

Annual Report 2023

STICHTING PUBLIC FREQUENCIES



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Summary:

This Annual Report of the year 2023 highlights a year of strategic planning, creative productions, and financial management. The organization collaborated with Theater Ins Blau to formulate a four-year plan, ensuring alignment with its goals and setting the stage for co-productions in the coming years. Its participation in the Archive Trajectory furthered the organization's commitment to archiving its multidisciplinary performative productions, providing it with concrete tools..

Key co-productions included "Jungle the Future," a thought-provoking exploration of human-animal relationships in urban environments, and "SHUT UP & SCROLL," a series of performances challenging digital and analog addictions. Both were coproduced by Stichting Public Frequencies. Audience reactions praised the creativity and impact of these productions.

Looking ahead, Stichting Public Frequencies outlined plans for producing in 2024 theater productions like "ANALOG <-> DIGITAL" and "KAHVE," exploring themes of contemporary society, technology, and cultural identity.

Changes in board and advisory positions expected in 2024 are announced, demonstrating the organization's commitment to governance and leadership continuity. Additionally, the organization announces in its year report its relocation to Haagweg 6, 2311 AA Leiden. This choice has been made to support its development in a city where it has been active in producing multiple projects and will be developing further in the future.

Financially, the report provides an insight into the organization's activities, including contributions to project costs, and the forms of incomes. In 2023 as well, the foundation operates guided by the 'Governance Code for Culture', the 'Fair Practice Code', and the 'Cultural Diversity Code'. Stichting Public Frequencies remains resilient in its pursuit of artistic innovation and financial sustainability.

Introduction

With this Annual Report, Stichting Public Frequencies reflects on the activities of the foundation shared with the audience and those behind the scenes. In 2023, the association was in the preparatory phase for the coming years, with a focus on the production planned for the upcoming season (2024-2025) as well as the next four years (2025-2029). Together with Theater Ins Blau, a four-year plan has been formulated: Theater and production house Ins Blau has included the proposed work of K&A in their plans and Stichting Public Frequencies will be coproducing these projects in the coming years.

Next to these preparatory activities, Stichting Public Frequencies concluded its participation in the Archive Trajectory initiated by Podiumkunsten.net and coproduced the performative installation SHUT UP & SCROLL and the presentation of the performance JUNGLE THE FUTURE: The pages that follow include a detailed description of the projects and the future plans.



JUNGLE THE FUTURE

Jungle the Future portrays the science-fiction journey of a humanized zebra and shark that escape their habitats to settle in cement territories: our cities. In the heart of a metropolis – amidst its gray neighborhoods - they confront the rites and customs of humans. In an effort to blend in, they eat cigarettes, dress-up in the corners, get drunk on salt, and gallop on rollers. The scandalous dream of the zebrA-lexandra Bellon, and of the shark-arla Isidorou, is to integrate into human society. The audience, as if visiting a zoo or a crime scene, stays safely behind the lines. They witness their struggles, nostalgia, dreams for a better life, and irresistible stamina to keep trying.

Their movements unfold between savage animalistic trance gestures and wacky odd human actions. What happens when the animals become all too human? “Jungle the Future” is a m-Ask s-How that questions our relationship with animals, urban and wild territories: BORDERS, ORDERS, OTHERS.

In this physical theater performance, the music becomes a storyteller without words, tracing back the migration of the two animals with granular percussive sounds, atmospheric motives, and groovy chords.

Public performance: 29 September 2023, Theater Ins Blau (Leiden, NL)

Credits

Concept, choreography & performance: K&A (Karla Isidorou & Alexandra Bellon)

Music composition & realization: Alexandra Bellon & Viva Sanchez Reinoso

Recording: Leo Marin, Bridge Studio Music

Sound mix: Alessandro Mazziari

Maskers & Costumes: our ready made society

Trailer: Karla Isidorou

Co-production: K&A, Theater Ins Blau, Amalthea, Stichting Public Frequencies

Audience reactions:

“A truly alternative, creative and meaningful performance that exposes through an interactive way the viewer to the real “jungle” that people’s tendencies have created.

It is palpable that the actors give of themselves physically and mentally, in a silent show of reflection with a carefree yet rhythmic performance under very well thought out soundtracks and loops. The messages are multiple and clearly dependent on the mood and experiences of the audience, the hour-long performance leaves no trace of fatigue and the feeling of being motivated and breaking our bonds is riveting. Change must come now, enough has been witnessed in a jungle of victims and interests.”

