

# FORUM GUIDE

The background is a solid light pink color. It is decorated with several abstract geometric shapes. There are teal-colored shapes, including a large arrow-like form pointing left at the top, a curved shape in the middle, and several other angular shapes at the bottom. There are also yellow shapes, including a small triangle and some angular forms at the bottom right.

**FORECAST FORUM**  
**JULY 15–17**  
**RADIALSYSTEM**



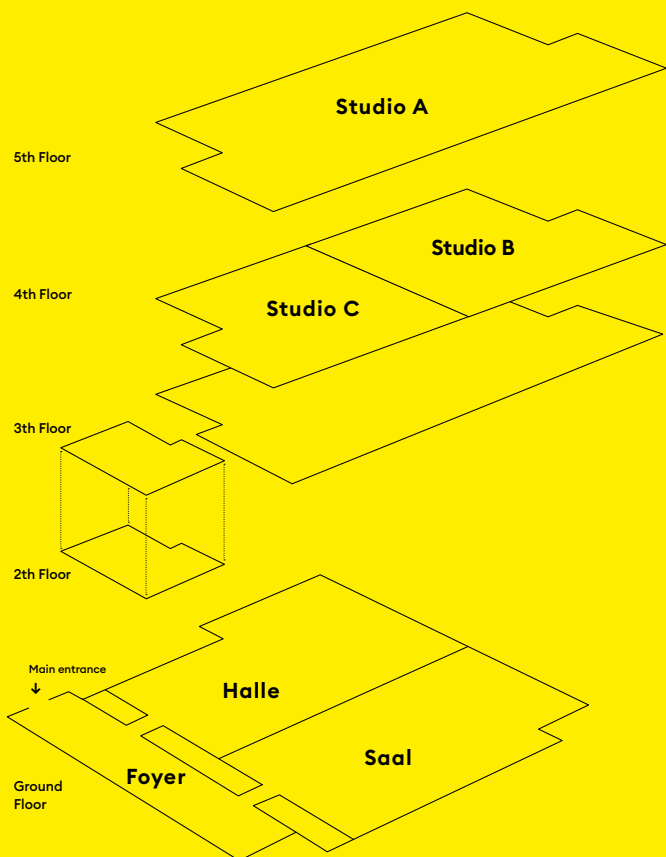
As an international mentorship program with annual editions, Forecast offers artists and creative thinkers from anywhere in the world the chance to work with accomplished mentors toward bringing their projects to fruition. For each edition, Forecast selects six mentors from various disciplines who offer selected participants their expertise in specifying and realizing their project ideas.

Each edition of Forecast is different; the selected mentors impact the nature and content of every iteration. They define the type of applications submitted, and play an instrumental role in developing their mentees' ideas from proposal to production. The mentoring process offers a space in which both parties can experiment, exchange, and push their concepts in new directions.

The six mentors of Forecast 7 have each selected three nominees whose proposals moved, challenged, surprised, and intrigued them. Discover 18 boundary-pushing contributions in a variety of formats ranging from stand-up comedy and deconstructed magic to performances, immersive explorations in moving images, and vocal experimentations.

At the Forum's conclusion, each mentor will choose one mentee and accompany their project to realization over the next eight months. The outcomes will be presented at the Forecast Festival, taking place at Radial-system from March 17–18, 2023.

## FLOOR PLAN



FRIDAY, JULY 15

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7:00PM SLAPSTICK AND SEDUCTION

Mentor: Ana Prvački

- Saal Mia Štark: An Anthology of Glances
  - Saal Sasha Bergstrom-Katz: On the Subject of Tests
  - Saal Aïda Gómez: Empatree
- 

8:30PM HUMOR AND STORYTELLING

Mentor: Daliso Chaponda

- Saal Hamza Baig: The Marblous Four
  - Saal Patricia Olwoch: Sex or Slave
  - Saal Jo Güstin: Life Is Too Short to Be Straight
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SATURDAY, JULY 16

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Join us from 5–7pm for music and drinks by the Spree to celebrate all participants before the evening’s program begins.

Kindly supported by BRŁO and WOSTOK.

