



PRESS RELEASE

Cologne, 8th June, 2015

“CityLeaks 2015 – The city that does not exist” (1. - 20. Sept. 2015) – discovers some districts of Cologne as a pitch for urban art and features many offerings in its third edition as Europe’s biggest urban art festival. The opening of this year’s festival already starts on 8th June with a CityLeaks Preview in Cologne-Muelheim (Vincenzstraße 14).

The ideal image of the city is rather subjective, as the countless facets of the catchword urbanity prove. The third edition of the CityLeaks Urban Art Festival takes up the questioning of this diversity. How does the city influence us, how do we influence the city? The subtitle of the festival also refers to a core problem within this discourse, since the urban cosmos never stands still; it expands, it interferes and it changes.

The festival enables its audience to participate in this process of change. As a result, many of the urban art projects do not only address people who desire to consume art, but to experience urban movement, to actively participate in current discussions and to shape the life which takes place right on one’s doorstep.

This can be witnessed during the three weeks of the festival (1. - 20. Sept. 2015) in a large number of different outdoor projects and an indoor exhibition. In addition, the first CityLeaks congress takes place this year and it negotiates the core issues of urban life in public. The festival programme is accompanied by exhibitions in cooperating galleries and off locations, as well as a variety of cultural events. Urban hacking, projections, mapping, performances and poetry are as important as murals, paintings and installations.

It all starts with a **CityLeaks preview** in Cologne-Muelheim as an opener of this year’s festival on 8th June. From **8th to 13th June**, the Brazilian artist duo **ACIDUM** are presenting a **mural painting** in Cologne-Muelheim and on **13th June** they will offer an insight into their artistic performance with the workshop-based performance **“Pintura Expandida”**. ACIDUM takes their audience on an imaginary journey with their mystical and colourful paintings. Their workshop “Pintura Expandida” offers the opportunity to grasp urban space based on colour markings on bicycles in a joint performance with the participants.

Artist duo: ACIDUM (BR)

Mural: 8. -13. June 15, Vincenzstraße 14, 51065 Cologne

Workshop “Pintura Expandida”, 13th June, 2015, starting at 3 pm



The project **bodies in urban space** also requires an active participation: dancer and choreographer Will Dörner explores the relationship of bodies and space in an unusual way. He developed a special course for his presentation in Cologne that works with irritating moments, as he draws attention to less frequented places such as niches in the canyons between buildings or hidden side streets. Following the invitation of CityLeaks, his award-winning staging of the city can be seen on Cologne for the first time. The festival and Cie. Will Dörner invite people with a good body feeling to an audition taking place in June: <https://vimeo.com/129869021>.

Some gaps regarding the successful financing of CityLeaks 2015 are hopefully closed with the contribution of many supporters. Therefore and for the first time, a **crowd funding campaign** in support of the festival will start in mid-June. CityLeaks will provide comprehensive information on the current status and planning of the festival on the online platform startnext and will call on fans and enthusiasts to support the realisation of the festival.

CityLeaks does not only rely on financial help, but is also looking for energetic supporters, who want to assist with the setup of the festival or the supervision of art projects. The festival would also be glad about support by people living in Cologne to provide private accommodation for the international artists as in the previous years. Diligent supporters and urban-art-enthusiast are welcomed to contact the festival organisation under info@cityleaks-festival.com with the subject "Support".

The urban art festival CityLeaks 2015 will take place from 1st till 20th September 2015 with a special focus on the district of Cologne-Muelheim. The preview of the festival is kindly supported by our main sponsors AkzoNobel Deco GmbH and GL Verleih NRW GmbH.

PRESS CONTACT

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Text printable free of charge. Further information and pictures on request