Giorgos Visited 29/09/2023, Theater Ins Blau (Leiden, NL)

“A creative performance that used non-verbal communication in an inventive way.

A physical performance that successfully managed to take us on a journey through the jungle of today's world. To bring us face to face with primitive feelings, feelings of survival, which have been forgotten in the depths of time. A big congratulation also to the protagonists who managed to transmit their energy to us and allowed us to get to know our world.”

Katerina Visited 29/09/2023, Theater Ins Blau (Leiden, NL)



SANDBOX **SHUT UP & SCROLL**

a series of pop-up performances that questions our digital & analog addictions.

Anything to say?

(well) SHUT UP AND SCROLL. From the private to the public realm a gesture is invading our bodies and minds. The SANDBOX is:

1. ANALOG

A shallow box or a hollow in the ground partly filled by sand to play in. A place for free play as physical material is continually leveled maneuvered forms with an infinity of possibilities.

2. DIGITAL

A testing environment in a computer system software in which can be or coding run securely. Malicious files and suspicious objects can be tested. An essential tool for professionals to understand the behavior of malware.

In SANDBOX, a performance for 3 people, the duet K&A invites the audience to climb on the stool and SHUT UP & SCROLL till the end for happiness.

Cast & Credits

SHUT UP & SCROLL is a dystopic alter ego of 'Anything to say?' by Davide Dormino

Pin-drop & location advise: Kees

Drilling mentor: Kishan, Ikea puzzle specialist: Mirjam, PR: Kim

On the spot assistance: Myrthe

Concept, transport, and scrolling : K&A – Karla Isidorou & Alexandra Bellon

Imagined in Kaserne Blau and realized with the support of the whole team of Theater Ins Blau and Stichting Public Frequencies.

Public performance: 19 August 2023, Sitespecific (Leiden, NL) - 3 performances



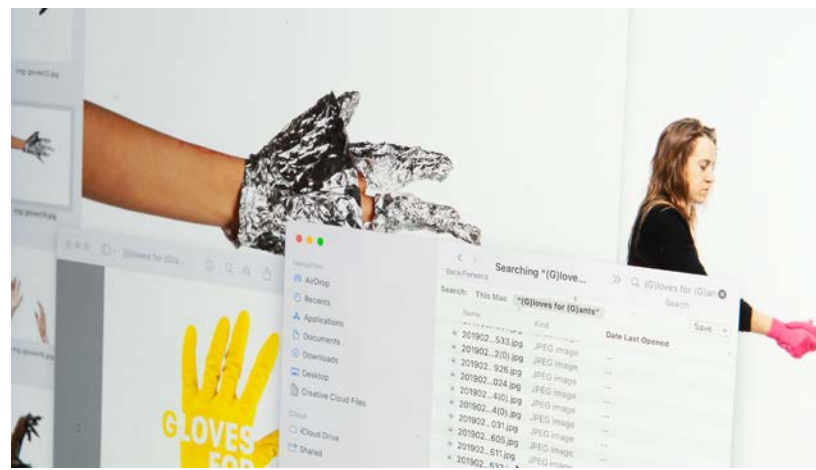


The Archive Trajectory

Karla Isidorou and Alexandra Bellon representing Stichting Public Frequencies were selected to participate in the Archive Trajectory organized by Podiumkunsten.net. This trajectory started in 2022 and was concluded in 2023; its goal has been to formulate an action plan regarding archiving with a focus on multidisciplinary performative productions.

This trajectory supported Stichting Public Frequencies in developing a vision and strategy and formulating concrete actions to enhance the process of archiving. As well as analog as digital long-term strategies were formulated.

Interview with K&A about the trajectory: <https://www.podiumkunst.net/nieuws/kampa-over-het-archiefracject-je-zoekt-er-naar-een-archiefvorm-die-past-bij-jouw-praktijk/>



Future Plans

The foundation is committed to supporting the production, realization, and research of projects that align with the association's main goals, as described in the statutes. In 2024, the foundation will coproduce the theater production ANALOG <-> DIGITAL (season 2023/2024) and produce the theater production KAHVE (2024/2025). The artistic leadership of both projects is in the hands of K&A, Karla Isidorou, and Alexandra Bellon.

Stichting Public Frequencies maintains a close relationship with Theater Ins Blau, which will also coproduce the two projects mentioned above.

Theater Ins Blau has included the artist duo K&A in their four-year plans (2025-2029), and Stichting Public Frequencies will be coproducing the artistic projects that will come out of this collaboration in the next few years.