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7:00PM REWORLDDING STORIES

Mentor: Laura Huertas Millán

- Studio A Hira Nabi: How to Love a Tree
  - Studio A Luciana Decker Orozco: What Humans See as Blood, Jaguars See as Chicha
  - Studio A Constantin Jopeak: The Way of the Snake
- 

8:45PM YOUR VOICE IS YOUR SOUND

Mentor: Rully Shabara

- Halle Agustina Crespo: Babel
  - Saal Penny Chan: Revisit and Reinterpret the Peking Opera
  - Halle Pratyay Raha: The Liminal Sense
- 

SUNDAY, JULY 17

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5:00PM A DANCE WITH REALITY

Mentor: Alia Ibrahim

- Studio B Yurika Higashikawa: The Unbearable Burden of Peace Time
  - Studio B Alexis Guillier: Purgatoire (Cinema that Kills)
  - Studio C Siu Hei Chung: Quick Sketches about Hong Kong
- 

7:15PM BODIES IN ACTION

Mentor: Florentina Holzinger

- Halle Thaís Medeiros: Estar uma Árvore
- Saal Cochon de Cauchemar: Mégère de fille en mère!
- Halle Tom Cassani: Expanded Magic

8 Ana Prvački:  
**Slapstick and Seduction**  
Sasha Bergstrom-Katz  
Aïda Gómez  
Mia Štark



10 Daliso Chaponda:  
**Humor and Storytelling**  
Hamza Baig  
Jo Güstin  
Patricia Achiro Olwoch



12 Laura Huertas Millán:  
**Reworlding Stories**  
Luciana Decker Orozco  
Constantin Jopeck  
Hira Nabi



14 Rully Shabara:  
**Your Voice Is Your Sound**  
Peny Chan  
Agustina Crespo  
Pratyay Raha



16 Alia Ibrahim:  
**A Dance with Reality**  
Alexis Guillier  
Siu Hei Chung  
Yurika Higashikawa



16 Florentina Holzinger:  
**Bodies in Action**  
Tom Cassani  
Cochon de Cauchemar  
Thaís Medeiros





# SLAPSTICK AND SEDUCTION

Mentor: Ana Prvački

**Ana Prvački is a conceptual artist whose cross-disciplinary practice spans performance, installations, portable sculptures, watercolors, videos, augmented reality, and idiosyncratic Instagram posts. Her backgrounds in music, theater, mask-work, and beekeeping inform her work, as does her keen interest in humor, language, and transcultural slips of the tongue. Her approach incorporates scientific research, behavioral observations, and emotional affect into a strategy aimed at creating imaginative tools for the challenges of daily life.**



## SASHA BERGSTROM-KATZ ON THE SUBJECT OF TESTS

Maastricht-based Sasha Bergstrom-Katz is an artist and researcher working at the intersections between the history of science, psychology, cognitive sciences, and perception studies. Her project stems from an ongoing inquiry into twentieth-century intelligence test kits (IQ tests) developed for wide application in classrooms, workplaces, and psychological institutions. In a theatrical performance, the project explores the fears and fantasies that intelligence testing can produce in its subjects. Using modes of play, humor, and slapstick as well as prop- and set design, Bergstrom-Katz collaborates with stand-up magician Freddie Rutz and AI expert Manfred Hild to access psychological states and deep-seated desires connected to ideas around testing and intelligence.





**AÏDA GÓMEZ**

## **EMPATREE**

In her investigations into urban landscapes, artist Aïda Gómez looks at the traces left by trees felled by municipal authorities in city streets and parks. Her project encompasses a series of guerilla interventions in public space that shift the focus to the tree stumps, easily overlooked but ubiquitous. Using the metaphor of tree stumps as amputees, and looking at the phenomenon of phantom limbs, Gómez asks whether a stump still attempts to perform functions such as absorbing CO<sub>2</sub> out of the environment. She will interview arborists, botanists, gardeners, philosophers, and other experts to develop a variety of artistic interventions that will cast tree stumps as the main protagonists.



**MIA ŠTARK**

## **AN ANTHOLOGY OF GLANCES**

Fascinated by absurd and humorous occurrences in everyday life, artist Mia Štark has decided to dedicate her work to their artistic investigation. Her project involves a performative piece inspired by the media-consumption habits of a specific age group in her native Croatia or, more precisely, her grandmother's reliance on TV for information. The work meanders around the topic of how we watch, look at, listen to, and receive news of any kind. *An Anthology of Glances* is at once a comment as well as a proposition on how to consume media more carefully, packaged in the format of a short TV series and Public Service Announcements.

