

# OFFSHORE IN VENICE

We, the undersigned, (subsequently referred to as EVERYONE) are OFFSHORE; a transdisciplinary performance company and philosophy school for embodied knowledge. OFFSHORE enables EVERYONE (some of whom will have met before, some of whom will not have met) to maintain a state of rehearsal, over a number of days, in public.

EVERYONE is a group of performing persons who activate OFFSHORE, in this case, in VENICE subsequently referred to as OFFSHORE IN VENICE: a ten-week embodied knowledge performance on waiting, time, not knowing, limbo, disembodiment, embodiment, anatomical studies, collaboration and solidarity activated by EVERYONE, in Venice, to deal with what is AT STAKE.

AT STAKE: The future is uncertain. In a digital climate, uncertainty is usually presented as an information problem that can be surmounted with comprehensive data analysis, that identifies patterns, relationships and algorithms which determine future outcomes by analysing past outcomes. This is the essence of advanced computation; the capability to model, predict and thus control the outcome of events, i.e control the Future. This is a belief on which the digital age is premised: that the future can be predicted and modelled if only enough data might be gathered. In the case of Covid-19, this logic fails; the future is cancelled, and we are left at home, in THE PRESENT, hopefully no longer in our pyjamas. This rubs abrasively against everything we know, yet, while money needs to be made, and the economy will return to some semblance of operation, OFFSHORE IN VENICE believes now is not the moment to escape the mighty pause we have been dealt by nature. We believe this is a moment to extend the pause, to stay with its trouble, so we can restructure everything that is rotten. For those that welcome it, the pause will open up maximum focus. With focus, we can consider how to build performance practice, live events and social gathering in THE PRESENT, even while we are separated, so that EVERYONE might draft new vocabulary, new Terms and new Conditions on how to organise, gather, be embodied, care, listen, respond, form solidarity and, indeed, perform.

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# WORKING CONTRACT

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## TERMS AND CONDITIONS ("TERMS")

### THE PRESENT

EVERYONE gathers in the DISEMBODIED REHEARSAL ROOM (Zoom) or the PHYSICAL REHEARSAL ROOM (Aula 1 ex-Cotonificio) to listen to LECTURES and EXTERNAL INFLUENCES.

### LECTURES

on time, waiting, disembodiment and stagnation are delivered to aid the creation and development of ROLES and STANDARDS

### EXTERNAL INFLUENCES

artworks and projects are shared to aid the creation and development of ROLES and STANDARDS

### ROLE CALL

the creation, development or discussion of ROLES.

### ROLE

a person responsible for creating a STANDARD that relates to their ROLE. EVERYONE has a ROLE or ROLES in OFFSHORE IN VENICE

### STANDARD

repertoire, of any duration and form, that can be scored by a ROLE, when OFFSHORE IN VENICE is OPEN

### OPEN

EVERYONE develops STANDARDS to live birdsong, and asks how might we perform them IN COMPANY?

### IN COMPANY

EVERYONE activates their attention towards one another to perform a combination of STANDARDS, the order of which is not decided on in advance, essentially, a group performance.

## EVERYONE WILL ("THE AGREEMENT")

1

Not join the DISEMBODIED REHEARSAL ROOM in pyjamas.

2

Switch mobile phones off unless using to connect to DISEMBODIED REHEARSAL ROOM.

3

Remain sympathetic and reasonable; listen to EVERYONE, absorb LECTURES and EXTERNAL INFLUENCES, grapple with what is AT STAKE.

4

Create, develop and discuss ROLES.

5

Accept a ROLE and take responsibility for it.

6

Strive to build a STANDARD, shaped by a ROLE, even though for many weeks it will be unclear what a STANDARD is or what one's ROLE is.

7

Strive to understand how to be IN COMPANY although it will be unclear how to be IN COMPANY physically.

8

Perform a STANDARD IN COMPANY.

9

Be PRESENT: never miss OFFSHORE IN VENICE. If for any reason presence is impossible, this will leave a gap in the absentee's embodied knowledge that, unfortunately, will never be filled. This is the reality of embodiment and gathering. If you miss it, you miss it.

10

Find understanding through trusting, absorbing and listening to EVERYONE, to LECTURES and to EXTERNAL INFLUENCES.

11

Not undertake preparatory work or homework. Not talk, discuss, complain, email, question, plan, fight or invent outside of THE PRESENT (in the REHEARSAL ROOM).

12

Endeavour to understand duration, process, rehearsal, not-knowing, effervescence and patience as the essence of OFFSHORE.

## CLAUSE ("THE ASSESSMENT")

I

OFFSHORE IN VENICE is a ten-week course for Visual Art and Fashion MFA students at the IUAV University of Venice (IUAV) – public higher education institution in Italy, conducted on the invitation of Angela Vettese, after brokering/ lobbying by THE ORDINARY MAN.

II

THE ORDINARY MAN and THE LEGIBILITY COORDINATOR are paid by IUAV University of Venice (IUAV) to assess EVERYONE.

III

While OFFSHORE categorically disapproves of quantification of every kind, there are clauses in life, and this is a clause: EVERYONE will be assessed.

IV

Please don't dwell on this clause.

V

THE ORDINARY MAN and THE LEGIBILITY COORDINATOR will assess EVERYONE on: articulation of ROLE; development of STANDARD; bringing STANDARD IN COMPANY; resilience; enthusiasm; thoughtfulness; care; wit; responsibility; exactitude; outward focus; curiosity; good humour; abandonment of self; awareness of EVERYONE and sustained presence in a way that is possible, and true to, the best of EVERYONE'S abilities.

STUDENT  
NAME

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SIGNED

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DATED

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