

**KÜLTÜR
GEMMA!**
presents

BEING HERE!

ü!

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Negin Rezaie

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Funded by:
ma7, bmkos

In collaboration with:



 **Bundesministerium**
Kunst, Kultur,
öffentlicher Dienst und Sport

KÜLTÜR GEMMA!

is a project to *promote migrant* artistic work*. We award working grants and fellowships at Viennese cultural institutions every year. In addition to the financial and non-material support of individual projects, *kültür gemma!* sees itself as a *cultural networking platform*. Our goal is to establish migrant positions in the predominantly white cultural scene as a matter of course and to do justice to the plurality of the city in cultural life as well.

BEING HERE!

is a show of the artistic works that have been produced by the *awarded artists*.

With *Mangoranges*, *IZRAA*, *Hamdi Abdullahi Hassan* and *Anna Gaberscik*. And the fellows *Masimba Hwati* (Kulturhaus Brotfabrik) and *Natalia Gurova* (Vienna Design Week).



**15th —
18th
December
2022**



— BELVEDERE 21

ANNA GABERSCIK

Anna Gaberscik is the director of the film *Edelweiss*.

Anna Gaberscik is an Austrian-US anti-racism activist, educator, writer and performer. Anna is the founder of 'Through Our Eyes', an interdisciplinary project that explores anti-racism, intersectionality and empowerment in various creative forms. From BIPOC storytelling to anti-racism awareness workshops and performance formats, the 'Through Our Eyes' project *addresses difficult issues from a critical yet creative perspective*. In her work and workshops, Anna emphasizes the *revolutionary potential of preserving and amplifying BIPOC voices*, especially when it comes to social justice and socio-political issues. Her social justice agenda is influenced and inspired by various BIPOC cultural phenomena, drawing much *inspiration from African-American diaspora culture*.



EDELWEISS

What is *Edelweiss*?

Edelweiss is a *performative documentary* about the often *harrowing realities of People of Color living in Austria*. The movie is a frank depiction of the perspectives of many People of Color who have varying connections to Austria; some who call it home, some who have made it their home, and others who would never call it home. *Edelweiss* is a *critical love letter* to a country that needs to become a better place for those who have been making it a better place for years. The film *Edelweiss* is a product of the *Through Our Eyes* project in collaboration with the *Triangle Studio Vienna*.

MASIMBA HWATI

Masimba Hwati is an interdisciplinary artist who works across sculpture, sound, performance and video. He holds an MFA from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and a PhD in Art practice, candidate at Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Wien. He is a 2019 Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture alumni. He studied sculpture at Harare Polytechnic in Zimbabwe. His work primarily deals with questions of how minority people resist and negotiate with power. Collections include University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA), Iziko-South African National Gallery and others. In 2021 he showed and performed at the *British textile Biennale* in Blackburn UK. In 2015 he showed at the *Zimbabwean Pavilion at the Venice Biennale 56th edition*. He is an honorary research fellow at Rhodes University Fine Arts Department in Grahamstown, SA. Solo and group shows include Harare, Johannesburg, New York, Avignon, Berlin, Weimar, Brussels.



PAPIER

KAMPF

ENSEMBLE



An ensemble will activate paper instruments/sculptures/objects. The ensemble consists of 3 people who will reflect on lived experiences with the bureaucratic paper system of the Austrian government. They set out to explore the potential of paper as a neutral apparatus and at the same time politically charged medium. They will explore the potential of paper to create diverse sounds (audible/inaudible and metaphorical) to create a rich and multi-layered lexicon of paper-made sounds.

The backdrop for the performance and research is the complex nature of our global „post-colonial“ status quo, where migration and mass migration beautifully upsets our traditional definitions of place and culture. Even in this inevitably criss-crossing world, the narrative of „struggle“ and hurdles for Black/PoC has not yet been fully explored, especially among Black/PoC themselves.

MANGORANGES (YOURS)

Mangoranges also known under the name *Yours* is a Nigerian-Austrian filmmaker, dancer and Mental Health advocate. Their work explores ways of healing and self-discovery through creative practices and spirituality.



