



PQ
2019

**Call for Applications:
FORMATIONS**

Call for Applications FORMATIONS

The Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space invites submissions for *Formations* from established artists and companies as well as emerging artists. Formations addresses artists and architects from all fields who work with, or want to explore the merging of architecture and performance with a time-based performative action in the public space that explores patterns. This performative event will take place in Prague, 7-13 June 2019.

CURATORS: D. Chase Angier and Serge von Arx

DATES:

- Call Published: 30 November 2017
- Deadline for Submission: 28 February 2018
- Official Announcement of Included Works: 15 June 2018
- 14th Edition of Prague Quadrennial: 6-16 June 2019
- Formations Festival: 7-13 June 2019

LOCATION OF FESTIVAL

Formations will be centered at the Prague Exhibition Grounds on the Plaza in front of PQ's main exhibition building, the Industrial Palace, while also expanding across the city of Prague. The works will intersect at random moments with the open environment, the public, the weather, and other selected works performed near and passing through another.

TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS:

The submission form can be accessed at the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/pqformationapp>

In addition to completing the form, please email (or send via WeTransfer or similar provider) requested additional materials **call@pq.cz** with subject line: FORMATIONS.

PLEASE NOTE:

While excited to offer a platform for this work, PQ cannot cover the expenses or production costs for every participating artist or company, who will need to be self funded. However, the Prague Quadrennial will contribute to the expenses of a small number of endeavors that the curatorial team feels is most in the spirit of the artistic statement. By selecting participating artists more than a year before the festival, it is our hope that participants will have the opportunity to secure funding from other organizations or grant bodies. PQ can provide needed documentation and letters of invitation in support of any grant applications undertaken by participants.

ABOUT PQ:

Organized by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic and realized by the Arts and Theatre Institute, the Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space is the largest international exhibition and festival event dedicated to scenography, performance design and theatre architecture. Since 1967 PQ has been an exchange, networking and educational platform exploring the best works in scenography and design for performance through exhibitions, festivals, workshops, performances, symposia, educational events and residencies.

The last edition of this international performance design event in 2015 was held at more than 30 venues, featured more than 500 live performances with over 180,000 visitors, and was named one of the twelve most trend-setting European festivals in the prestigious EFFE Awards. Individual exhibitions of countries and regions were organized by some of the most important cultural organizations from over 75 countries, including ministries of culture, art and theatre institutions, as well as international festivals, theatre companies and prestigious theatre and visual arts schools.

CURATORS:

As artistic director of Angier Performance Works, **D. Chase Angier** creates site-specific performances, performance installations, dance-theater, and walking performances. These intuitively driven works are created in collaboration with dynamic artists in the visual and performing arts; and have been exhibited internationally (Japan, Czech Republic, Germany, Mexico, The United Kingdom, Iceland) and nationally in theaters, galleries, and visually inspiring sites. She is the dance program director and professor of dance at Alfred University where she has developed a dance program based on creative place making, site specific choreography and interdisciplinary performance. Angier received her MFA in choreography from The Ohio State University and her BA in dance from The University of California, Los Angeles. She is the artistic director / curator for the Marlin Miller Dance Residency Program at Alfred University, and an elected board member of the NYSCA/ NYState DanceForce. angierperformanceworks.com

Serge von Arx, architect and professor of scenography, is the artistic director of the scenography department of the Norwegian Theatre Academy (at Østfold University College). In 1997 Serge von Arx made his degree in architecture at the ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology). In 1998 he began his long-term collaboration with Robert Wilson on over 50 stage, exhibition and installation design projects all over the world and since 2003 he is a regular mentor and architectural consultant at the “Watermill Center” on Long Island, New York. In 2001 he opened his design studio in Berlin and since 2006 he is a resident in Oslo. Serge von Arx is lecturing and implementing workshops at various universities and other institutions worldwide and works internationally as a scenographer, designer and architect, focusing on “performative architecture”, the encounter of architecture and theatre. His research includes various international publications and board activities. Serge von Arx curated the architecture section for the Prague Quadriennial 2015. For the Zurich University of the Arts he arranged an international symposium and a series of workshops with the title “Sensory Hacking” relating to the future of higher art education.

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Formations addresses artists, designers, and architects from all fields who work with, or want to explore, the merging of architecture and performance with a time-based performative action in the public space. The contributions can be of any kind where a timely development of human action with and within space is defined. On the vast square right in front of the Industrial Palace, the heart of Prague Quadrennial, all participants will have the chance to present unique contributions that will become part of a larger co-creation.

This Open Call is for artists and architects from around the world to participate in a performative urban experiment. PQ offers an opportunity for participants to realize time-based art works at the Prague Exhibition Grounds on the plaza in front of PQ's main exhibition building, the Industrial Palace, in a variety of combinations and durations starting on 7 June at 10:00AM and ending on 13 June at 6:00PM (18:00). The works will intersect at random moments with the open environment, the public, the weather, and other selected works performed near and passing through another. The resulting disruptions and frictions will expand the individual contributions as they become part of a continuous whole unfolding from 7-13 June. The project focuses on clearly defined patterns and their arbitrary but symbiotic interweaving in the public space.

We are looking for artists of all genres who create clearly distinguishable art works rooted in pattern: patterns in time, space, sound, movements, bodies and/or materials. The performances or actions can be presented anytime day or night, for as long or as short as the artist wishes, and can occur once, or can be repeated at chosen intervals. The public, knowingly and unknowingly, will be participating as they move through or within the site, also affecting the pattern woven into the whole.

