

#### What is Dissolution about?

"Dissolution" is a search for sensitivity and a process of mourning. The performers explore how sensitivity to differences has been erased by russian colonialism again and again, and how it can reemerge. They invite each other, along with the audience, into spaces where something or someone was absent and left unmourned. Queer, trans, Indigenous, non-russian, crip and nonhuman perspectives that russian rule often separated from each other are reinterpreted through relationships of interdependence.

The colonial notion of a single form of justice with a unified collective memory begins to dissolve. The artists do not dream of the general future of a so called "free russia", instead they mourn the steppes, mountains, swamps, stones, animals, lost languages, spirits, and people. Grief permeates everything. All is in a state of dissolution. The artists themselves carry this dissolution within them, sharing it in a nonlinear way through texts, visuals, sounds, felting, embroidery, game instructions, and parallel play.

Can we support each other's grief without denial when fatigue, anger, and loss shape both our bodies and the landscapes around us? What does it mean to be dissolved? How does it feel? Which dissolutions are we grieving? Which dissolutions are we awaiting?



# Information about accessibility

## Duration

90 minutes with a 15-minutes break

## **Content note**

The performance contains themes related to colonialism, imperialism, racism, ableism, and homophobia.

# **Relaxed performance**

Dissolution is a relaxed performance designed to create a welcoming space for diverse audiences.

Our stage design and audience area may remind you of a landscape with stones, swamps, plants, pipes, and an organic guiding system. This system will lead you to different seating options: beanbags, foam pillows and soft fabrics on the seating surfaces, chairs, or a couch. You are free to choose where you want to sit, lie down, or stand.

Feel free to enter, leave, or return to the space at any time. You are also welcome to move around, change positions, or stim if needed. Your movements and sounds are welcome.

## **Objects and stim toys**

There are various objects in the audience space that you can touch or take during the performance. These objects have different textures and temperatures, and they may remind you of organic materials or stim toys. The performers created these objects themselves. There is a gift for you, a felted stim stone.

## Language and overtitles

• In English spoken language.

- With English overtitles.
- The performers share many texts of the different forms. For example self descriptions, biographies, lectures, long monologues, and poems.

#### **Projection**

- Videos, photos and overtitles are projected onto onto fabrics and foams, making hidden stories more visible and also helping us remember our texts.
- The perception might be distorted. The care assistant shows you the seating options, where you can avoid it as much as possible.
- A few videos are handheld and therefore quite shaky.

## Light

- There is never complete darkness in the theater space.
- The warm LED light slowly changes from scene to scene. The changes are quite frequent.
- The stage is often dimly lit.
- Spotlights are only on the performers.

#### Sound

• There are different sounds during the performance. For example sound of stones, felting with needle, foam and soft filling materials, felted objects, forest, digging, rumbling tractors, sand and wind in a desert,

wobbling, metal slinkies, computer game intro, voices in spoken Russian language.

- There are different playful melodies, piano musik, singing in Tatar spoken language, and humming.
- There will be a loud moment approximately 20 min after start. One of the performers will scream one phrase.
- There are sensory stimuli in the area, including the sound of passing trains from the nearby S-Bahn tracks.
- Earplugs will be available in the space.

#### **Audio description**

All performances include integrated creative audio description in English, developed collaboratively by Ari Althaus and the performers. This helps destigmatize colonial perceptions of both people and landscapes.

#### **Touch tour**

A touch tour takes place at 6:45 pm every day before the performance.. For pick-up service you can register Monday to Sunday via <u>barrierefreiheit@berliner-ringtheater.de</u> or from Monday to Friday from 3 pm till 6 pm by calling +49 162 8093179, or leave a voice message anytime. The meeting point for the pick-up service is the S-Bahn station Treptower Park at 6:15 pm.

Each day, there is also a pick-up service from the entrance gate to the Neue Zukunft area, where the Berliner Ringtheater is located. A team member will be at the entrance gate from 6:30 pm to help guide you to the theater.

## **Early Boarding**

There is early boarding option every day. It starts 10-15 minutes before the performance begins. The meeting point for early boarding is at the theater entrance.

