

Press Release Berlin, June 5, 2018

Press Contact

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KW Institute for Contemporary Art and the Berliner Ensemble present *Brecht in der Autowerkstatt* by Olaf Nicolai

In collaboration with the Berliner Ensemble, KW Institute for Contemporary Art presents the public workshop *Hier wird heute Abend ein Mensch wie ein Auto ummontiert / Ohne dass er irgendetwas dabei verliert. Brecht in der Autowerkstatt* by **Olaf Nicolai** from June 29 to July 1, 2018.

This workshop will show the assembly and repair of a Mercedes-Benz Ponton, which once belonged to Helene Weigel, the former intendant of the Berliner Ensemble and Bertolt Brecht's wife. At the same time, Brecht's learning play *Man Equals Man* will be developed with actors. Here, questions will be raised about the nature of performance and theater as well as the meaning of labor in the context of contemporary economics and art production. The garage visits are structured in traditional shifts and enable exciting insights into labor at various levels.

Olaf Nicolai (born 1962 in Halle/Saale, DE) is a German artist who works from a conceptual approach by using a wide variety of media. Growing up in Chemnitz (DE), he studied German from 1983 to 1988 and subsequently obtained a doctorate at the University of Leipzig (DE). Since the early 1990s, he has exhibited in group and solo exhibitions at the most relevant institutions in the contemporary art field. Nicolai was represented at the Documenta X, Kassel (DE) in 1997 and the Biennale di Venezia, Venice (IT) in 2001 and 2005, among others.

Artistic Director: Olaf Nicolai
Actors: Matthias Buss, Susanne Jansen
Chronicler of the workshop, Writer, Journalist: Thomas Irmer
Head Dramaturg: Sabrina Zwach
Curator: Krist Gruijthuijsen
Assistant Dramaturg: Tobias Kluge
Assistant Curator and Project Management: Maurin Dietrich
Head of Production KW: Claire Spilker
Production Assistant: Ralf Bettermann
Stage Design Assistant: Johanna Meyer

Venue

A car workshop in Berlin-Prenzlauer Berg / The address will be announced after the ticket purchase.

Shifts

Friday, June 29, 2018, 7–9 pm

Saturday, June 30, 2018, 11 am–1 pm, 3–5 pm, 7–9 pm

Sunday, July 1, 2018, 11 am–1 pm

Ticket sale

Tickets can be purchased at the box office of Berliner Ensemble, Bertolt-Brecht-Platz 1, 10117 Berlin Mitte (Mon–Sat 10 am–6.30 pm) or contact 030 284-08-155, theaterkasse@berliner-ensemble.de, and at the webshop at <https://www.berliner-ensemble.de/inszenierung/brecht-der-auto-werkstatt>

The project takes place in conjunction with *KW on location*. See the website for further details on the program: http://www.kw-berlin.de/files/KW_2018_on_location_program.pdf

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Senate Department
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