

WUNDER DER PRÄRIE: CARE CITY  
MANIFESTO FOR MAINTENANCE ART 2021  
OPEN CALL

In 1969 US-American artist Mierle Laderman Ukeles found herself plunged into the role of an unpaid reproductive worker following the birth of her first child. "I felt I like two separate people... the free artist and the mother/maintenance worker.... I was never working so hard in my whole life, trying to keep together the two people I had become. Yet people said to me, when they saw me pushing my baby carriage, *Do you do anything?*" (Laderman Ukeles)

Laderman Ukeles reacted by writing a manifesto and proposing her first exhibition of what later came to be known as Maintenance Art. While Laderman Ukeles is an internationally known and respected feminist artist and activist, her seminal manifesto is largely unknown among young and upcoming artists.

For the 2021 edition of our biennial live art festival WUNDER DER PRÄRIE we propose an open call for artistic responses to Laderman Ukeles text and proposition from 1969 by young or upcoming artists internationally. In trying to heed to the spirit of MAINTENANCE ART, we invite the selected artists to develop and present their work at their current place of residence/work and within their local community. By this we intend to strengthen social responsibility, sustainability and conserve natural resources. The selected works will be documented and/or streamed live at the festival in Germany, allowing the artists to address a wider audience and participate in an international context. We find this to be a fair and timely approach to the excluding and economically and socially destructive aspects of the globalized arts market.

OPEN CALL:

Please propose a project/text/art work in response to the original MANIFESTO FOR MAINTENANCE ART to be presented/realised in autumn 2021 in your place of residence/work. WUNDER DER PRÄRIE will finance 5 projects with € 5.000 each and present documentation and/or live-streams at the festival in Mannheim, Germany between September 30. and October 10. 2021.

FORMAT: Please email a two page pdf-text explaining your idea, motivation and short artistic CV. Cooperation with a local co-producer/arts venue/presenting institution is obligatory.

LANGUAGE: English

PLEASE EMAIL PROPOSALS TO: [office@zeitraumexit.de](mailto:office@zeitraumexit.de)

DEADLINE: February 28. 2021

The original manifesto can be found here:

[www.feldmangallery.com/exhibition/manifesto-for-maintenance-art-1969](http://www.feldmangallery.com/exhibition/manifesto-for-maintenance-art-1969)

For a transcript see here:

[www.zeitraumexit.de/news](http://www.zeitraumexit.de/news)

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