## **Tickets**

Tickets for Dissolution are available online at: <u>https://berlinerringtheater.de/about/tickets/</u>. The ticket price is 15 euros, with reduced-price tickets at 9 euros. If you come with an assistant, their ticket will be free. To reserve a companion ticket, you can email <u>tickets@berliner-ringtheater.de</u> or get it at the box office, which opens half an hour before the performance.

Please note, the Berliner Ringtheater website is not accessible for blind or visually impaired persons. In this case, you can reserve your ticket via email at <u>barrierefreiheit@berliner-ringtheater.de</u>. If you need a beanbag or wheelchair seat, you can reserve it through this email or by calling +49 162 8093179 from Monday to Friday between 3 pm and 6 pm, or, again, leave a voice message.

# **Covid safety**

We kindly ask that you wear an FFP-2 mask if accessible for you, and these will be provided at the entrance.

#### Accessibility of the Berliner Ringtheater and the area around it

#### Arrival

The Berliner Ringtheater is located in the Neue Zukunft area. The nearest accessible station is Treptower Park S-Bahn station, about 800 meters away. We recommend using the exit An den Treptowers and Hoffmannstrasse. You will need to cross the Elsenbrücke bridge, which may be noisy due to traffic. The road is asphalted.

Alternatively, you can reach the theater from Ostkreuz S-Bahn station, about 1 km away, or take bus 347 or 194 to the Markgrafendamm bus stop and walk 700 meters. The path through the Neue Zukunft area is uneven and not asphalted, with long cobblestone paths. There are two gates: the entrance to the area and the gate to the theater. Between the bar and the Ringtheater is a beer garden with tables and benches. After the theater gate, there is a 1 cm high threshold and an aluminum ramp.

#### **Event space**

The entrance to the theater itself is step-free, with an 188 cm-wide door that can be opened from the inside. A care assistant from our team can open it for you during the performance. On the left side of the performance space, there is a small room with a bar. The room has one step but is accessible with a ramp.

#### **Bathrooms**

There are no accessible toilets directly on the theatre premises. However, two bathrooms with ramps are available in nearby buildings:

one in the Freiluftskino, about 50 meters from the Berliner Ringtheater, and another in the bar, approximately 80 meters away.

The Freiluftskino bathroom has two steps that are 38 cm high, but the entrance is accessible with a folding aluminum ramp. The door to the cinema is 78 cm wide, and the bathroom entrance is 81 cm wide, with a 2.5 cm high edge. The widest cabin door is 85 cm, and a grab rail is available on the right side. The other cabin doors are 71 cm wide, but they do not have grab rails.

In the bar, the entrance is 85 cm wide, and two kerb ramps, each 10 cm high, make it accessible. There are two bathrooms with entrance doors 82 cm wide. One bathroom has both standing and sitting toilets, with the cabin doors measuring 71 cm. The other bathroom only has sitting toilets, and the widest cabin door is 85 cm, though without grab rails. The other cabin doors are 83 cm wide.

All bathrooms are gender-neutral. However, we must note that the cleanliness of these bathrooms may be inconsistent, as they are shared spaces used for multiple public events held on the Neue Zukunft premises.

## **Cast & credits**

**Concept:** Jeanna Kolesova, Kira Shmyr, Victoria Sarangova, Ziliä Qansurá **Performers:** Jeanna Kolesova, Kira Shmyr, Miriam Cochanski, Victoria Sarangova, Ziliä Qansurá Visuals: Irina Nodirova, Jeanna Kolesova, Kira Shmyr, Mira Gafar, Victoria Sarangova **Text contributions:** Irina Nodirova, Mira Gafar Accessibility dramaturgy: Ari Althaus, Kira Shmyr Audio description: Ari Althaus and Team Stage design: Jeanna Kolesova, Kira Shmyr, Victoria Sarangova, Ziliä Qansurá Costumes: Jeanna Kolesova, Kira Shmyr, Miriam Cochanski, Victoria Sarangova, Ziliä Qansurá Video design: Bryan Schall Sound and light: Georgii Malykh Light set up: M.Ali Dönmez Outside eye: Ann-Reb Thomas Project support: Mariia Vorotilina Care assistant: Sophie Lembcke Facilitator: Anajara Amarante Graphic: Balzhima **Photo:** Louisa Boeszoermeny Funded by: IMPACT-Förderung, Senatsverwaltung für Kultur und Gesellschaftlichen Zusammenhalt



