



Bio

Marta Ostajewska (born 1980) is a Polish visual artist, performer, doctor of fine arts, and academic lecturer. She is a graduate of Polish philology at the University of Lodz and the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Ghent (KASK) in Belgium (major—Multimedia, specialization: Performance Art). She obtained her PhD in Arts at the Academy of Fine Arts in Wrocław. She was the editor-in-chief of the artistic and scientific magazine "Afterimages" published by the Academy of Fine Arts in Lodz (2018-2021) and the main editor of the book *Kiwi from PL* (University of Warsaw, 2019). She is a member of the Fraction group (artists' group). In 2014, she carried out artistic projects related to the revitalization of Księży Młyn in Lodz as part of a scholarship from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and an artistic scholarship from the President of the City of Lodz. She deals with issues related to performance art, site-specific activities, cultural revitalization in the field of Indigenous languages, and documentary animations (*Księży Młyn* (2014), *City of Dream* (2016)). She publishes, participates in international projects and conferences, is a curator of exhibitions (including *Like mushrooms...* at the Art Factory in Łódź, *... after the rain* at Gallery Szara in Cieszyn, *full stop* at Gallery Szara Kamienica in Kraków, *Black Hole* at the Wozownia Art Gallery in Torun), runs workshops (including *Synesthesia*, Lodz Design Festival) and lectures on contemporary art.

<http://martaostajewska.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100060497984666>



inside
video performance (2020)



inside (2020)

(video&audio Aleksandra Chciuk, Kunnej Takaahaj (Sakha), Ayur Zhat (Buryat), Aracely Juarez (Mixtec), Tiöma fum Dökter (Wymysiöeryś), Genner Llanes Ortiz (Maya))

These artistic activity grew in cooperation with Indigenous artists and researchers and with the involvement of endangered languages. The project is contemporary, touches upon important socio-political issues, and is an example of the practical application of the Performance as Research and IRS methodology. It is created as a part of the Coling project (RISE, Horizon 2020) at the University of Warsaw (Poland). It touched upon the following issues: relationship with the land, disappearing of Indigenous languages, systemic and police violence (“I can't breathe”) and the impact of these processes on the connection with the ancestors and the memory of the past.

The action was carried out in the gravel pits in Lodz, Poland, in a place that has a negative impact on the biological balance of the area (stone extraction left depression craters and causes groundwater levels to drop, which leads to the drainage of fields, meadows and forests). It is a space that has been significantly transformed by human activities. It looks like a post-apocalypse scene where nothing is left but rusty bars and crumbling blocks of concrete, the remains of our civilization slowly overgrown by nature.



Indigenous languages

The video performance *inside* is a story about breath and naming in several Indigenous languages, translated and recorded by: Kunnej Takaahaj (Sakha), Ayur Zhat (Buryat), Aracely Juarez (Mixtec), Tiöma fum Dökter (Wymysiöeryś), Genner Llanes Ortiz (Maya).

Each of the translators changes a few bricks and sentences in the original text, saturating it with their presence. So this is not a mechanical translation of words, clothing the text in another language, but leaving a trace in it, decoding your own name.

Each time the text is translated and the translation recorded, the project gains a new co-creator and new recipient (language user).

[Wymysiöeryś]

Tiöma

dåjn noma bydajt grasjyn. ym dejh. à
kjenla yr dry ym blüthungerikja flus.
tam, tumult, ten, tün

yhy kon ödum ny krigja

Tiöma

Your name means a storm, in you a grain
in a swirl of blood-hungry rivers
dam, tumult, barnyard, action. I can not
breathe.

Tiöma

Twoje imię znaczy burzę, w tobie, ziarnko
w wirze rzeki głodnej krwi
tama, zgiełk, gumno, działanie. nie mogę
oddychać.

[Sakha]

Куннэй

Эн аатынҭ Кун уонна Ый диэн, эбэтэр биир ый кунэ буолар. Киһи күнэ эбэтэр ыйа суох сатаан олорор кыаза суох онон дьон күнэ ыйа буолабын. Күннэйискэ, Күннэйэ, Күнчээн, Күнүм-ыйым.

Kunnej

Your name means the Sun and the Moon or the day of one month. A man without the sun or the moon cannot exist. Therefore, you are the sun and the moon to humans. Künneejiske, Künneeje, Kunczen, my sun and my moon.

Kunnej

Twoje imię oznacza Słońce i Księżyc lub dzień jednego miesiąca. Człowiek bez słońca lub księżyca nie może istnieć. Dlatego dla ludzi jesteś słońcem i księżycem. Künneejiske, Künneeje, Kunczeen, moje Słońce i Księżyc.

[Maya]

Genner

a k'aaba'e u k'áat u ya'al u winal enero, k'uba'an u yóol tu k'uj Jano úuch ka'ache'. leti'e' u k'ujil jets'óolal, u k'ujil káajalil yetel u k'ujil xuulil.

Genner

your name is the name of the month January, devoted to the god Janus in ancient times. He was the god of peace, the god of beginnings and the god of ends.

Genner

twoje imię to nazwa miesiąca – styczeń, poświęconemu w starożytności bogowi Janus. był on bogiem pokoju, początku i końca.















www.youtube.com/watch?v=4CJtPAVeICA

still/kill

performance site-specific

Bergen, Norway (PAB OPEN, 2015)











Migration video performance (2015/2016)

performance
Mi/gra/cja
MARTA OSTAJEWSKA



Selected co-curated exhibitions

***Full stop*, Gallery Szara
kamienica in Krakow (2015)**





***Like mushrooms....*, Factory of Art
in Lodz, 2014**



woofwoof
arfarf

Jak grzyby...

Michał Bugalski
Katarzyna Celek
Konrad Juścinski
Urszula Kluz-Knopek
Magdalena Lara
Adriana Lisowska
Justyna Olszewska
Marta Ostajewska
Anna Pichura
Piotr Pasiewicz
Damian Reniszyn

maczużnik

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***...after the rain,* Gallery Szara
in Cieszyn (2014/2015)**





***Black Hole*, Gallery Wozownia
in Torun, Poland (2017)**











