An artistic residency in the public space with containers, senior artists, young artists, public, mediation and a lot of art
«All that is done for me, without me, is done against me»

From this quote, **THE CONTAIN ART** project is facilitating the democratisation of art and culture. The project is a tool to bring communities together.

**THE CONTAIN ART** is a movable space:

The idea is to have containers (and/or lorries, buses and caravans) in the public space and make them available to artists and to the general public around daily events. Festivals, local communities or artistic gatherings are all events that could benefit this project.

At the request of the organisers that will welcome us and with whom we will collaborate, alongside other local representatives, we will organise this cultural mediation event. Cultural mediation events are core to the success of this project in order to create links between organisers and the agents driving the cultural agenda.

**THE CONTAIN ART** project looks to anchor itself by integrating and bringing together local communities and cultural actors.

**THE CONTAIN ART** will be a place for cultural action, artistic initiation and knowledge transfer, a space to showcase the artistic proposition amongst individuals and groups including residents, partnerships, organisations and local dance and music schools.
Administration and mediation

Sofiane Benkhassala

Sofiane Benkhassala is a cultural mediator, he defines himself as the bridge between the art/artists and the audience. After graduating in English Literature, he unconsciously started cultural mediation studies to feed his artistic curiosity. Then he began to amass experiences with different artistic and cultural organisations, such as museums, festivals, theatres, and associations, before finally settling on art in public spaces. He doesn’t specialise in a single artistic discipline, but in many, as it is a prerequisite to the work of a cultural mediator to know as much as possible about as many different arts as possible, in order to be able to listen, to construct links and to transmit one’s knowledge.

Artistic team

Aziz Boumedien

Aziz Boumediene is a multidisciplinary artist whose work has the particularity of always attempting to combine various media simultaneously. He can be found playing music on stage while a performance artist with a typewriter writes on dancers’ naked bodies. He might also be found presenting photos, videos and sound clips by various methods of installation. «My work involves creating links between things which seem to be unconnected or building on pre-existing links, between dreams and the possible, and vice versa, incorporating my perception of things by playing on that of others» he says of his approach. Having started out in journalism, little by little the necessity of giving his reporting a more poetic, artistic form made itself apparent. His performance environment are extremely diverse, varying from closed exhibition spaces and studios to public spaces, as well as borders, limits, duality, and freedom.
Artistic team

Dariusz Wojtkiewicz

Dariusz Wojtkiewicz was born in Warsaw, raised in Birmingham and trained in Hamburg, where he studied ART and GRAPHIC DESIGN (Alsterdamm Kunstschule). Since his early childhood he was totally committed to his drawings and paintings. He was one of the two founders of the «Rough House Gallery», a progressive space for art and performance in the centre of Hamburg. Then, after working for a 7 years period in an advertisement agency, he decided to turn back to the purely digital world and work instead with wood, bricks, colours etc. For the past 10 years he has been realising different projects, mostly sculptures, illustrations, stage design and paintings. Turning off his brain while being creative is his personal achievement as is having the freedom to enjoy the here and now .letting all expectations fly away

Artistic team

Emmanuele Panzarini

The Emmanuele’s research encompasses photography, sculpture, digital art and installation, with a special focus on site-specific interventions. A graduated of the University of Padua with a specialism in DAMS (Arts, music and performing arts), he spent a year as an Erasmus student in Bilbao, and these experiences influenced the beginning of his work as a photographer. More recently, installation has become his predominant artistic field. Involving the subject in order to stimulate the audience is one of the requirements of his research, especially for large-scale environmental installations.
THE PROJECT

THE CONTAIN›ART is a project that will bring people together, encouraging dialogue, collaboration and the sharing of ideas. The project is another way to touch the general public.

Within THE CONTAIN›ART, cultural mediation plays a central part: the audience is at the heart of the action, being recognised in all its diversity and plurality. Everything happens in the public space.

The idea is to bring together all these elements in one place and to transform it into a genuine artistic space. On the agenda are workshops, performances, shows and other various activities.

