



ORIFICECORE 16.02-27.04 2023

Flensborggade 57, 1669 Copenhagen V (DK)



With *Fabiana Faleiros, Maja Malou Lyse & Matilda Tjäder*. Curated with *Fuxia 2*

Collega presents *ORIFICECORE*, curated with Malmö-based platform **Fuxia 2**. The idea of circlusion, proposed in 2016 by communist writer Bini Adamczak to describe the counter-part of penetration, informed the genesis of this exhibition. Through that concept, Adamczak shed light on the agency of the penetrated orifice (the anus circluding the fist, the vagina that circludes the dildo). When artist **Maja Malou Lyse** crossed paths with Adamczak's term, she recognised its capacity to disrupt the division of active and passive bodies. This exhibition presents **Lyse's** new video work, where she draws from circlusion in order to establish a dialogue between the sex-negative feminism of the 1980s and the horny visual language of contemporary pop culture; the latest chapter of **Fabiana Faleiros'** sculptural research about pleasure and self-knowledge, playfully tracing the colonial violence that splits apart two bodily apertures: the vocal cavity and the asshole; and **Matilda Tjäder's** soundscape, a fictional tale of haunting encounters, ghostly portals and intertwined bodies. *ORIFICECORE* engages with circlusion as a speculative exercise – rather than as yet another academic term – an incitement to think from the crack, embrace porosity, listen to the break.

Maja Malou Lyse is a multidisciplinary artist based in Copenhagen. Her practice encompasses critical interventions via digital media, magazines and television shows. **Lyse's** work manifests a deep engagement with the boundless visual universe unfolded by pop iconography and internet culture, as well as a sharp suspicion towards images and the way in which desire is moulded by them. The artist deploys humour in order to navigate this ambiguous territory, addressing identity, representation, objectification and pleasure politics through parodic strategies. In her previous video essay, *Antibodies* (2022), **Lyse** tackled the polarised debate around sexuality within Western feminist traditions, refusing the temptation to proclaim a winner of the so-called 'sex wars'. This exhibition premieres *WAP* (2023), a film recorded in Las Vegas at the AVN –the world's most prominent industry event for pornography– in which the artist continues to dwell on the (im)possibility of sexual autonomy. Its title illustrates the generative in-betweenness that characterises **Lyse's** practice. *WAP* alludes to (and entangles) two contrasting cultural positions regarding sexuality: the Women Against Pornography movement that arose in the context of second-wave feminism, and the sex-positivity of Cardi B and Megan Thee Stallion, promoted in their 2020 hit single 'West Ass Pussy'. In the context of *ORIFICECORE* Lyse will also present a lecture performance addressing circlusion and the tension between desire and liberation.

São Paulo-based artist and poet **Fabiana Faleiros** pays attention to the way in which disparate shapes, gestures and ideas resonate with each other. With the traveling installation *Mastur Bar* (2015), she examined hand gestures from canonical art history and pop culture, unfolding the racial, class and gender narratives that shape the idea of the fragile woman. The latest iteration of that project, produced for the 10th Berlin Biennale, linked the daily movements through which fingers search for pleasure (caressing erogenous zones, pressing cell phone keypads). In her doctorate research, **Faleiros** paired the privatisation of culture in Brazil with the construction of white femininity. *ORIFICECORE* presents **Faleiros'** new installation, *Há boca virada pra terra* ('There is a mouth facing the ground') (2022), formed by a set of fictional instruments. Here, the artist draws uncanny connections between the pelvis and the less known sphenoid, located in the frontal part of the skull. Remarkably similar in shape, the pelvic region condenses a history of colonial violence and gynecological control, whereas the sphenoid houses different glandular processes determining our standing position, jaw coordination and anger levels. **Faleiros** approaches these two bones as symbols of the colonial segmentation of the body: a North entry (the head and the mouth, placeholders of rationality and discourse) and a

Southern exit (the domain of sensuality, desire and shame). By building an instrument with both axes, the artist imagines the possibility of tuning the disjointed body. The installation includes a pair of castanets resembling the shape of the vaginal speculum, a tool that epitomises the medical control over the feminised body. During the exhibition period, **Faleiros** will give a performance with her imaginary instruments.

Through the mix of sound, text, video and performance, **Matilda Tjäder's** work creates fictional narratives taking place in eerie, yet mundane, sceneries. The protagonists of her stories are subjected to crumbling institutions and absurd protocols, always at the threshold of an unknown dimension. Based in Malmö, the artist further applies her practice of world-building to her own surroundings, transforming regular locations into stages for collective experimentation. In 2022 **Tjäder** released the sonic fiction *Clones*, which served as a departing point for her work in this exhibition. *Clones* describes the oneiric journey of a character stuck in a never-ending winter. The narrator's bed becomes a portal of sorts, channelling a familiar but somehow threatening presence. In that piece, **Tjäder's** voice (a human, but also processed, quasi-artificial and multiple voice) depicts a state in which the skin is pierced by alien hums, a symbiosis that dissipates the boundaries between the individual and the collective body. Now **Collega** hosts *transmitten* (2023), a sound landscape permeating the space outside the gallery. This time the artist turns the pervasive guest of *Clones* into the protagonist, transforming the sound piece into the haunting signal of a presence seeking for amplitude. **Tjäder** will perform as part of the extended program of the exhibition.

The artworks in *ORIFICECORE* share the intimate space of **Collega**, circluding each other's meanings in a rhythm that calls for pleasure, imagination and uncertainty.

Events

22 February 5pm: Talk with **Fuxia 2** and lecture performance with **Maja Malou Lyse** at Art Hub Copenhagen.

31 March 5pm: performance with **Fabiana Faleiros** at **Collega**

19 April 5pm: performance by **Matilda Tjäder** at **Collega**

Fuxia 2, based in Malmö, Sweden. This newly established collective platform seeks to bridge their local scene with artistic processes from Latin America and the South(s) of Europe. Embracing both humour and dissent, **Fuxia 2** fosters the creativity sparked by shared obsessions and nightlife experiences.

Collega presents exhibitions developed in collaboration with international artists and curators. The foundation of the space is co-curation as practice. **Collega** emphasises the collective process in exhibition-making as a patient gathering of works – on loan, in care, as nourishment.

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