

Report of Encounter #7, Mülheim an der Ruhr

Encounter #7 from 23.09.21 to 26.09.21 took place as part of the festival "Culture of Diversity" in Mülheim. Four days of theatre, performances, workshops and discourses dedicated to the attempt to highlight the importance of inter- and transcultural work. The events were broadcast live and simultaneously translated into German/English and Arabic. The different formats focused on the theme of curating in a diverse theatre scene. The date of Encounters #7 was set to precede the third edition of the Ringlokschuppen Ruhr's post-migrant young talent festival HundertPro, which took place on 25.09.2021, in order to be able to form a meaningful interweaving of the discursive theme with the house's programme. Works by artists from various ethnic backgrounds and groups were presented in diverse art forms in a kind of presentation marathon. Equally selected works from contemporary dance, theatre and performance to video installation, comedy, spoken word and stand-up were on stage. In this way, numerous theatre practitioners from Germany who practise a diverse art met synergetically in Mülheim an der Ruhr at the end of September. It was a very good occasion to ask about the quality of artistic works and necessary adjustments to the practice of curating. How and who measures the quality of the work of diverse artists in German, predominantly white cultural institutions? How are aesthetic ideas measured and what historical and cultural influences are involved?

23.9.

- Opening lecture by Dr. Emilia Roig: The way to a world free of oppression
- Exhibition opening "Untitled" by Amer Okdeh
- Panel Part I: A Question of Quality. Curating as anti-racist practice, Guests: Rebecca Ajnwojner, Michaela Kuczinna, Dan Thy Nguyen, Moderation: Julia-Huda Nahas (hybrid)

24.09.

- One Language Project" Presentation Nawras e.V.
- Panel Part II: It happens. Curating next to the institution, with: Association for Black Art_ists e.V. (ASBA), Laboratory for Antiracist Curating, Moderation: Johanna-Yasirra Kluhs, (Interkultur Ruhr)
- Lecture Hasan Hera: When life is (not) a theatre

25. 09.

- All-day workshop "Mind the Trap": Pitfalls and Potentials in the Structural Opening of Art and Cultural Work, with Golshan Ahmad Hashemi

26.09.

- "Whose memory counts", reading by Mark Terkessidis
- Theatre performance REINE FORMSACHE by Collective Ma'louba