What is unique to this project is the work with the general public, including young artists. The work is being prepared in advance of the festival, where everyone can join in. It is important to note that the project can be tailored to wherever and whenever it is taking place.
DAILY LIFE ACTIVITIES

Based on the notion of everyday life, the way people act and react, feel and sens, think and deem every day. As long as life is not only about obligations and constraints, but also about what is done automatically and spontaneously.

In this context, daily activities such as meetings, gatherings, preparations, decorations, discussions and others are organized every day. At the same time, artistic and cultural activities take a major place in the course of the project, activities such as rehearsals, performances, workshops, screenings, or explorations all around the place of installation. This project includes any discipline in the public space.

MEDIATION AND CULTURAL ACTIONS

It is the stakeholder of the project, assuming that mediation and cultural action are the core of the cultural projects.

THE CONTAIN\ART represents the opportunity to give the hosts a tool and a team that will facilitate the meeting, the sharing, the exchange of ideas: another way of reaching the public.

The specificity of this project is the work with the public, as well as with young local artists. This work is done upstream of the festival, where everyone is invited to participate. The work carried out before, goes through creative, educational and playful workshops. Workshops operated in containers on site or other locations. In the second case, the venue is chosen in relation to the theme of the festival or in relation with the social and cultural context of the venue, for example: refugee camps, detention centers, rehabilitation centers, hospitals...

It is an act of cultural mediation brought to and for the public supervised by experienced artists.
THE HAPPENINGS

The idea of the Happening is to create an ephemeral cultural and artistic place with a permanent trace, calling on local artists, including street artists, musicians, performers, painters, etc.

Through this platform, the venue of THE CONTAIN›ART becomes a space of creation and diffusion in an artistic atmosphere, a field of relations with the public and a place where artistic collaboration takes shape.

A daily program is published with guest artists who perform gracefully on the improvised stage and delivers a show in unexpected places and conditions. These convivial moments, generate encounters and relationships, both human and professional.

RESTITUTION

Like any artistic residency, a restitution of the final work or work in progress is programmed in coordination with the organizers.

This restitution, which can take many forms (performance, installation, exhibition, etc.), comes at the end of the THE CONTAIN›ART to show the festival guests, the collaborators and the general public the result of these days of intensive work in public space.

Entitled «We don’t know what we gonna do», the restitution is part of the festival’s official program.
TECHNICAL RIDER

FORM OF PRESENTATION:
Caravan of cultural mediation in the shape of artistic residency in public space

DAY OR NIGHT:
Day and eventually at night

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROJECT:
Caravan of mobile cultural mediation, bringing together the team of 4 artists, 4 to 8 young artists, local artists, public ...

PUBLIC TYPOLOGY:
All public: youngs, local artists, neighbors, passing public, public with difficult access to culture, children, students ...
The invisible part consists of creating and maintaining a network of relations with various partners in order to facilitate cultural access to the general public. The effort is particularly directed towards those who do not have access to cultural practices. The visible part is the offer of activities offered to the public (workshops, animations, shows, ...)

GAUGE / NUMBER OF SPECTATORS:
Depending on the installation venue. And depending on the flow of passers-by.

REASONS FOR THIS CHOICE:
This project of cultural mediation is aimed to all sorts of publics without any exclusion. A caravan of cultural mediation in the form of residencies in the public spaces in containers (or other) is a tool for carrying out cultural democracy work and setting up means of accompaniment, creation and intervention intended to local populations and to the public from the artistic and cultural milieu.

NEEDS / TIME / SPACE / MATERIAL / SURFACE:
• Need: 2 to 3 containers (flexibility and possibility to adapt with the place and the aesthetics of the festival by proposing other alternatives: construction site huts, trailer, lorries ..)
• Time: 7 to 14 days
• Space: public space
• Materials: it depends on the ongoing of the project
• Area needed: 300m2 (with exploration of places in the neighborhoods)
To sum up, the project THE CONTAIN ART consists of:

- Containers
- Artistic residency
- Workshops
- Ephemeral cultural center
- Explorations
- Shows, concerts, performances, exhibitions,
- Cultural mediation
- Info point for the festival

and so on, all of this in the PUBLIC SPACE
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