# HUMOR AND STORYTELLING

Mentor: Daliso Chaponda

Comedian and author Daliso Chaponda shot to fame in 2017 on *Britain's Got Talent*, establishing himself as a firm favorite with the judges and the British public. Since then, he appears regularly on TV and radio. He is also the writer, creator, and host of his BBC Radio 4 show *Citizen of Nowhere*. In addition to his stand-up comedy, Chaponda is also prolific fiction writer. He has published science fiction, murder mysteries, and fantasy fiction in numerous magazines and anthologies. He is currently working on a new novel and a children's book.



HAMZA BAIG

## THE MARBLOUS FOUR

Pakistani filmmaker Hamza Baig proposes a live-action series that reimagines the traditional game of Five Stones with a superhero twist. Set in the imaginary village of “Geetapur” (inspired by Chakwal, Pakistan,) the plot centers on the local children, who possess a set of magical marbles that have the power to sustain life in the village. The story follows Guddo, whose attempt to help her peers through the use of her unique marbles repeatedly ends in disaster. The narrative interweaves humor with drama and is to unfold against the backdrop of an extremely modest community knit together by tradition.



JO GÜSTIN

### **LIFE IS TOO SHORT TO BE STRAIGHT**

Writer, director, producer, and comedian Jo Güstin celebrates Black and queer joy and creativity using fiction and comedy. Her project centers on her move to Canada, in 2019, to boost her career and be closer to her cousin Yann, who had been begging her to join him there for years. But while Jo Güstin was on the plane from Paris to Toronto, Yann unexpectedly passed away. *Life Is Too Short to Be Straight* is a comedic approach to grief, mortality, anxiety, and the fear of failure of an artist relocating on the eve of a global pandemic.



PATRICIA ACHIRO OLWOCH

### **SEX OR SLAVE**

Writer and filmmaker Patricia Achiro Olwoch is writing her debut novel *Sex or Slave*. Set in 1940s Uganda, it explores LGBTQ issues under colonial rule. The protagonist is eighty-year-old Achi Lamwono. When her grandson is attacked on the street after he is outed in the local paper, she talks him out of suicide by telling him of her own forbidden lesbian love story. As a young girl, she was given away by her parents to a white master—the boy's late grandfather. Her first and only love was Sheila Rocker, her master's wife.

Reading by Ariella Hirshfeld

# REWORLDDING STORIES

Mentor: Laura Huertas Millán

**Laura Huertas Millán is an artist and filmmaker whose work stands at the intersection of cinema, contemporary art, and research. Entwining experimental ethnography, ecological and decolonial thinking, historical long-term enquiries, and fiction, her moving-image work engages with strategies of resistance and survival. Sensuous and immersive, her films are often screened in art institutions and biennials in addition to film festivals. Huertas Millán also works as an educator in academic and alternative spaces. She is part of the artistic, research, and curatorial collective Counter-Encounters on critical anthropology and the aesthetics and politics of the encounter.**



LUCIANA DECKER OROZCO

## **WHAT HUMANS SEE AS BLOOD, JAGUARS SEE AS CHICHA**

Filmmaker Luciana Decker Orozco's project looks at film as a continuation of the tradition of telling, listening, and imagining oral histories. The work investigates storytelling about deities, sacred objects, and spaces in the Andes, to highlight remembrances and customs of relating to nature, space, and the unusual geological formations in Kalaque, in Decker's native Bolivia. The work aims to point toward a return to collective memories that are non-hegemonic and that contain a different understanding of the spaces we inhabit, and asks whether such storytelling will enhance our ability to create more ecological relationships.



CONSTANTIN JOPECK

### **THE WAY OF THE SNAKE**

Artist, researcher, and filmmaker Constantin Jopeak film installation focuses on the biology of the snake and its evasive path. Following the work of herpetologists, venom experts, and snake catchers in Italy and France, the work titled *The Way of the Snake* questions certain fortuitous and rare encounters between man and animal, and suggests the emergence of mysterious interconnections between species. Looking at the snake as a model of avoidance toward the world and of connection to the earth, the film will attempt to discover, by immersing itself in the biology of the animal, what its appearance could reveal: a warning from the earth, an interspecies alliance, a way toward healing.



HIRA NABI

### **HOW TO LOVE A TREE**

For her ongoing project *How to Love a Tree*, Maastricht-based artist and filmmaker Hira Nabi proposes a work set in the former colonial hill stations and within the forests surrounding them in her native Pakistan. The work is conceived as a meditation on a site of impending ecological collapse, while locating, identifying, and demystifying traces of colonial legacies. Nabi plans to document the peak summer tourist season in these hillside resort towns, to draw attention to the encroachment on vulnerable multi-species environments. The research project will be presented in various mediums including a video Installation, a short film, a library of gathered sounds and texts, and a lecture performance.