We are reaching out to artists and architects with clear points of view who are curious about experimental performative conversations.

- D. Chase Angier and Serge von Arx, Curators

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Each contribution will relate to the following two rules in respect to authentic presence and absence of control:

1. all time-based work will consist of clearly defined patterns, such as, but not limited to repetition, rhythm, copies, etc.
2. all works will at any time allow for the encounter with other contributions and unexpected conditions in respect to the site. These encounters are considered the core of Formations, creating an open-weave unfolding in time beyond prediction and control.

Inherent in this experiment is the integration of unexpected conditions in respect to the site and at times the other performers. All artists must allow room within their creation for the unexpected, and have the ability to respond to these changes during the performance.

Over the duration of Formations a larger, yet unknown whole will emerge. It will be woven together by all distinguished individual contributions in dialogue with each other, resulting in the PQ 2019's experimental section of performative architecture.

All participants should take the city of Prague, and specifically the Prague Exhibition Grounds, as reference points for their contributions. You may adapt work that you have already created, but it must be able to be affected by this specific site within Prague. All contributions will have to consider the public on the plaza. The contributions also can engage the public as a performative factor within the respective work. Formations aims at dissolving the division between spectator and participant.

It is important to note that all works, whether they are movement of people or built structures, will occur within 7-13 June. Any kind of accumulation of objects or structures will have to be part of the action; in other words, the square will be empty at the beginning of the day 7 June and will be empty again at the end of the day of 13 June. The set-up and take down must be a part of the performative action. Any objects and simple structures can only be built on the plaza and must be confirmed by the PQ team prior to installation.

PERFORMANCE LOGISTICS:

The applicants should specify the expected duration of their works which can be between a few minutes and a maximum of 6.5 days. We encourage the creation of longer durational works in addition to repeated performances. Please indicate, in case of projects stretching over a longer period, if the work is intended to be shown as a continuity or if it consists of smaller durational units.

All performative contributions can start and end at any place in Prague, but they should focus on and must at least once cross the plaza in front of the Industrial Palace. The plaza will be the space of encounter and the heart of Formations. Please specify your starting point which will be communicated to the public in the PQ information material. The moment of crossing the plaza and the final stop must be considered in the development of the project; they should be specified as precisely as possible in the application, but they will not be published.

SUBMISSION:

Deadline for application is 28 February 2018.

The submission form can be accessed at the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/pqformapplication>

Please note no handwritten forms will be accepted. The completed application form should be saved including the artist name (first and last) and company creating work (if applicable) in the following format: `artistname.company.application.pdf`

In addition to basic contact information, you will be asked to supply

1. A description of your project (limit 500 words). In your proposal please address:
 - How pattern will be used in your proposed work.
 - How the plaza at the Prague Exhibition Grounds will affect and/or inspire your project
 - Strategies or rules you might use if your performed patterns are interrupted or disrupted.
2. A brief bio including list of past work (250 words)

In addition to completing the form, please also supply via email:

1. CV (in PDF format) with file name including artist name (first and last) and company creating work (if applicable) in the following format: `cv.artistname.company.pdf`
2. Evidence of three previous works (excerpts are allowed). These may be links to websites of specific works, links to videos, or submitted video files. If submitting video files (via email or preferred file exchange such as WeTransfer), please use the indicated naming format with an additional number for each file:
`1.artistname.company.mp4, 2.artistname.company.mp4., etc...`
3. If your piece exceeds beyond the boundaries of the plaza, please include a map (PDF) of Prague with a sketched path of the intended project; if the path is dependent on occurrences under way, please specify according strategies. Please name file in same fashion as outline for CV: `map.artistname.company.pdf`
4. If anything is planned to be built or installed on the plaza, please specify in detail including drawings in PDF format saved using the following name format: `artistname.drawing1.pdf`

Requested additional materials should be emailed (or sent via WeTransfer or similar provider) to **call@pq.cz** with subject line: FORMATIONS.

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Aerial Films of the Site: <http://www.vystavistepraha.eu/areal-vystaviste/>

Google Maps*: <https://goo.gl/maps/1ghXyB2Fe9k>

PHOTOS OF SITE:



*Please note that this structure seen in Google Street View was temporary and will not be present during PQ 2019.



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The Prague Quadrennial strives to present performance design as an art form concerned with the creation of active performance environments, that are far beyond merely decorative or beautiful, but that are emotionally charged; where design can become a quest, a question, an argument, a threat, a resolution, or an agent of positive change...Performance design is a collaborative field where the artists mix, fuse, and blur the lines between various disciplines to search for new approaches and new visions.

This edition of the Prague Quadrennial is inspired by PQ's highest prize, the Golden Triga. Three different forces coming together to pull the chariot driven by Nike, the goddess of victory, stand proudly atop the roof of the National Theatre, reminding all that creating performance is an act of collaboration where all talents combine their strengths to achieve much more than any individual could ever accomplish alone.

The three horses pulling the chariot symbolize the three stages of human life: youth's wild instinct and intuition, the experience of adulthood, and the wisdom of age. We will use the metaphor of the Golden Triga to explore these points of view, three areas connected with the cyclical phases of the creative process:

Imagination, Transformation, Memory.

- Markéta Fantová, Artistic Director PQ2019



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