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**10 April 2019**

## **Creative arts programme presented by internationally acclaimed artists at UCT**

The University of Cape Town's (UCT) Institute for Creative Arts (ICA), in association with Pro Helvetia, will present a diverse and provocative programme of talks, films and performances by acclaimed artists and educators from Switzerland, Brazil, Germany, Palestine, Egypt and China. The programme runs until Thursday, 11 April at UCT's Hiddingh Campus.

<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Presenter(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>
10 April, 13:00-14:00	Talk Zhao Chuan (China)	Zhao Chuan is the founder of Grass Stage, a Shanghai-based theatre group whose works draw on a diverse set of techniques – from physical theatre, to documentary footage, and performance art – performed in a wide range of venues and unlikely spaces (including the thresholds of buildings), and often with non-professional actors. In this address, Zhao Chuan reflects on the founding of Grass Stage in 2005, the context in which the group came into being, and the process, challenges and thrills of sustaining this fluid creative space over the last 14 years.
11 April, 13:00-14:00	Talk Noor Abuarafeh (Palestine) and Mohamed Abdelkarim (Egypt)	How are narratives produced and mis-produced; what does the archive include and cast aside, and how is the complexity of history shaped and understood? Noor Abuarafeh, whose video, performance and text work addresses memory, history, archive, and the possibilities of tracing absence will present alongside Mohamed Abdelkarim whose text-based performances and multidisciplinary research aim at producing narratives and exposing the way narratives are produced. Abuarafeh asks how we image and imagine the past when there are gaps in documentation, and Abdelkarim will reflect on his performative project "Tadbikat" that brings together lectures, debates, critical responses, and creative quests, alongside organising performance nights under the title of "Live Praxes."
11 April, 18:00-19:00	Film screening and talk by João Simões (Brazil)	Artist, curator, researcher and educator João Simões shows and discusses the documentary <i>Queer City</i> , directed by Danila Bustamante, which seeks to understand the contemporary city through a queer, intersectional, non-normative lens.

11 April, 19:00	Performance by Rudi van der Merwe (Switzerland/South Africa)	This documentary film and performance project by renowned artist Rudi van der Merwe looks at heritage and identity as a springboard for charting the future coexistence of cultures, genders & life forms.
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The programme is free and open to artists, art enthusiasts, students, academics, writers, researchers and members of the public to join in this rich interdisciplinary programme. Those who are interested in attending are requested to RSVP via email to [ica@uct.ac.za](mailto:ica@uct.ac.za).

### **About the ICA**

The ICA is an interdisciplinary institute in UCT's Humanities Faculty – formerly the Gordon Institute for Performing and Creative Arts (GIPCA). The ICA facilitates research projects in the creative and performing arts that disrupt boundaries, while underscoring creative education and practice across discipline and faculty. Interdisciplinarity, live art and public spheres are key themes of the institute, and projects are imbued with innovation, collaboration and a dialogue with urbanism and community.

***ENDS***

***Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department***

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