

IN THE UNDERWORLD

Schedule of Performances

WINGSHAN SMITH

Petty Person Beating (打小人)

20:30-22:00 (smoking area)

Often seen under the concrete overpasses of Hong Kong, old women are paid to curse one's enemies or negative spirits with shoes or slippers. Through an adapted version of the folk sorcery known as 'Villain Hitting' or 'Petty Person Beating', the artist indicates the need to reconnect with untold stories and marginalised voices from cultural folk rituals with the explicit purpose of renegotiating agency in the formulation of a new cultural identity. The performed ritual includes writing down the villain's details on paper alongside their photograph, beating the paper with a stiletto whilst chanting curses, and then burning the paper pulp. In urban spaces, the ritual is typically done in a crowded space, crouched on the floor, and with a small shrine. Individual curse requests throughout the night.

ISTANBUL QUEER ART COLLECTIVE

Evil Tongues, Evil Eyes

20:45

In this spoken word performance, we will be articulating a text consisting of Turkish colloquial phrases used against 'the evil eye' and an ancient Assyrian spell. The phrases will be repeated 40 times, which in Turkey is believed to be the number of repetitions necessary for a phrase to attain supernatural powers. As we repeat the words we will be literalizing some of the phrases, by using skewers to stab 40 'eyes'.

The evil eye, which is the gaze of the envious, is the most dreaded supernatural force in Turkey, as in many other cultures. In articulating the spells against the envious gaze using Turkish as a foreign language at a time when the English have chosen to leave the European Union to prevent the envious Turks from flooding their country, we hope to try and bridge and bewitch the underlying cultural gap.

ELLIS D.

Funeral Services

21:30

Traitorous organs, mythic visions, eulogies and handkerchiefs. A self-administered appendectomy gone so predictably wrong, and the succulent arrogance of a 'sorta-witchy-lady' grieving herself. Taking a break from outbound warehouse shipping assistant(ing) to try her hand at funeral direction, locally renowned occultist Ellis D. performs a semi-improvised, steady-handed invocation of the psychopomp Hermes.

SEBASTIAN H-W

Santísima Muerte [Holiest Death]

22:00

Santísima Muerte (Holiest Death) is a decolonial-death-cult-folk-saint-drag-act for the post-AIDS, post-Pulsar, queer Latinx nightclub. Keep your sugar skulls - S/he comes for blood. This act coincides with the upcoming Mexican Dia De Los Muertos celebrations and is inspired by the controversial, marginalised figure of La Santa Muerte - often seen as a patron saint of the illicit underworld of Mexican society, and a protector of queer LGBTQI+ communities. This is a ritual exploring the trans/formative potentials of how we confront, decolonise and reclaim our queer sick bodies, through the syncretic a/gendered image of death, and how we face up to our own shortening, controlled mortality, among the living, pulsing bodies on the dancefloor.

NICK KILBY + CAT BOETTCHER

Heart of tongues (a vengeful quickening), 2017

22:15-01:00 (downstairs)

A process-based performance and installation lasting several hours. The piece seeks to generate a large scale visual sigil from misandrist acts of sadism and savagery; the ultimate aim to pull forth a connection with a divine and vengeful feminine. The work is inspired in equal parts by Valerie Solana's *SCUM Manifesto* and Peter Grey's *Apocalyptic Witchcraft*, both of which are invoked as incendiary texts from which a process of subversion against patriarchal neoliberalism can begin. The piece attempts to meditate on a divine language through the marks we leave and the marks we leave with, propelling a healing occult ideology through kinetic and fluid exchange; culminating in a piercing castration of the male sex.

FOXGLOVE

The Dweller on the Threshold, 2017

22:45 (warning: strobe lights)

FoxGlove has discovered a crack between universes. He crawls through, to meet the Dweller on the Threshold. He is the mask of the demon, the glimmers and the vanity. He embodies everything which we hold onto, all which prevents us from achieving freedom and spiritual growth. Come find FoxGlove at the edge of the abyss, where you will meet the sumtotal of your darkest self.

VENOM BLACK WIDOW

SOULLESS, 2017

22:55

Venom Black Widow, a howling demon born in the deep end of the subconscious sewer, will be taking on the guise of Hades, King of the Underworld, to give newly arrived souls a very warm welcome. In a performance combining elements of shock rock, mythology and art performance, he will deliver a blood-curdling introduction to the afterlife.

LADY VENDREDI

Lady Vendredi's Neon Dream, 2017

23:45

Lady Vendredi has entered the next ritual phase. She has left the waters of yesterday and is projected into a neon dream future. She now presents to you a cosmic journey, a ritual gig, inspired by the ancestral movement of Haitian Vodou. A distorted dream reality. A prayer to the air and all those that she lifts above. Future is behind and the past is way on up ahead.

IVAN MONTEIRO AKA TROPIKAHL PUSSY

Tituba 2.POINT.Oh!, 2017

00:30

Tituba, the myth of the disgraced black latina woman, the first to be accused at the witch trials in Salem is reborn... Reincarnated. Young. Beautiful. Fierce and ready to let you have it! Now, Tituba is finally queen of her own desires, and not a slave anymore! She can finally develop her true powers, and pay tribute to the wishes imprinted in the royal blood of her voodoo witch ancestors. For Tituba, the times have changed, but the fight remains the same. And she will take this fight to the nightlife, where she feels more at home, together with all the other misfits and creatures, antique dark spirits as herself, looking for a common place to be free.