AS I AM



As I Am is an artistic documentary about black individuals who struggle with mental health issues, uncovering what it means to be black and live with the stigma that surrounds mental illness in Vienna specifically. The film takes the audience on a *personal & emotional journey*, confronting them with their own *prejudices and misconceptions*. It sheds light on what it actually feels like to live in a society that misunderstands such a common struggle from a *compassionate angle through the lens of a sufferer themselves*.

IZRAA



IZRAA is a female *singer-songwriter, rapper, performer and activist* born and raised in Vienna, Austria. Her *music is inspired by her Palestinian, Lebanese and Tunisian roots* which helped her on her search for her identity and the *creation of safe-zone*.

After *winning the Protestsongcontest with her Song 9. November*, which was *written due to "Operation Luxor"* one of the biggest racist house raids in Austrias history, music became the only language she felt people understood and were willing to listen.

EP „SHADDA“

Intensity, Catastrophe, Dilemma

A collection of feelings, struggle, pain, critical view of todays world and a big amount of love that have been written down into an EP. A creation of songs that will take you through a *rollercoaster of emotions*.

“SHADDA” why the name? Its an *arabic word which can have different meanings* depending on how you read it, or interpret it. Depends which reading signs you use.



HAMDI!

ABDULLAHI
HASSAN



ILEYS

Ileys is a Somali word that means light, especially in the dark or at night like a torchlight. I chose to name my podcast Ileys as the most of Somali people in Austria are new to the country and need some guidance to adapt and integrate.

Ileys podcast can become here in Vienna a torch, because of the information that this program brings to the community!


Hamdi Abdullahi Hassan is a Somali radio senior journalist and a women and children activist. She started working as a journalist at local media in Somalia and worked with international media such as BBC Media Action and humanitarian radio Ergo run by IMS. Her main work focus lately is advocating and empowering of women and young girls in Somali Diaspora and in Somalia. Her coverage about women rights, discrimination and FGM (female genital mutilation) has appeared in different platforms of social media and Austrian media too. She works as a freelancer journalist/mentor and interpreter for different organizations in Austria.

Hamdi Hassan is part of an award winning team from radio Orange 94.0 for an independent cultural project of last year!

The current project she proposes is a podcast named Ileys podcast, which aims for integration, respectful dealing with cultural differences, family work balance, mental health for women who have arrived in Austria last couple of years, FGM, challenges for practicing religion and living in a non Muslim country. Ileys podcast is and informative and educational program for the Somali community in Vienna.



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NATALIA GUROVA

Natalia Gurova is a temporary journalist and permanent artist. She was born in the USSR in Belarus, grew up in the North of Russia, then trained as a journalist, and worked in the field of various media for more than 10 years. Since 2014 she lives in Vienna and studied site-specific art at the University of Applied Arts and sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts. Her multidisciplinary practice has encompassed sculpture, printmaking, drawing, poetry, and site-specific installations. Working with the overlapping discourses of speculative storytelling, spatial experiments, post-soviet contexts, time concepts, and collecting, Gurova refuses categorical distinctions, operating fluidly between concept and craft. Her practice weaves together disparate artistic disciplines as well as cultural and social communities — with shared relationships to the essence of objects, and their symbolism. Natalia's works were exhibited at Vienna Design Week, Vienna Art Week, Parallel, Austrian Cultural Forum in London, Queer museum/Volkskundemuseum, Galerie Michaela Stock, Improper Walls, das Weisse Haus, hoast, and other places.



LIQUID HOUSE

Thanks to support from *kültür gemma!*, the VIENNA DESIGN WEEK was able to offer a new fellowship, the aim of which is to increase the awareness and appreciation of migrant positions in design. For this year's festival, the artist Natalia Gurova, who was selected from the many applicants,

has addressed the context of the VIENNA DESIGN WEEK in detail and developed, together with the *Dutch im2 Collective*, an exhibition with constantly changing exhibits (everyday objects) that cover a wide range of positions: *LIQUID HOUSE* revolves around issues of historical and cultural identity as well as aspects of the (in-) accessibility of resources and formal and informal structures and networks. For the final presentation in *Belvedere 21* Haus Natalia reconstructed the installation to a sculpture that embraces earlier produced objects. Participants worked with Natalia Gurova on furniture designs that express financial, institutional, social, or political restrictions — as metaphors in the form of an object.

