

Memory Garden//

Sound-installation by Merzouga

Curator: Georg Dietzler/gerngesehen.de



The garden of St. Cäcilien - a quiet place in the middle of the noisy city center in Cologne - directly behind the shopping area Neumarkt, in the vicinity of the Rautenstrauch-Joest Ethnological Museum and the Schnütgen Museum with its collection of medieval Christian art. We know the garden's flowers, herbs and trees from medieval writings inside the Museum, the carefully selected planting allows the visitors to perceive the plant world sensually, whose symbolism they could already encounter in the exhibited works of art and writings. The Medieval Garden becomes a Memory Garden: Loudspeakers planted in the beds like sound blossoms. Unexpectedly, soft sounds float through the garden, inviting one to pause, to linger, mixing with the sound of the city. The old monastery garden is transforming itself. The herbs exude ethereal scents and stimulating timbres. The neighbouring Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum becomes a sound telescope. Forgotten sounds of vanished cultures blow into the garden. Gongs from a Laotian temple, a North Indian mantra, the noise of an Indian city. Historical wax cylinders of the Berlin phonogram archive, forgotten songs from Africa, Oceania, Indonesia. Contemporary witnesses of ancient cultures on the patinated wax cylinders bloom once more in the monastery garden of St. Cäcilien, only to be blown away again. We encounter the noise of time passing in the Memory Garden.

Opening: 19.06.2019, 16:00 - 18:00

Duration: 19.06. - 30.06.2019, during the opening hours of the museum Schnütgen

Venue: Garden of St.Cäcilien/Museum Schnütgen, Cäcilienstraße 29-33, 50667 Cologne, Germany

Composition: Merzouga

Curator: Georg Dietzler

Duration: approx. 40'

FIRST PERFORMANCE: 19.06.2019

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