

WHY PERFORMANCE

What does it mean for the observers to be present at a performance where a personal experience, an individual view on definite aspects and an analysis of a certain subject are expressed? What does this personal conflict (and personal it should be, otherwise it is hard to prove it credible) have to do with its recipients?

Once I read that one person's story can be identified with that of many others; and this person could encompass a world, as it reflects it self in him or her. The connections could become evident, connections to the audience. Following this way of consideration it is possible to find oneself again in the subjective representation which becomes visualized in the performance. Is this a good reason? Does it matter to bring internal processes to the public so that others could identify themselves with them? Is it important? Or is performance or art in general only essential if it deals with relevant issues that arouse? If it attends to political topics? If the latter would be affirmed what makes art political at all? Thereto Max Frisch said in an interview with Heiner Müller:

“If you write love poems in which the loved person is not presented as a property that can be shaped as desired such as wax, but as a free man, so also is politics, not politics in a political party, but this is much more important. And if one represents behavior patterns, it is generally much more exciting than everyday political poems (...).”

The quotation of the upcoming third performance at SAVVY Contemporary: “I don't want to know; where I come from, where I am going to, who I am” by Heiner Müller expresses the constitution of the identity without observing the past of the future. This is a conflict of an individual. If a person reacts hereupon, he behaves in a certain way towards his environment, and can consequently impact or have an influence on external factors.

Cilgia Gadola

Performance Curator

SAVVY Contemporary