Board and Advisory Board

In 2024, Bjorn Jansen (advisory board) and Stephanie Kersbergen (board) will be leaving their positions. The board and the advisory board are happy to announce the joining of Brandy Ginaluca Saryany Sanmoeradi as a treasurer on the board, taking over the position of Stephanie Kersbergen. In 2024, the board together with the advisory board will be looking for the right person to join the Advisory Board in the next years.

Location

Stichting Public Frequencies has been hosted at the offices of A LAB Amsterdam; in 2024, Stichting Public Frequencies will be moving its seat to Haagweg 6, 2311 AA Leiden. Since the Association has been producing multiple projects in this city in the last years, it seems a logical next step that will support the development of the association.



it is ALL ABOUT

ANALOG <-> DIGITAL

Is a movement theater performance dedicated to a disequilibrating contemporary world. Analog sounds compete with digital ones, books burn and e-readers rise, vinyls are the new dancefloor and polaroids our only archive. In a scenography between pixels and objects arises a temporal space where micromovements appear: fingers precisely initiating the ongoing dance of a spinning top or the blink of an eye caught in an extravagant selfie. Inspired by ancient and contemporary games, sweetly accompanied by a tendency to escapism, the performers question/tease/underline our relation with digital and analogue objects. ANALOG <-> DIGITAL invites you to oscillate between contradictory cravings: waiting for a handwritten letter, detesting technology, falling in love with a screen (maybe even a robot?), breaking your phone, crying for a book, stealing a spinning top, scratching a vinyl, getting addicted to ChatGPT. Teasing our obedience to a digital environment and the glorification of the screen, K&A invites the audience on a delirious trip, that ends with a blink.

Premiere 17 February 2024

Cast & Credits

Concept, performance: K&A

Text: K&A with quotes of Marguerite Duras, James Baldwin, Kae Tempest, Orhan Pamuk, Sarah Cane, Chat GPT, Terence Winter, June Jordan, Edward Albee, Elizabeth Taylor, Cory Doctorow, Cookie Monster, Eminem, Coi Leray, Hildegard of Bingen

Set Design: K&A

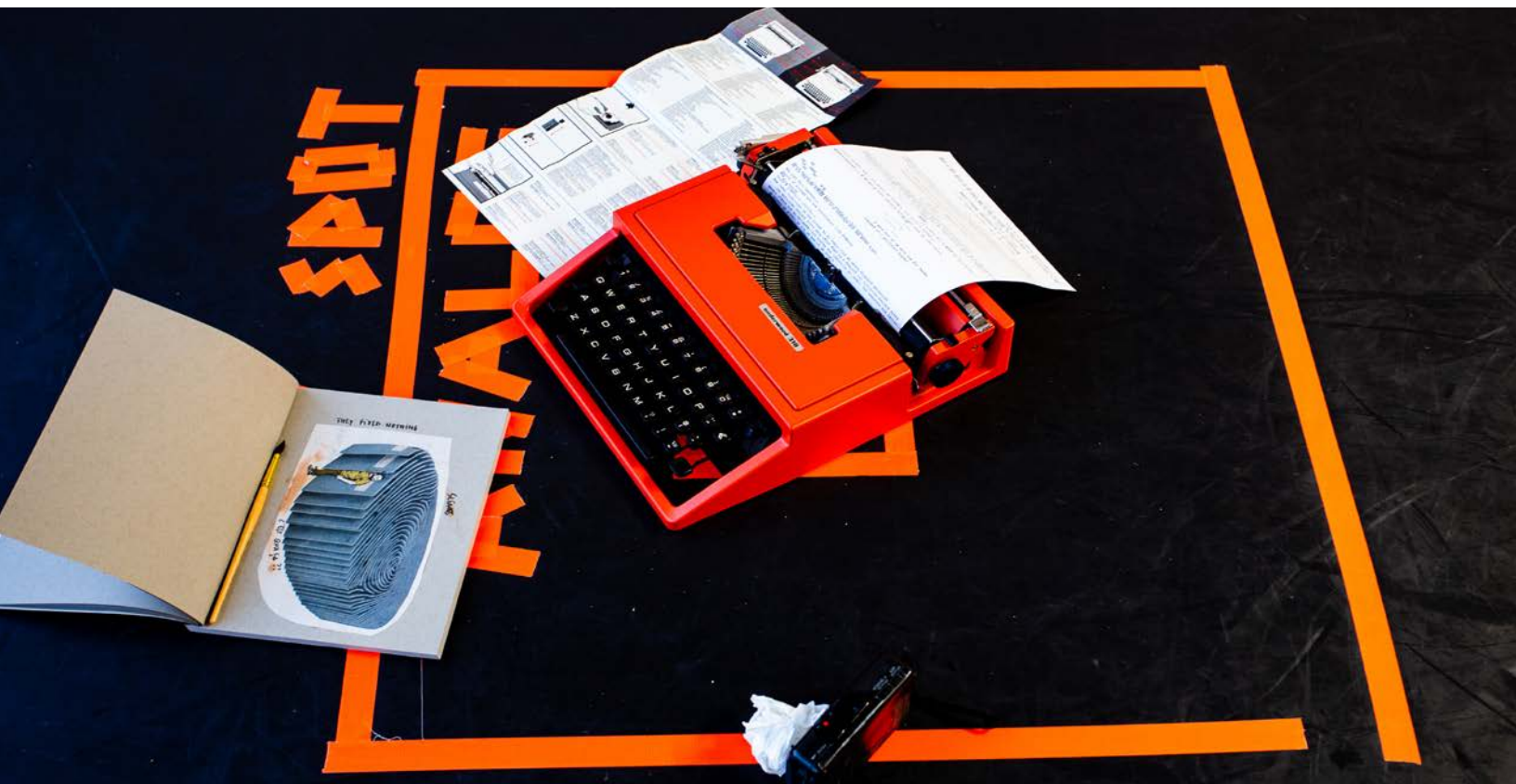
Technical support: Andries van Duijvenbode en Harwin Wegner (Theater Ins Blau)

