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Lectures on “SPACE” / Imanuel Schipper

“Staged audiences, coded set designs and relational dramaturgies. Exploring the aesthetics in recent Rimini Protokoll productions.”

25th of March at 12.00 EMTA Drama School (Toom-Kooli 4, Tallinn)

Immersive Spaces, virtual Realities, 360-degrees video projections, multiplayer installation - these are only some of the terms used to describe the aesthetic means in recent works of Rimini Protokoll. This talk will turn its focus from the content of the plays, their background information and the interesting cast of the "experts of the everyday" to some questions concerning formal, dramaturgical and aesthetic aspects of some recent works. How is the public addressed? What are they asked to be? These are the main question for this walk within these works. We will meet different forms and levels of interaction, participation and collaboration. And we will explore the decisions made in question of the space: what is needed, how much could be reduced? The talk will in a third step look at the ever-transforming concept of dramaturgy and how new models of writing a play is done within this theatre collective.

The talk tries to link these insights from one of the collaborator with some academic reflections, using models and theories from space theory (Lefebvre), philosophy (Rancière, Merleau-Ponty), sociology (Bourdieu, White, Mead), performance studies (Fischer-Lichte, Boenisch) and others.

Immanuel Schipper is a lecturer and researcher at different universities and art academies in Germany and Switzerland. He also works as a dramaturg for the well-known German Performance group, Rimini Protokoll with whom, over many years, he has developed a contemporary way of documentary theatre as intervention, as political think tanks.

Most recently he has been the dramaturg for „State 1–4“ – a tetralogy on post-democratic phenomenas, commissioned by Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW) and four major theatres in Germany and Switzerland.

Immanuel Schipper works on the interface between scientific research, teaching, and artistic practice. He works to analyse such terms as “theatricality“, “performativity“, “dramaturgy“, “staging“, “reception“ and “mediality“ – coming from the theatre studies – beyond the boundaries of the theatre, for example in design, urban design, scenography and curation.

He holds a deputy professorship on *Performance Studies and Dramaturgy* at the Department *Arts & Social Change* at the Medical School Hamburg (MSH). Is on the board of directors of *Performance Studies international* (PSi) and finishing his PhD on „Relational Dramaturges“



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at Leuphana University Lüneburg.

Recent Publications:

Rimini Protokoll: Staat 1-4 (2018);

Performing the Digital - Performativity and Performance Studies in Digital Cultures (2016)

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