Jury: Jeffrey Heiligers (im2 Collective), Catrin Seefranz (*kültür gemma!*), Gabriel Roland (VIENNA DESIGN WEEK)

Project by Natalia Gurova

with Mila Balzhieva, Aleksandra Bulgakova, Bartosz Dolhun, Neda Nikolic, Tanya Shtykalo, Mariia Yeroshkina.

supported by *kültür gemma!*, Stadt Wien, im2 Collective



VIVÊNCIAS

It is a *series of events for artists and cultural producers*, initiated by kùltür gemma!, curated by Denise Palmieri and Marissa Lôbo. From July to December 2022 there are two monthly events, *where the concept of care and creative work are not only reflected upon but also practiced*.

We approach the topic of *politics of care and hospitality from interdisciplinary perspectives*, we invite local and international artists, theorists and curators, activists and everyone who is interested in this focus.

Together with our participants we want to create *a space where the difficult conditions of artistic work can be thought about in a solidary and attentive way*. A space where care takes center stage as a theoretical focus and as an intersectional practice. For this we rely on the concept of *Vivências*, shared experience, a way of experiencing and learning and unlearning together, *a hybrid format that combines artistic methodologies of sharing knowledge and discursive elements*.

ARTISTIC RESIDENCE

NAOMI RINCÓN GALLARDO

As part of Vivências we offered an Art Residency and invited the *Mexican artist and performer Naomi Rincón Gallardo*.

Curated by:
Marissa Lôbo &
Denise Palmieri

NAOMI

RINCÓN
GALLARDO



VERSES OF FILTH

A performative screening.

Naomi Rincón Gallardo (she/her) is a *visual artist and researcher* currently living and working between Mexico City and Oaxaca. *From a decolonial-cuir perspective, her research-driven critical-mythical dreamlike worldmakings address the creation of counter-worlds in neo-colonial settings.* In her work she integrates her interests in theater games, popular music, Meso-american cosmologies, speculative fiction, vernacular festivities and crafts, decolonial feminisms and queer of color critique. She completed the PhD in Practice Program at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna.

naomirincongallardo.net

In my film “*Verses of Filth*” (2021), a *disoriented Mesoamerican deity has become a scavenger* digging in the wasted land in search of residues of fragmented bodies and cultural debris. Together with a gang of vultures, *she sparks a residual insurrection of a brigade of undomesticated arms and underworld creatures* who reclaim to become undead *in search for touch and pleasure.* For the Vivências’s residency, I developed a performative screening version of the film “*Verses of Filth*”. The aim was to create a *collaborative work together with other artists, activists or thinkers based in Vienna.* The narrative lines will address the *vital necessity of insisting on care, desire and resistance against the all-consuming forces of necropolitics.*

16.12.2022

15.12.2022

— 18:00 to 18:45

Performance:
Masimba Hwati

— 18:45 to 20:45

Film Screenings:
Mangoranges
& Anna Gaberscik
(Blickle Kino)

— 20:45 to 21:00

Artist Talk:
Mangoranges &
Anna Gaberscik
(Blickle Kino)

— 17:00 to 18:00

Opening Installation:
Natalia Gurova
& Masimba Hwati

— 18:00 to 18:30

Podcast: Hamdi
Abdullahi Hassan

— 18:30 to 19:00

Lecture Performance:
Natalia Gurova

— 19:00 to 19:45

Artist talk:
Masimba Hwati,
Hamdi Abdullahi
Hassan, Natalia
Gurova, Izraa

— 20:00 to 21:00

Music Performance:
Izraa

18.12.2022

VIVÊNCIAS

— 17:00 to 18:00

Performance:
Naomi Rincón
Gallardo.
Afterwards
Artist Talk

— 20:30 to 21:30

Online
Discussion
about Politics
of Care (tbc)

— **BELVEDERE 21**

ARSENALSTRASSE 1

1030 VIENNA

WWW.KUELTUERGEMMA.AT