thirteen boys rescued from a flooded cave in northern Thailand and how the international spotlight highlighted the plight of children born into contested territories. In their non-linear storytelling style, Arunanondchai and Gvojcic will create a durational environment with soundscape based on Ghost Cinema, a post-Vietnam War ritual in Thailand where outdoor screenings function as communions between the audience and the spirits. Introduced by American soldiers stationed in Thailand who used 8mm film projections to project abstract light in the forests to mimic ghosts to mislead locals.

For Performa 19, the artist will transform the Harlem Church into an outdoor cinema. "I want the audience in my installations to be aware of their physicality in relationship to time—through senses, experiencing inputs like sound, the lighting program, smells, moving liquids, atmospheric fog—while also experiencing the extension of their bodies into a more digital or perhaps immaterial realms as well," says Arunanondchai. Arunanondchai, Gvojcic and boychild have been working collaboratively together over 6 years and this will be their most expansive work together to date, combining complex live sound mixing, large scale projection and choreographing thirteen movement-based performers.



01 — KORAKRIT ARUNANONDCHAI AND ALEX GVOJIC, *TOGETHER*, POSTER, 2019. COURTESY OF THE ARTISTS.

→ CREDITS

Artists/Directors: Korakrit Arunanondchai, boychild and Alex Gvojc

Assistant Producers: Sheridan Telford and Jessica Kursh

Performers: Dylan Balka, Luna Beller-Tadiar, Trinity Dawn Bobo, Jendaya Dash, Cynthia Leung, Honey LaBeija, Jade Manns, Ashton Muniz, Shelby Nelson, Isaac Spector, Quenton Stuckey, Yasmin Venable, and Nicki Wong.

Music & Sound Design: Aaron David Ross & Bonaventure

Lighting Design: Nitemind

Special thanks to Susan Brown, Nikki Mirsaeid, Djordje Gvojc, Rory Mulhere, Matt Taber, Nick Repasy, Vanessa Carlos, Hannah Jewett, Trilerdaddy, Op Sudasna, Supamas Phahulo, Varachit Nitibhon, Tippawanna Nitibhon.

Curated by RoseLee Goldberg, Director, and Job Piston, Special Projects.

Produced by Maaiké Gouwenberg, Producer at Large.

Together is a Performa Commission made possible by Liz and Jonathan Goldman and Bruce Karatz. Additional support provided by Nowness, The Rosenkranz Foundation, Young Arts Foundation, Joseph Varet and Esther Kim Varet, and the Performa Commissioning Fund. With special thanks to CLEARING New York / Brussels, The Standard, Nitemind and Selina Hotels.

NOWNESS

→ ABOUT KORAKRIT ARUNANONDCHAI

Korakrit Arunanondchai fuses the autobiographical with the historical to engage with issues of authenticity, self-representation, and neocolonialism. Using a pastiche of styles and diverse mediums, the artist creates dreamscape-like installations and performances that are both multidisciplinary and highly collaborative. Arunanondchai exhibits widely both nationally and internationally. His work has been featured at La Biennale di Venezia (2019); Whitney Biennial, New York (2019); Biennale of Sydney (2016); Berlin Biennale (2016); and Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing (2015). Major solo exhibitions include presentations at Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2015); Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw (2014); and MoMA PS1, New York (2014).

→ ABOUT BOYCHILD

boychild is a movement-based performance artist whose work operates through improvisation as a mode of survival and world-building in the liminal, performative space where becoming meets representation. Adamant about the visceral experience of live visual performance, she makes a case for how the movement of form can communicate what remains impenetrable through images and language.

→ ABOUT KORAKRIT ARUNANONDCHAI

Alex Gvojić is a New York based environment designer and cinematographer. His work focuses on creating “hyper-reality” environments that blend video, lighting, and cinematic tropes to suspend disbelief and allow the viewer to sublimely enter a world that feels both familiar and foreign. His work has been presented at the La Biennale di Venezia, Berlin Biennale, Palais de Tokyo, ICA London, and MoMA PS1.

→ ABOUT COLLABORATORS

→ New York based composer Aaron David Ross (ADR) has spent over 10 years in high-profile, genre-non-compliant collaborations with contemporary vanguards in electronic music, fine art, fashion and film. As an artist preoccupied with music's affective potentiality, ADR's beguiling sonic spell-casting has positioned his solo and collaborative projects in exhibitions and performance spaces globally, hosted by many of the world's premiere venues, festivals and art institutions.

→ Bonaventure uses music as an identity research tool along with practical and speculative initiatives to connect her African and European roots. With a background in graphic design, Bonaventure has shifted her attention using both club and institutional spaces as a primary place of artistic research and experimentation. Her debut single "Complexion" was released on NON Worldwide in 2016, and features a remix by label co-founder Chino Amobi. In 2017, Bonaventure released on the New York label PTP her debut EP "FREE LUTANGU", followed the next year by "MENTOR", released by UK label Planet Mu. She unveiled in the summer of 2019 her new collaborative sonic project "+243 Angels", after a two months residency with Rey Sapiens at the Nyege Nyege Tape residency in Kampala. In September 2019, she was awarded a "Swiss music Prize" for the body of her work.

→ ABOUT PERFORMA 19

The eighth edition of the Performa Biennial once again celebrates the extraordinary vitality, inventiveness and significance of New York as a leading global performance capital of the world in three weeks of exciting programming, from November 1–24, 2019, at locations throughout New York City. In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Bauhaus, the influence of the school and the radical concept of its curriculum, which holds performance at its core, appears in several Commissions. The Bauhaus is also the focus of the Performa Institute programming, daily events, and talks at the Performa 19 Hubs – two temporary spaces in Manhattan's Soho neighborhood that become the epicenter of the three-week program.

Visit the Performa 19 Hubs

Talks & Workshops:

47 Wooster St, New York

Open daily from noon – 8pm

Programming & Special Events:

Deitch Projects

18 Wooster St, New York

See schedule for program

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