

Garrett Nelson x Cathy Josefowitz
Anacronica II: Lying on the Hip
24 September-9 October 2021
Arsenic, performing arts center, Lausanne (CH)

A cross-institutional collaboration, *Garrett Nelson x Cathy Josefowitz* is a research project by the performer and researcher Garrett Nelson around the work and legacy of the late Swiss artist Cathy Josefowitz (1956-2014). The research aims to grant a living artist access to the storage and archive of the entire oeuvre of Cathy Josefowitz, in order to create what can be understood as a cross-generational dialogue between two artists, both whose work intersect dance, performance, and queer studies.

Garrett Nelson was invited to develop this project organized jointly by Arsenic, performing arts center, Lausanne, Centre culturel Suisse, Paris, La Becque | artist residency, La Tour-de-Peilz, and Kunsthau Langenthal, in collaboration with curator Elise Lammer, and the estate of Cathy Josefowitz.

The new performance and exhibition presented at Arsenic follow a one-month residency during summer 2021 at La Becque during which Garrett Nelson had access to the archive of Cathy Josefowitz in Geneva, while researching and developing a new performance piece. Studio-visits and exchanges with experts on Cathy Josefowitz' work and the curators additionally nurtured this research. As a result, a new performance piece and sculptures by Garrett Nelson are shown at Arsenic, accompanied by a selection of Cathy Josefowitz' original paintings made by Nelson. *Anacronica II: Lying on the Hip* is the second in a trilogy of installations and performances where Garrett Nelson shows sculptures and paintings alongside Cathy Josefowitz.

Nelson's new work includes a poem about a tablecloth and a house made of mist as well as an homage to the Italian poet Sandro Penna (1906, Perugia-1977, Rome). A largely unpublished author, Penna's work comprises poetry and a few novels exploring homosexual love and sexuality. During his lifetime, his work was revealed and supported by Pierpaolo Pasolini and Umberto Saba. Nelson's performance concludes with *A Sailor Being Tired*, an Appalachian Ballad, which originates from near Indiana, US, where the artist was born and where their ancestors immigrated. Derived from various European and African influences, including English ballads, Irish and Scottish traditional music and African-American blues, Appalachian music often evokes nostalgic memories of home and loved ones.

The title of the work, "Lying on the Hip" is a euphemism for the drug-induced repose of an opium den, and loosely refers to a meditative state of psychological repose. Set in a dreamlike space, Nelson's participatory installation includes cave painting shadows, painted bodysuits, traditional Swiss artifacts and two new paintings of darkroom sex scenes.

Garrett Nelson (*1982) is a Swiss and American artist living and working in Switzerland and Argentina. Recent exhibitions and performances have been presented at Kunsthalle Zürich, Le Commun Geneva, Museo de la Ciudad Mexico, Taylor Macklin, Oslo10 Basel, Kunsthalle Basel, Museo Tamayo, Centre PasquArt Biel, SALT Galata Istanbul, Les Urbaines Lausanne and Sinop

Biennial Turkey. In June 2018 Nelson performed at The 14th Performance Project LISTE, Art Fair Basel.

Work titles:

Garrett Nelson, *Harlequin Nude*, 2021

Metal, fabric, acrylic, hanger

190 x 50 x 50 cm variable

Garrett Nelson, *Larve*, 2021

Metal, fabric, hanger, wood, goatskin

180 x 30 x 30 cm variable

Garrett Nelson, *Dick*, 2021

Metal, fabric, hanger, wood, pine tar

180 x 30 x 30 cm variable

Garrett Nelson, *Untitled*, 2021

Acrylic on canvas board

30 x 50 cm

Garrett Nelson, *Untitled*, 2021

Acrylic on canvas board

30 x 50 cm

Cathy Josefowitz, *Sans titre*, 1977 ca.

Oil on paper glued on wood panel

168 x 95 cm

Courtesy Collection Pierre and Les Amis de Cathy Josefowitz

Cathy Josefowitz, *Sans titre*, 1977 ca.

Oil and crayon on paper glued on wood panel

167 x 98 cm

Courtesy Collection Pierre and Les Amis de Cathy Josefowitz

Cathy Josefowitz, *Sans titre*, 1974 ca.

Oil on linen

150 x 100 cm

Courtesy Collection Pierre and Les Amis de Cathy Josefowitz

Cathy Josefowitz, *Sans titre (fenêtre Rodin)*, 1993 ca.

Acrylic paint on paper glued on wood panel

123 x 89 cm

Courtesy Collection Pierre and Les Amis de Cathy Josefowitz

More information: <https://arsenic.ch/spectacle/anacronica-lying-on-the-hip/>