



MICHELLE-MARIE LETELIER

SALM ETHOS

Experimental Ecology, group exhibition, Kulturstiftung Basel H. Geiger KBH.G, Basel, Switzerland 2023



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Installation and interactive theatrical performance, Kulturstiftung Basel H. Geiger KBH.G, Basel, Switzerland 2023



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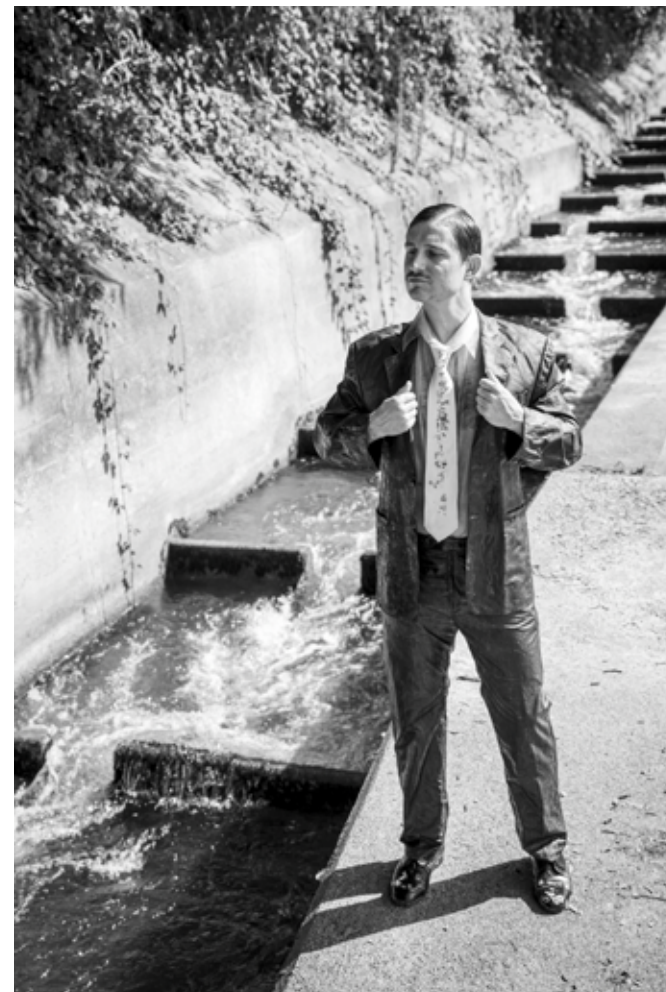
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Installation and theatrical performance, 2023

bioplastic costumes; agar-agar, gelatine, glycerine, copper, metal, algae, wood dye, Salmo-salar bones, photographs, rubber boots, crystals, sound

Kulturstiftung Basel H. Geiger | KBH.G

Basel, Switzerland



The Bergen-based Canadian marine biologist Karin Pittman, and the Berlin-based Chilean artist Michelle-Marie Letelier pursue the question as to what extent a lack of empathy stands in the way of successfully fighting climate change. In their project, they explore the “geopolitical consequences of salmon—a so-called natural resource—used as a neo-colonial instrument by people from the global North in the global South.” This is precisely the problem: salmon is not native to the southern hemisphere, yet it is farmed there for the global market.

These and other matters are addressed in the interactive theatrical performance *Salm Ethos*, which is based on a true story concerning a Norwegian researcher, illustrating the interconnectedness of humans and the environment. For this, Letelier proposed an exploration of bioplastics, integrating algae and other ‘resources’ for the production of the costumes and installation.

Salm Ethos has been produced by Michelle-Marie Letelier & Karin Pittman for the exhibition *Experimental Ecology – Art x Science in Dialogue*—curated by Martina Huber and Gianni Jetzer—in cooperation with Reactor Basel and Bio Design Lab/HfG Karlsruhe. It was performed 4 times during the exhibition, between the 26th–29th August 2023. Link for trailer: <https://vimeo.com/877605863?share=copy>

Concept: Michelle-Marie Letelier and Karin Pittman

Script: Roland Suter

Direction: Sandra Moser

Production: Reactor Basel

Actors: Christian Heller, Michael Fuchs, Marie-Louise Hauser, Martin Hahnemann, Ursina Gregori, Sarah Bürge

Project manager Reactor: Nina Halpern

Sound design: David Rehorek

Technical support: Michael Kempf

Costume design: Eva Butzkies

Costume production: Michelle-Marie Letelier, Rita Andrulyte, Eva Butzkies and Julia Ihls

Project manager Bio Design Lab: Julia Ihls

Light design: Ursula Degen

Photography: Ingo Höhn

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