# MTU CRAWFORD COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN



6 MARCH 2021

ONLINE SYMPOSIUM

https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/make-2021-objectsperformance-tickets-139457738851

#### MAKE 2021 explores the materiality of performance, the role of objects in theatre, matter in movement.

MAKE 2021 is our eighth Symposium designed to highlight contemporary issues concerning making and is hosted by Crawford College's Contemporary Applied Arts Degree, which has at its heart a commitment to hands-on engagement with material as a path to concept, a kind of thinking through making, through dialogue with a material. We stress experimentation and innovation within an interdisciplinary offering of Ceramics, Glass, and Textiles, addressing current debate in the culture of the object and in material culture, all within the context of historic and contemporary fine and applied art.

Speakers from the worlds of theatre, performance, education, and making:



Performance designer, researcher and writer. Donatella Barbieri is senior research fellow and principal lecturer in design for performance at London College of Fashion: University of the Arts

London.

# PILVI PORKOLA FINLAND

DONATELLA BARBIERI UK



Pilvi Porkola, Doctor of Arts, University of Arts, Helsinki, is a performance artist, writer and researcher on performance art and the role of objects in performance.

# ÁINE PHILLIPS IRELAND

OBJAC AS

RFORMANCE



Dr Áine Phillips is a performance artist exhibiting and performing in Ireland and internationally since the late 80s. She has created work for multiple contexts; public art commissions, the street, club events, galleries, theatres, and museums.

# MONIKA ŽALTAUSKAITĖ GRAŠIENĖ LITHUANIA



Monika Žaltauskaitė Grašienė is lecturer in Textiles at the Kaunas faculty of Vilnius Academy of Arts, and an active visual artist with many international exhibitions.

# EGLĖ GANDA BOGDANIENĖ LITHUANIA



#### ALI MACLAURIN UK



Eglė Ganda Bogdanienė is lecturer in Textiles of Vilnius Academy of Arts. She is also an acclaimed and internationally recognised artist, and currently Chair of the Lithuanian Art Association.

Based in Edinburgh, Ali Maclaurin is a theatre designer and lecturer, with collaborative involvements with fringe theatres and youth all over the UK, and is co-author of Readings in **Theatre Practice: Costume** (Palgrave)

MIKA SATOMI GERMANY



Mika Satomi is a designer and artist exploring the field of e-Textiles, Interaction Design and Physical Computing, creating embedded clothing for sound and movement performance.

# TIMETABLE

# **10AM** WELCOME from NICOLE JACKSON

Regarding zoom plans and protocol, and itinerary. introduce president

- 10:05 WELCOME by PRESIDENT MTU
- **10:15** INTRODUCTION from PAMELA HARDESTY. 10 MIN.

# 10:25 DONATELLA BARBIERI (50 MIN KEYNOTE + QUESTIONS 10 MIN)

The performativity of matter: through time, space, and gesture.

# 11:25 COFFEE BREAK. 15 MIN?

11:40 AINE PHILLIPS (30 MIN+10) Performing with materials

#### 12:20 PILVI PORKOLA (30 MIN+10)

Objects, performance and performativity

#### 1:00 LUNCH 60 MIN

- 2:00 ALI MACLAURIN(30 MIN +10) But what do stage designers make?
- 2:40 MIKA SATOMI (30 MIN + 10) Stitching Intelligence
- 3:20 COFFEE BREAK 15 MIN?
- 3:35 EGLE BOGDANIENE AND MONIKA Žaltauskaitė GRASIENE (50 MIN) Textile, Body, Time and Space.
- 4:25 PANEL WITH ALL SPEAKERS 25 MIN.
- 4:50 TRISH BRENNAN

Closing and summation. Announcement of exhibition link.

# ABSTRACTS

#### DONATELLA BARBIERI

The performativity of matter: through time, space, and gesture.

ALI MACLAURIN

# PROPHANC But what do stage designers make?

Bakers make bread from flour; carpenters ma objects from wood; they each have a recognised

An attunement to the performance of materials shapes not only one's own relationship to work and to community of practice, it also increasingly brings to bear wider ethical entanglements, asking us about the type of world are we wishing to make through our work. Considering co-creative participatory practices alongside with costume making departments and rehearsal rooms, this talk intends to transcend the specificity of costume to engage material creative forces before, during and beyond staged moments of performance.

#### **ÁINE PHILLIPS**

#### Performing with materials

Dr Aine Phillips will discuss her performance art practice in relation to the materiality of the costumes and props she has used in a selection of key works since 2003. As a visual artist and sculptor, Aine incorporates materials and objects in her live performance as metaphors or as a visual language to communicate the concepts and ideas she works with. Her work addresses feminist philosophies and politics and makes propositions on subjectivity, gender and social change especially in relation to Irish culture and female histories.

#### **PILVI PORKOLA**

# **Objects, performance and** performativity

In my presentation I will talk about performance, performing with objects and the performativity of objects. I will analyze briefly how objects are involved with some historical performance art pieces. In addition, I discuss how performance art could be framed in the context of new-materialism and how that could influence our thinking of objects also widely in everyday life. Finally, I talk how dealing with the objects is used as a method in my current research in a social post doc project "Political Imagination and Alternative Futures".

for which they have probably trained.

But what do stage designers make?...and what materials and techniques do they use?....and, as the Jack of all trades in a world full of specialists, why do they choose to make anything at all?

In this talk I will use examples from my own career to consider these questions, focussing particularly on the reasons for making, and suggesting that, in such a time-based art form, context, situation and process may in some cases take legitimate precedence over expertise.

MIKA SATOMI

#### Stitching Intelligence

The word "machine" reminds me of something hard and shiny, made of plastic and metal. Artificial Intelligence stands somewhere far from me, not beside me. This is how I felt before starting the project. In this talk, I introduce my journey into exploring AI technology with threads and needles, unravelling the network and embroidering electronic neurones. The project "Artificial Intelligence and its False Lies" was developed in cooperation with scientists at the UCC. It created several embroidered artificial neural network prototypes, including a full body garment, and a short film that captures a conversation with the researchers asking their personal view on AI and the future society. The "artistic" of the project lies in the process and experience rather than artifacts created at the end. I will try to show the process in the presentation as much as possible.

I will also show some snippets from my recent collaboration with performers and musicians, that combine Machine Learning (a type of AI) technique with e-textile sensor embedded motion capturing costumes and sound synthesis. I hope to illustrate some idea of how AI technology could be used with body performances and expressions.

EGLE BOGDANIENE AND MONIKA ŽALTAUSKAITĖ GRASIENE

#### Textile, Body, Time and Space.

This presentation is an attempt to elucidate a variety of individual perspectives on the connections that unite body, material, space and time. The material and mental threads shining in the art pieces that connect it all which keeps us as individuals whole and as a community together. Entering and offering the experience of an individual, only to join in the network of experiences that reach out into societies past and present creating new value and synergy



MAKE2021 is presented by MTU Crawford College of Art & Design and generously supported by MTU Research Office, MTU Arts Office and MTU Student Engagement Office.