

Wednesday, 07.10.2020

[João Simões](#) and [Ivy Monteiro](#) | [Kaserne Basel](#)

“What you find-ah What you feel now What you know-ah
To be real Ooh, your love's for real now You know that your love is my love My love is your love Our
love is here to stay”

Cheryl Lynn - Got to be real

ABSTRACT

Explode! Realness recovers the performances commonly practiced by the Ballroom community, calling on the participants of this workshop to narrate, through movements of their bodies, what they know and feel about their experiences with the world. In an exchange between João Simões and Ivy Monteiro, notions of Vogue and different dance movements will be introduced so that each participant will be invited to produce a small video performance to be published in Instagram. Explode! Realness establishes a narrative-reflective space about performativity, invention and relationship of each body and its knowledge located in different positions with the world.

DESCRIPTION:

Got to be real, a 1978 Disco hit, composed and recorded by African-American composer and singer Cheryl Lynn is also known as one of the icons of the ballroom community, known worldwide for its Vogue dance. Besides a song that celebrates love, *Got to be real* speaks about the desire of a community, black, Latin and LGBTQIA+, in New York (US) that, in those days, faced with greater difficulty the possibility of access to spaces of education, work, leisure and dignity. Realness becomes, in this context, a model of performance in which the desire to move out of a condition imposed by the structural racism of a society that rose above the strength of these bodies was staged. It was therefore a way of imagining the possibilities of another world. Like *realness*, Vogue should be understood as something beyond performance and spectacle itself. More than a vocabulary of gestures and movements, they reflect a way of existence in community, of collective learning and of strengthening and resistance in front of a world that still presents the same problems and violence as in 1978. In a ball, an event that gathers this community, all its history is celebrated and, in this sense, another world is elaborated, imagined and built, despite many times, the world that surrounds them outside this space.

EXPLODE! REALNESS invites the participants of this workshop to reflect and experience from this activity, their points of living, their situated knowledge and their relation with those around them. The workshop proposes itself as a process of body and reflection, of celebration and discussion, of redrawing of individual practices from a collective experience. Considering the challenges and limitations imposed by the pandemic, we propose that the participants of this workshop narrate, through movements of their bodies, what they know and feel of their experiences with the world, through the production of a small video performance to be published in the Instagram of the Explode! platform.

Despite the immediate and apparently superficial character of digital networks, it is from these channels that this community expands and rediscovers itself beyond its place of origin. In this way, Ivy and João come into contact with a series of questions and corporealities that are not a mere translation of a cultural movement, but are elaborated from points of life in common of bodies that share, in an intersectional way, questions of race, gender, class and sexuality. In its trajectory, the Explode! platform seeks to broaden the senses of artistic practice, culture and learning spaces, and consequently the possibility of being able to imagine other ways of life.

SCHEDULE (COULD CHANGE)

11h00 - 11h30 - Opening/ Self introduction of participants

11h30 - 12h15 - Presentation of the proposal and activities/ warm-up

12h15 - 12h30 - Video - Explode! platform + general concepts
12h30 - 13h30 - lunch
13h30 - 14h00 - Vogue practice
14h00 - 14h15 - Video - Ballroom community - history and proposals
14h15 - 15h45 - Vogue practice
15h45 - 16h00 - Video - final presentation
16h00 - 16h30 - Personal proposals and rehearsal
16h30 - 17h00 - Performances from the participants and filming/ final conversation

From 11am to 5pm.

The workshops will be held in English.

Workshop participation: CHF 25 (artists/reduction: CHF 15)

Registration at buero@kaserne-basel.ch (Please name the chosen workshop)