# YOUR VOICE IS YOUR SOUND

Mentor: Rully Shabara

Indonesian musician Rully Shabara's main interest as an artist and vocalist lies in exploring the human voice as a medium of creation, and human languages as material for experimentation. A boundary-pushing, genre-bending musician, Shabara has initiated many concept-driven projects centered on the voice's malleability. This includes, for instance, navigating vocal range, textures, and spirituality in his collaborative project *Senyawa* (with Wukir Suriyadi), or developing the ongoing language-driven band project Zoo. He has worked with notable international musicians and artists such as Keiji Haino, Stephen O'Malley, Otomo Yoshihide, Rabih Beaini, Damo Suzuki, and many more.



PENY CHAN

## REVISIT AND REINTERPRET THE PEKING OPERA

Polyglot Malaysian singer and performer Peny Chan seeks to highlight the cultural traditions as well as the transformations within the Peking opera's style of singing. Her project aims to deconstruct the opera's original structure and reconstruct it into a new experimental genre of singing. Chan will use south-east Asian languages and dialects to read and sing traditional Chinese opera librettos, and push the envelope on the accepted sounds within it. Her goal is not to undo but rather to innovate the genre's historic conventions, in order to carve out space for contemporary impulses.



## AGUSTINA CRESPO

### **BABEL**

Argentinian vocalist, composer, and conductor Agustina Crespo's project encompasses a multidisciplinary piece for a vocal ensemble. The work, *Babel*, deals with the study of the instrumental possibilities of the voice outside of semantics, thus expanding to other means of communication and a diversity of artistic languages in pursuit of a common reflection. Crespo uses the myth of the Tower of Babel as a metaphor for the lack of communication in our contemporary society to probe whether music, sound, and timber can be as powerful and impactful as semantics in conveying meaning.



## PRATYAY RAHA

### **THE LIMINAL SENSE**

Composer, voice artist, and poet Pratyay Raha's project is a sonic exploration into notions such as Otherness, marginality, boundary, and the body in the Indigenous-culture spaces of West Bengal. How and why do these spaces come to represent the Other? Using his voice, electronics, as well as sonic and visual field recordings, Raha seeks to investigate the role of the human voice in Indigenous traditions. *The Liminal Sense* will meld different dialects, movements, music, sound, text, and poetry to reimagine a space and time which was once brimming with creative impulses and rich heritage, and is now on the verge of extinction.

# A DANCE WITH REALITY

Mentor: Alia Ibrahim

**Investigative journalist and self-described “realist utopian” Alia Ibrahim is a seasoned news correspondent who has been reporting on the Arab region since 1996. Between 2005 and 2011, her opinion and news stories appeared in important publications including *The Washington Post*, where she was a contributing reporter. Ibrahim also held a position as Senior Correspondent at *Al-Arabiya News Channel* and since 2015, she has produced and directed investigative reports for the network’s *Special Mission* program. She has also been a journalism instructor at the Lebanese American University.**



ALEXIS GUILLIER

## **PURGATOIRE (CINEMA THAT KILLS)**

Based on his artistic research into accidents on film sets, Alexis Guillier's project looks at a deadly fire that broke out on the set of the 1968 Lebanese film *Kulluna Fida'iyun* by Gary Garabedian. The film, characteristic of cinema supporting the Palestinian resistance at the time, deals with a group of Fedayeen and in particular with a member of the group, who was captured by the Israeli army and confessed under torture the location of his comrades. A final scene was meant to show their revenge: a bombing at a Tel Aviv nightclub. The Lebanese club *Purgatoire* was chosen for the shoot, but when the explosives were detonated, a fatal flash fire broke out. Guillier's research delves into the complexity of the film's context, the precariousness of Lebanese cinema, and the investigation of the accident.

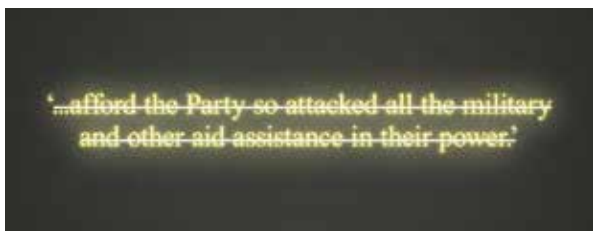




SIU HEI CHUNG

## **QUICK SKETCHES ABOUT HONG KONG**

Theater's long production times prevent it from being a medium suited to producing an immediate response to current affairs. The Hong Kong-based director Siu Hei Chung seeks to explore new and adaptive ways in which theater can respond to the drama and absurdity of real-life events and the role journalism can play in shaping these experiments. He proposes to test out a format that would combine texts—using news writing as well as longform investigative journalism—readers' participation, and performance.



