

# RESTORE\_

## INTERDISCIPLINARY PERFORMANCES IN CONTEXT

<https://restore-bremen.space/>

Bremen 10 - 18 June 2022

### OPEN CALL (Deadline: 21 April 2022)

In the age of excessive information and ~~spaces~~—and on account of the pandemic—it seems that abandoned local shops are becoming more frequent. Are they “local” places as before or in the process of becoming **non-places**? It is hard to answer this question due to their local yet uninhabited qualities. In contrast to localities that come to existence because of being historical and intimately connected to both social and individual identities, non-places are spaces where residues from human practices do not accumulate. Do spaces devoid of habitation by entities become nonsensical spaces of excess or waste? What is their function in the absence of people? Or, is emptiness only so because it is characterized via the absence of physical bodies and humans? Do entities such as sound, radio waves, and wireless data fill them?

RESTORE\_ is interested in such questions, as we do not want to categorize spaces as places and non-places. We think that even non-places have the potential to become places. We do not romanticize this vision of sites as timeless and unchanging, however, we aim to restore their local potentialities through [temporal] practices of place-making; RESTORE\_ investigates human and non-human interaction with sites through employing performance, dance, and bodily practices in conjunction with sound, visuals, technology, and new modes of communication and collaboration. By questioning the materiality of the spaces and the entities filling them, RESTORE\_ intends to expand Marc Augé’s concept of non-places to the digital era.

We intend to turn these places into a relational space of action between the passers-by and the artists. As we question if it is the absence of humans that makes mentioned places alien to us, the meanings of “inside” and “outside” are defined and distorted repeatedly. RESTORE aims to turn these liminal places into spaces of exploration of embodiment, agency, subjectivity, bodily practices, materiality, and spatiality of the body. RESTORE\_ considers ways to relocate the theater to vacant stores and their vitrines in neighborhoods outside the Kulturmeile Bremen.

### WHAT

RESTORE\_ situates **interdisciplinary performances** in context. The project will consist of three different temporary occupations of vacant local shops in the city of Bremen. Three artists—or duos—from varying disciplines will collaborate and work in **trialogues** for the first time to produce an **in-situ** performance in one of these three locations.

In short, the performances are expected to be viewed and experienced by the audience from the **public spaces** such as the adjacent streets, possibly through the display window.

RESTORE\_ contemplates a contextual understanding and awareness, by which the artists are asked to explore the architecture and its environment by analyzing the relationship between both sides of the glass window. They are encouraged to generate questions that serve as a starting point for their collaborations in which methods for the critical examination of the social-political, historical, experimental sociality can develop. RESTORE\_ is particularly interested in offering those **empty spaces** as containers, where free artistic experimentation is produced in a collective, public way.

> Please note: Do Not apply with a proposal. The concepts are expected to be developed during the collaborations.

## WHO CAN APPLY

RESTORE\_ wants to facilitate the exchange and network between artists from different fields and serve as a platform to question collective artistic processes, the relationship with space, and the role of the audience **outside** of the theatre. Each space will welcome three artists (**one from each category**) to work for the first time together and develop a concept for a site-specific live performance. Bremen\* based performers, dancers, visual artists, stage designers, sound artists, designers, live electronics performers, experimental artists, and those who are interested in working in **interdisciplinary** collaborations, site-specific work, and **live performance** are invited to apply.

For applicants, three fields of practice are being offered: “performance and dance”, “installation and visuals”, and “sound and music”. As we know that categorizing these fields is a matter of interpretation and can be a rather challenging task, the artists can apply with further elaborations if their practice intersects these fields.

> Artists can apply individually or as a duo.

\* Bremen and surrounding areas.

## WHEN AND WHERE

RESTORE\_ performances will take place on the **16, 17, or 18 June 2022** in Bremen. Each group will offer a live performance in one of the three offered spaces and their vitrines. Selected artists will be announced between **25.-29. April 2022**.

RESTORE\_ will facilitate the communication between the collaborators as soon as possible, so each group can decide how to begin the process. We encourage the **research phase** to start right away. Access to the offered spaces for the **set-up phase** will be possible on **10 June 2022**.

## WHAT WE OFFER

RESTORE\_ provides the artists with:

- a space to work collectively for a week to produce a site-specific performance
- 900€ production fee (per solo artist or duo)
- technical support throughout the process
- a small budget for material and costumes

We will take care of the relationship between artists and property owners and will operate as a mediator between the two parts. We also will promote the works and performances through our website, social network, newsletter, printed and press-related materials.

## HOW TO APPLY

Please send your applications to **contact@restore-bremen.space** with the following documents:

- **Registration form**
- A **short introduction** on a maximum of 2 A4 pages in one PDF file answering these questions
  - Who you are and what you do.
  - Why do you want to be part of RESTORE\_?
  - Do you have any experience with similar projects?
  - Why do you want to work with artists from other fields?
  - Tell us anything else you think might be interesting for us :)
- **Portfolio** (Photos, videos, sketches, links, website. PDF files no larger than 5 MB)

RESTORE\_ is the inaugural facilitatory project initiated by **hacer sitio corp**, a group of international artists based in Bremen working in the intersection of research, performance, dance, media/audiovisual art, design, and architecture.