Composition & realization of music: Alexandra Bellon

Voice: Anne-Kathryn Olsen

Voice recording: Alessandro Mazzeri Mix of composition: Alessandro Mazzeri

Coproduction: Stichting Public Frequencies, K&A, Theater Ins Blau



KAHVE

'KAHVE' is an intimate theater performance, a warm invitation to experience the history, political, social, and economic power of coffee in an immersive theatrical way during the preparation of a cup of coffee. Binaural sound recording of music and text, smell, movement, and narration come together in a unique location: a Botanical Garden.

What history, customs, misunderstandings, myths, and legends does a cup of coffee carry with it? With this performance, K&A pay tribute to coffee and explore the social and political conditions that have brought about coffee drinking. Fascinated by how multiple cultures have made this drink their own and added it to their cultural identity, K&A cover its origins and development. Between history and fiction, legends and myths, the audience follows the journey of the coffee bean and coffee itself through time and space. Repetitive movements, an immersive soundscape, narration, and the smell of coffee come together in a unique experience for the visitor.

Premiere 2 November 2024

Cast & Credits

Concept, performance, research, text: K&A

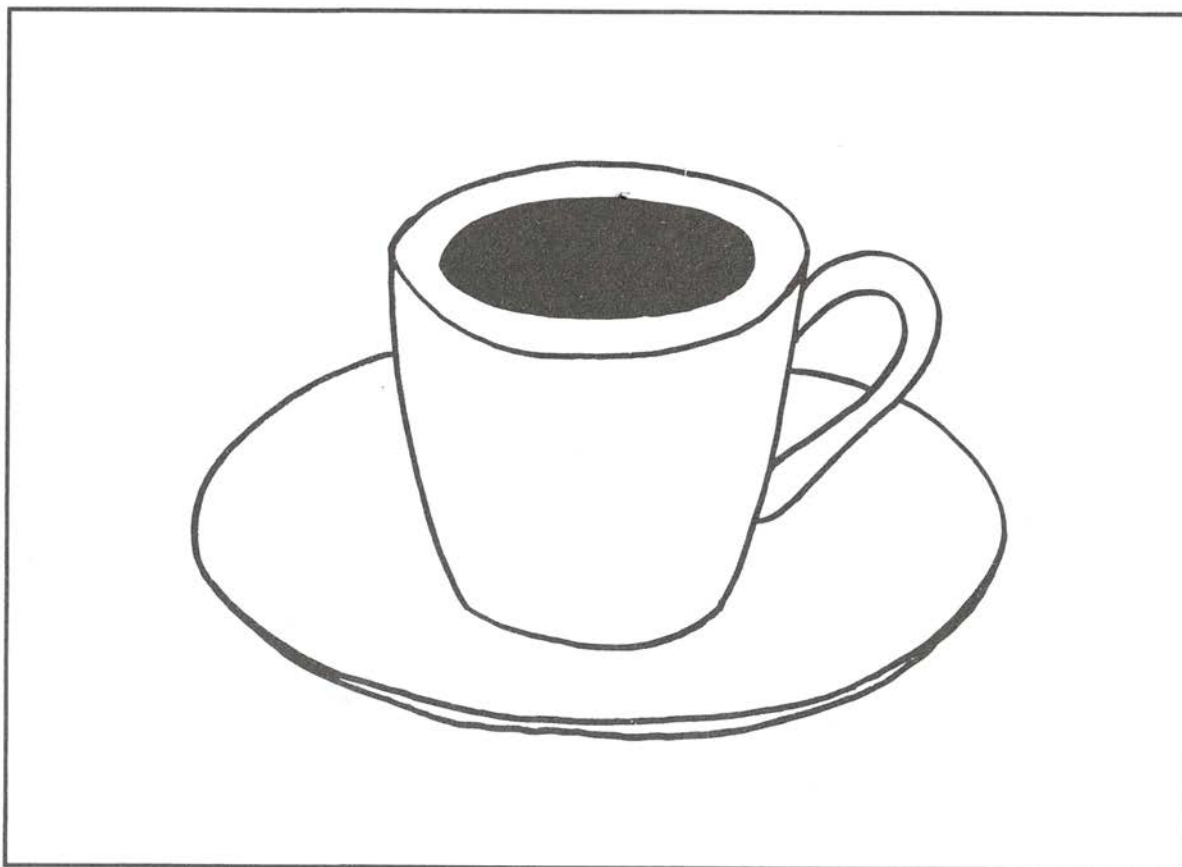
Composition & realization of music: Alexandra Bellon

