April 12, 2018

Late Bloomer Late Bloomer

Ben Gould & Gabriella Lacza

A Hosting Project

Screening & Archive Presentation:

At LACA

April 12, 2018 8:00-9:30PM

Q & A to follow

Installation & Live Performance

Driveway 327

April 15, 2018 7:00PM

*Late Bloomer Late Bloomer* is a multidisciplinary project developed over the course of three years by Ben Gould and Gabriella Lacza. Rooted in performance documentation and underlying contextual information, the resulting film will be screened on April 12th at the Los Angeles Contemporary Archive. Produced with a distinct eye towards imagery, symbolism and narrative tonality, the piece further activates a practice of live performances developed while visiting Vienna, VA for Gould’s Tourette Syndrome-related treatments and surgery.

Acting as both ephemera and independent video work, the film gives form to a psyche shared between the two artists. The atmosphere that evolves is reflective of their time spent visiting Vienna, felt in their presence from both behind and in front of the camera. By building an emotional context into the film’s independent state of visual stimulation, *Late Bloomer Late Bloomer* hints at something happening just beyond the screen. Gould and Lacza’s cinematography unearths a tangible sense of foreboding, anxiety and eeriness, engaging with and revealing possibilities for emotive documentation. The aura of Vienna itself is characterized by way of circumstantial scenic imagery, enhanced by manually manipulated video effects and a soundtrack composed from every tonal quality, texture and sound produced by Gould’s body through the means of his Tourette Syndrome.

The film reimagines two original performances: Ant Dance and Flower Dance, by way of sculptural objects and a mythological undercarriage of context. *Late Bloomer Late Bloomer* utilizes Tourette’s as a motor through which to cultivate raw energy, and simultaneously shed light on a dynamic partnership between Lacza and Gould. This is something directly seen in the performances, but characterized more subtly in the sculptures, soundtrack and surrounding objects created by both artists. Gould dances on a stage in the woods as well as the parking lot of his doctor’s office, wearing clothing designed and made by Lacza with an inherent understanding of how to protect him from his uncontrollable movements, as he systematically approaches these spasms through weights and restrictions that channel energy into choreographed positions.

In the live iteration of the Flower Dance, which will take place at sunset on April 15th, Gould will perform a series of movements as he navigates through an installation of myrmecochorous flower torches, a species of flower whose seeds are carried and germinated by ants. The fantastical aspects of Gould & Lacza’s carefully built narrative are present in every corner the body of this work, constantly rebuilding and folding back into itself.

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Ben Gould is an artist currently living in New York City. After being diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome, Gould’s studio practice has transformed to harbor a new investment in the body, exploring limits, resistance, and the loss of control. Grounded in performance, his multidisciplinary practice is built upon collaboration, intimacy, and urgency - cultivated by a deep interest in how energy is directed, rerouted, transformed and transferred. His condition has become an engine for movement-based performance work that is in search of stabilization, and driven by an evolving practice of energetic restraint and release. Within a growing mythos, a space for fantasy and freedom is created for the corresponding videos, images, and objects that emerge from this process. Gould has performed site-specific works across the country, from varied geographies to institutional spaces, was a 2015 Ox-Bow Fellow, a 2017 Kickstarter Artist in Residence, and a Queenlab Space Grant recipient in 2018. He was born in Grass Valley, California in 1993 and was raised there, in the foothills of the Sierra Mountains, next to a decommissioned gold mine and a river. Most recently he has performed and shown new works in Kansas City, San Antonio, Miami, and at the Watermill Center, Judson Church, and Queenslab in New York.

Gabriella Lacza is an artist, archivist, and art historian based in New York City. Her practice focuses on relationships and collaboration, often working closely with others - helping them realize new projects and operating as a facilitator, clothing designer, proof-reader, and lover. Four years ago she wrote “I want to be famous to just one person,” and now she is.

Organized by Harris Bauer and Rachel Zaretsky of Hosting Projects. Hosting Projects is an artist run, site specific production of facilitation, curation, collaboration and conversation surrounding new works, formed in 2014.