YURIKA HIGASHIKAWA

## **THE UNBEARABLE BURDEN OF PEACE TIME**

Artist and writer Yurika Higashikawa proposes a work which highlights and recontextualizes the embedded hopes, dreams, and contradictions of Ireland's purported neutral status. The research-based exploration questions whether such self-imagining is even possible within the techno-political context of our time. Through the use of interviews, staged reenactments, and journalistic approaches that prioritize the collective over the individual, Higashikawa blurs the boundaries between legend and materiality, blueprint and situated object, replica and original while also drawing attention to her own culpability as non-neutral facilitator of this story. Overall, the work searches—perhaps misguidedly—for an alternative to the relentless weaponization of innovation.

# BODIES IN ACTION

Mentor: Florentina Holzinger

**Florentina Holzinger is an Austrian choreographer and performance artist whose body of work has enriched the international performance scene with award-winning pieces that meld dizzying acrobatics, martial-arts fight scenes, and pop-cultural references. Holzinger's recent productions adapt themes from classical ballet, such as *Apollon Musagète* or *Apollon* and *La Sylphide*. She crafts these into pieces that straddle the line between trashy spectacle and theater, incorporating stunts, gory splatter scenes, and crude sideshow humor into the canonical ballet repertoire. Since 2021, Holzinger is a member of the creative team at Berlin's Volksbühne theater, working with artistic director René Pollesch.**



## TOM CASSANI EXPANDED MAGIC

Working in the contexts of theater, circus, cabaret, live art, nightclubs, and gallery spaces, Tom Cassani's research focuses on the body as a site of apparent deception in contemporary performance practices. Cassani, who also performs under the moniker Strange Boy, will present a work that highlights the performing body as an unreliable measure of truth. *Expanded Magic* will test the limits of body-based illusion while mapping new territories in the fields of choreography, contemporary magic, theater, and performance art. By deconstructing and reconfiguring the aesthetic and linguistic indicators of magic, Cassani challenges the audience's perception of physical possibilities.



## COCHON DE CAUCHEMAR **MÉGÈRE DE FILLE EN MÈRE!**

Cochon de Cauchemar and their alter-ego Nympho-Ménage are active in Berlin’s queer feminist, sex- and body-positive scene. They create costumes, props, sets, installations, designs and narratives for experimental performances. As a personal strategy for coping with deep anxieties related to the sexed, sexual, and sexualized body, their artistic practice focuses on the domestic sphere—an environment of paradox and cultural relevance, and one in which they can indulge their obsessive-compulsive passion for housework. Long fascinated by pop-cultural tropes such as neurotic housewives and tyrannical mothers, Nympho-Ménage’s project celebrates and acknowledges the family members who have both terrorized and shaped them, leading them to become a self-proclaimed “domestic dominator.”



## THAÍS MEDEIROS **ESTAR UMA ÁRVORE**

Thaís Medeiros, working with the São Paulo-based collective Galeria Gruta, showcases a project that draws inspiration from a text on women, healing, and the sacred by Indigenous leader Shirley Krenak. The project has been developed following a meeting with Shirley Krenak to learn from her perspective as an Indigenous activist and to get in touch with the history, rites, memory, and customs of the Krenak people, indigenous to the region of Minas Gerais. In the next stage, a poetic manifesto will be created from the exploration of individual and collective responses to the words “forest” and “territory.” The project is a collaboration with musician Ivan Medeiros and artist Ulysses Sanchez.

Forecast is a project by Skills e.V.  
It is supported by the  
Federal Government Commissioner  
for Culture and the Media.



Die Beauftragte der Bundesregierung  
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4.1: Gigi Priadji; 6.1: Apollonia Bitzan; 6.2: Hugo Glendinning; 6.3: Kai Heimberg;  
p. 8 top: Hugo Comte, p. 8 bottom: Westbeth; p. 12: Yew KH; p. 13 top: Candelaria  
Palacios; p. 16: Tom Cassani and Manuel Vason; p. 17 top: Rüdiger Schestag;  
p. 17 bottom: Tatiana Mito