Binaural recording: David Poissonnier

Recording & mix : Alessandro Mazziari Mix

Advise playlist: Sofronis Sofroniou

Coproduction: Stichting Public Frequencies, Theater Ins Blau



Financial Review

In 2023, from a financial perspective, the activity of the association was limited, due to the preparatory activities for the projects in the upcoming years. As a co-producer, Stichting Public Frequencies financially contributed to the material costs linked to the realization of the performative installation SANDBOX and to the reprise of JUNGLE THE FUTURE. In 2023, the association received income from the Archive trajectory. The balance of the association's bank account on 31 December 2023 was -15,82€ . To be able to cover its running administrative costs at the end of 2023 and the start of 2024, the association signed a private loan for the amount of 6.800 € with no final redemption date with Alexandra Bellon. The mutual agreement is that this loan will be refunded when Stichting Public Frequencies will have the possibility to, without putting its activities into question. In 2024, with the upcoming production of KAHVE, the board expects to have income through subsidizers, tickets sales, and buyouts.

Stichting Public Frequencies had included in its provisional budget for 2023 the costs and revenues of producing THE WHISTLEBLOWER. Although the project received a positive evaluation from Fonds Podium Kunsten, it did not receive financial support due to budget restrictions per funding round. The project has now been included in the multiple-year plan, and the association will work together with Theater Ins Blau to find the funding needed for this project within the next four years.

Stichting Public Frequencies will work in the next years on building sustainable financial conditions.

ANNEX

BOARD & ADVISORY BOARD COMPOSITION 2023

BOARD

Name: Isidorou, Karla

Date in office 04-05-2020 (date of registration: 06-05-2020)

Title Chairman

Power Jointly authorised (with other boardmembers, see Articles of Association)

Name Kersbergen, Stéphanie

Date in office 04-05-2020 (date of registration: 06-05-2020)

Title Treasurer

Power Jointly authorised (with other boardmembers, see Articles of Association)

Name Bellon, Alexandra

Date in office 04-05-2020 (date of registration: 06-05-2020)

Title Secretary

Power Jointly authorised (with other boardmembers, see Articles of Association)

SUPERVISORY BOARD

Name ten Bosch, Karin Anne

Date in office 04-05-2020 (date of registration: 06-05-2020)

Title chairman

Name Jansen, Björn

Date in office 04-05-2020 (date of registration: 06-05-2020)

Title treasurer

Name Van Giel, Maria Joanna Francisca

Date in office 04-05-2020 (date of registration: 06-05-2020)

Title secretary

Name Framis Martin, Alicia

Date in office 04-05-2020 (date of registration: 06-05-2020)

Title general member

NOTES

credits images:

page 1-7: Karla Isidorou, K&A

page 8: Myrthe van der Krogt, rework Karla Isidorou, K&A

page 9: Anna Klevan, K&A

page 10-11: K&A