

ADAM LINDER: SERVICE NO.5 DARE TO KEEP KIDS OFF NATURALISM

28 FEB - 11 MAR 2018, MAIN GALLERY



SLG

South London Gallery
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Adam Linder, *Service No. 5: Dare to Keep Kids Off Naturalism*,
South London Gallery, 2017. Photo: Mark Blower.

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Service No.5: Dare to Keep Kids Off Naturalism is a new commission by the LA and Berlin-based choreographer, dancer and visual artist Adam Linder and has its UK premiere at the South London Gallery (SLG). The most ambitious of his “choreographic services” to date, *No.5* extends for fifty hours across ten days in the South London Gallery’s main gallery.

Linder’s practice explores the tension of choreography as existing between performed labour and expression, highlighting the materiality of the performing body. He produces works for both the stage and for art spaces, but his “choreographic services” (2013-ongoing) are created specifically for the latter, existing outside of theatre conditions and by principle not for sale; the word “service” here implies a finite period of time, where the work is enacted, but not bought or collected.

On display in the gallery is a printed contract between the institution (“The Client”) and the artist (“The Choreographer”) that the host venue is required to display for the course of the hire period. The document lays out the signatories’ obligations in somewhat playful and descriptive, rather than technical language, listing for how many hours “The Client” has ordered the service in exaggerated, large font along with the associated cost.

With this most recent “service”, Linder aims to challenge supposed thinking in the visual arts that performance should evoke realism and appear authentic. *No.5* addresses this through the provision of “ANTI-NATURALISM”, a contractual obligation of THE CHOREOGRAPHER that is delivered by four performers for the duration of the hire, as they resist everyday manners to teach the white space of the gallery “how to take theatricality”.

Underpinned by a musical score in four parts that function as cues, from which one of two performative modalities are possible, the four performers provide THEATRICALITY in forms conceived by Linder: Imprinting, Hustling, Fundamental Choices, Neutral Analysis, Crying Landscape, Lubrication, Animatronics and Carpeteering.

Linder’s choreographic algorithm grants the performers Justin F Kennedy, Leah Katz, Noha Ramdan and Stephen Thompson agency to improvise within the piece and develop over the next 10 days, ensuring that no two moments are exactly replicated during the fifty hours.

Each of the eight performative approaches prompt outfit changes, the four performers making use of one of two dressing stations positioned diagonally across from one another in the room. Employing modular costume elements, uniforms specially designed by Linder for the different activities, they create ever-changing fictive situations that reconsider the relationship between their theatrical sensibility and the exhibition space.

Performance times:

Opening Wed 28 Feb, 4-9pm
Thu 1 – Sun 4 Mar, 12-5pm
Wed 7 Mar, 4-9pm
Thu 8 – Sun 11 Mar, 12-5pm

Please note there are moments of nudity during performances.

Personal, non-flash photography is permitted. All children must be accompanied.

Service No.5: Dare to Keep Kids Off Naturalism is a co-production between the South London Gallery and Kunsthalle Basel.

Supported by Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen.

Service No.5: Dare to Keep Kids Off Naturalism will be presented at Fundação Serralves, Portugal between 21-25 March 2018.

CREDITS

Adam Linder *Service No. 5: Dare to Keep Kids Off Naturalism* courtesy of the choreographer
Performers: Leah Katz, Justin F. Kennedy, Noha Ramadan, Stephen Thompson
Sound production: Steffen Martin
Costume build: Natalia Gattini
Production assistant: Anna von Glasenapp
Management: Andrea Niederbuchner

Adam Linder would like to thank:

Ariel Ashbel, Elena Filipovic, Jorge Gonçalves, Anna Gritz, Lina Grumm at HIT Studio, Peter Handschin, Martin Hatebur, Hannah Hoffman, Sylvia Kouvali, Sarah McCrory, Aram Moshayedi, Shahryar Nashat, Simon Parris, Ana Rocha, Silberkuppe, Supportico Lopez, Jackson Tang and with special thanks to Maria Mazzone Center for the Arts & Humanities, Monteverdi Hotel, MEZZANINE, and Espaço MIRA for the residency support.

Adam Linder: Who is Surfing Who? A monograph which surveys the stage works of Adam Linder, published by DelMonico Books in association with Hammer Museum is available from the SLG shop.

BIOGRAPHY

Adam Linder was born in 1983 in Sydney, Australia. He now lives and works between Berlin and Los Angeles. In 2016, Linder participated in the 'Made in LA' Biennial at The Hammer Museum, Los Angeles where he was also awarded the Mohn Prize for artistic excellence. Recent shows have included Kunsthalle Basel (2017); The Schinkel Pavillon, Berlin (2016) and Institute of Contemporary Art, London (2015). His works have been commissioned, presented and hired by HAU Hebbel-am-Ufer Theatre, Berlin; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw; and Frieze LIVE, London; amongst others. In the past Linder performed with the Michael Clark Dance Company, Meg Stuart's Damaged Goods and The Royal Ballet London.

ACCOMPANYING EVENTS

Adam Linder in conversation with Kate Coyne
Sat 10 Mar, 5.30pm, £5/£3 conc, Clore Studio
Adam Linder discusses his practice and solo show at the SLG with Kate Coyne, Associate Director of Michael Clark Company.