



ALBERTO BERNAL + FRAMES PERCUSSION

#OCCUPY YOURSELF

Performative action for percussionists isolated for 12
hours in a public space

Program

Occupy Yourself (2021), Alberto Bernal

[720'+50', aprox.]

Musical-performative action for isolated percussion group in tents located in the public space that are divided into:

·12h - installation format (low intensity of actions and volume)

·50' - ending in a concert format (greater concentration of actions and volume)

There is a reduced 50' concert version (last part of the piece) for concert halls and site-specific.

Performers

Alberto Bernal

FRAMES Percussion:

-Carlota Cáceres / Rubén M. Orio

-Dani Munárriz

-Feliu Ribera

-Miquel Vich Vila

Assistant performer:

Helena Otero Correa / Dani Guisado

Past events

Etopía (Zaragoza) 27-30/04/2021

Artistic research and presentation of the last part of the piece

EACC (Castellón) - Festival ENSEMS 7/05/2021

Premiere

ESMUC (Barcelona) 16/09/2021

Creation of the concert version of the piece

Plaça de l'Ajuntament (València) - Festival ENSEMS 17/09/2021

ADDA (Alicante) - Festival ENSEMS 19/09/2021

Introduction

Occupy yourself is a project conceived at the point of intersection between newly created music and other areas such as performance or intervention in public space. In the latter, five individuals are confined in four respective sets consisting of an ephemeral construction as a fake home, a kind of tent from which they perform different actions throughout a day (12 hours).

These actions oscillate between post-pandemic normality -communicating virtually, teleworking, entertaining oneself...- and the desire to communicate in person and be noticed in the public space, which is materialized through the direct sound of various percussion instruments. In each tent there is also an audio amplification system and a projector, with the function of making visible and audible the daily actions towards the spectators who approach.

The work intends, through this situation of voyeurism of the private, to become a kind of mirror in which visitors can contemplate and reflect from the absurd. Throughout its 12 hours of duration, a dramaturgy is also established that, beginning in this situation of "new daily life", progressively introduces irruptions and dissensions through percussion instruments that lead to a concentrated and intense final phase with which the intervention is dissolved.

Context

At least since the COVID-19 pandemic, the role that the interrelation between the public and private spaces plays in our society has undergone a deep transformation. The public space, once something fundamental in the articulation of key aspects of our social place -like culture, art and music, entertainment, social communication or protest-, seems to be degraded to a mere meeting place of isolated private spaces. The private space, for its part, has assimilated most of these aspects through a growing virtualization, domestication and substitution in form of digital platforms where the social elements originate and die out.

Thus, since our more or less forced lock down, we continue to live as island-individuals with the imposed false feeling that everything is replaceable by its virtuality, from classrooms and public parks to theaters and museums. Our project starts precisely from here, proposing an amplification and visibility of the absurdity of this new normality, with its island-individuals lock down in themselves, as well as the irruption of the critical force and noise that emerges from the desire for real communication between individuals in the public space.

FRAMES Percussion

FRAMES Percussion, a percussion group focusing on new music, represents the talent of today and a commitment to the music of our time. Formed by a new generation of percussionists from Spain, the group was founded with the intention of engaging with the most demanding programs in the current repertoire, with careful preparation and the utmost respect for new compositional languages.

The impact of their presentation in 2014, with the performance of an ambitious American post-minimalist music program, has led to the group undertaking incessant activity based on this repertoire, quickly becoming one of the main Spanish percussion ensembles. Known for the originality of their programs, which often go beyond classical percussion, FRAMES has created shows such as *Out of the [CAGE]*, *5.100 (m/s)* with Joan Català or *Desert*, alongside dancer and choreographer Albert Quesada.

FRAMES Percussion's repertoire includes some of the most iconic works of music for a percussion ensemble as well as collaborations, commissions and premieres by composers such as Luís Codera Puzo, Núria Giménez-Comas, Sirah Martínez, Yukiko Watanabe, Cathy van Eck, Alberto Bernal, Meriel Price, Ruud Roelofsen, Pablo Carrascosa, Manuel Rodríguez-Valenzuela, Montserrat Lladó and Helena Cánovas.

Since 2020, they have received the support of ICEC (Catalan Government), since 2021, that of INAEM (Spanish Government), and, in 2022, the Erns von Siemens Musikstiftung.

Alberto Bernal

Composer or sound artist of classical education and several influences, with works located near the turning point between traditional concert situations and other disciplines like installation, performance of videoart.

He starts his musical education in Spain, moving later to Germany, where he studies with Mathias Spahlinger, Peter Ablinger and Mesias Maiguashca.

His work is being defined in the last time as a deconstruction of several musical “a-prioris” that root in the socio-political reality. This leads the discourse into an area where the borders of music are questioned through several procedures: irruption of scenic, spatial and visual elements into the musical realm, amalgams with language or with recordings of the “outside”...

He has been represented in a number of places among Europe, America and Asia, and laureated with several prizes and grants: Darmstadt Summer courses, Humboldt Foundation, DAAD, La Caixa, Academia Europaea, SWR Stuttgart, Spanish Culture Ministry, Residencia de Estudiantes, Casa Velazquez...

Besides his activity as a composer, he carries an intense labor as lecturer and writer, with regular publications in several media and numerous lectures and courses in different institutions. Presently, he teaches Composition at the University of Music of Zaragoza and directs the Masters in Composition with New Media at the CSKG-Madrid. Since 2017 he curates the series VANG.

Links

FRAMES PERCUSSION WEBSITE

www.framespercussion.com

ALBERTO BERNAL WEBSITE

<http://albertobernal.net>

#OCCUPYYOURSELF TEASER

<https://vimeo.com/659019445>

Production:

FRAI'ES
PERCUSSION

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