PROCESSION ACTION TOUR

A performative city tour



Some people can perform acts that function as a spark: small, barely apparent, sometimes even absurd stories that have changed the path of history. Michel Foucault called them monumental narratives. In Riga, such acts crystallized in the form of small groups of intellectuals and artists—Helsinki-86, NSRD, rock bands, film makers— who insisted on making themselves heard in a system where there existed almost no opportunity to express oneself. Procession Action Tour speculates on such starting points and their radical strategies of transmission by listening to, remembering, and acting out a number of small manifestations that together acted as a catalyst for Latvia's democratic awakening in the 1980s, actions that seem anachronistic from the perspective of Riga today. A subtle parallell story line aluded to similarities in radical capitalism and its restricitng functions.

The tour was led by 5 guides/performers in Latvian, Russian and English every weekend during 3 month time during the Riga Biennale 2018.





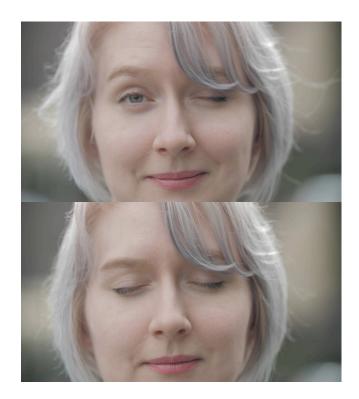
Procession Action Tour; was a site specific performative city tour that took place during the Riga Biennale 2018 on an unstable timeline. Each tour was led by a guide who took the partcipants through a score of 90 min. Each performative stop having a focus on how news and events are told, retold and translated—as a means to transfer into experiencing a different time, through shifting the funtion of the eye, ear and body. Transmission of subjectivity and freedom of speech was at the centre through sites of conflict and contestation, radical strategies, creative language and its potential to engage with, move and change a place in the past and present.





















"Shelved Films"

A film was forbidden during the Soviet era if it did not received screening approval, but those occasions were rare. "Shelved films" - a Soviet film term precisely characterizing the situation – were films that weren't forbidden, but simply not shown. Work that was "wrong" for political or aesthetic reasons was formally approved, but received the lowest (nr. 3 or 4) category, which meant





