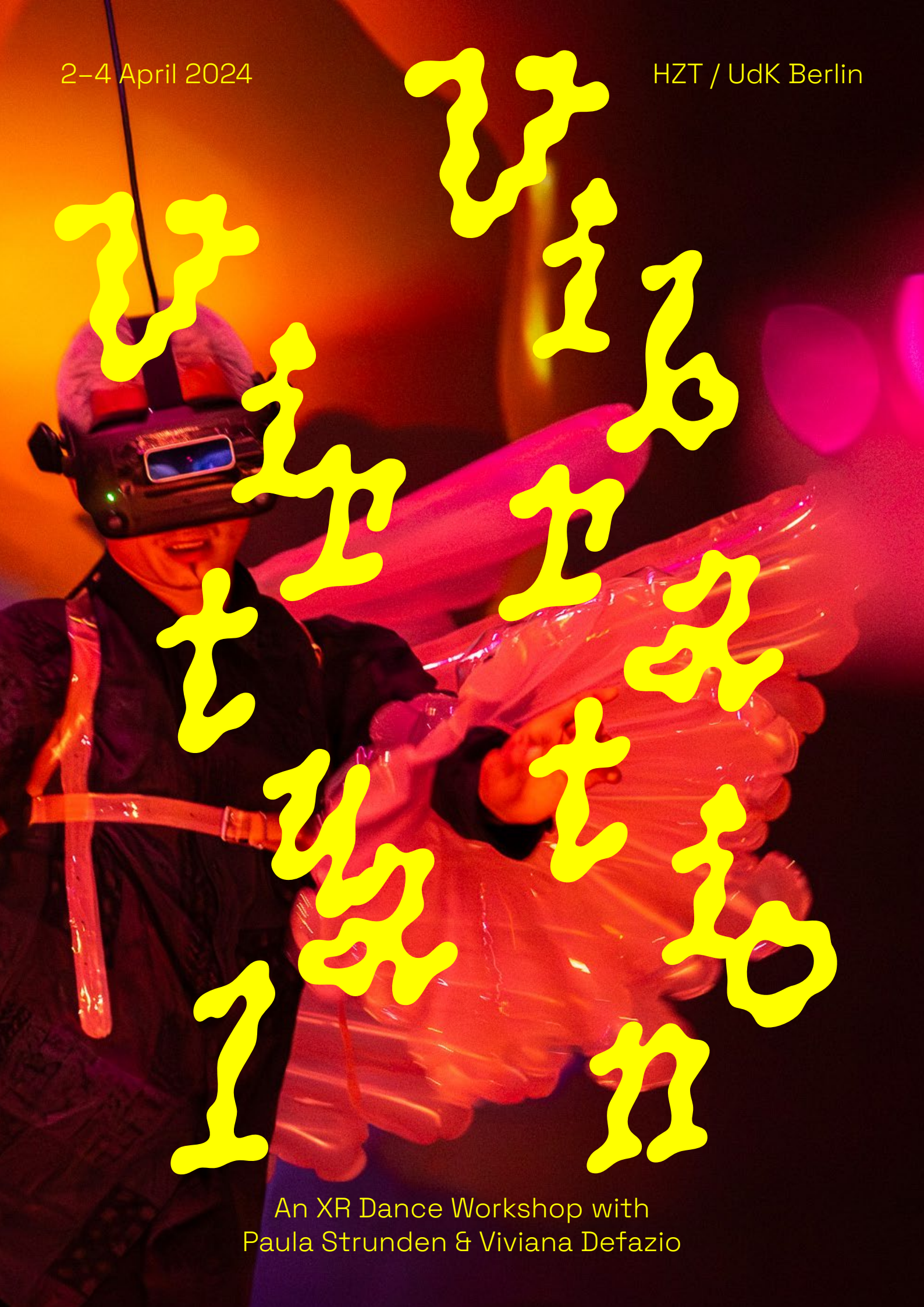
2–4 April 2024

HZT / UdK Berlin



Tech Tech Tech

An XR Dance Workshop with
Paula Strunden & Viviana Defazio

YOUR NAME:

Embark on an immersive journey into the world of virtual avatars. This interdisciplinary workshop, led by Paula Strunden and Viviana Defazio, merges dance with virtual reality (VR).

In Virtual Vibrations, you'll discover the fascinating interplay of movement, sound, and extended reality (XR). Inspired by Paula's XR dance performance "Rhetorical Bodies" and Viviana's bodywork and deep listening exercises, yo will create an embodied synthesizer that combines physical movements with auditory expression.

Equipped with VR headsets and software like Gravity Sketch and Adobe Mixamo, you will blend free movement and dance with drawing in VR and full-body tracking exercises. Over three days of interactive sessions, Virtual Vibrations invites you to rediscover the boundaries of your body and challenge your identities within XR environments.

Join us in discovering new forms of hybrid intimacy by moving your physical bodies in virtual reality, all without prior experience.

Paula Strunden

Paula is a transdisciplinary XR artist with a background in architecture. She studied in Vienna, Paris and London and worked at Raumlabor Berlin and Herzog & de Meuron Basel. As the founder of XR Atlas, an interdisciplinary online platform, Paula advocates alternative historiographies of virtual technologies. Currently, she is pursuing her design-led PhD as part of the European research network TACK at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna.

Viviana Defazio

Viviana is a freelance dancer, choreographer, workshop facilitator, Shiatsu practitioner, and resides in Berlin. After completing her studies at Folkwang University, she worked and toured with Johannes Wieland, Anna Konjetzky, Romeo Castellucci, Jo Parkes, Stella Geppert, and Sasha Waltz. As a choreographer, she realizes participatory dance projects with children, teenagers, and adults, including intergenerational contexts at the Humboldt Forum, Bode Museum, and Feld-Theater in Berlin. Currently, she is working with Isabelle Schad as a dancer and co-choreographer for her piece “The Shift of Focus” and other new productions.

SENSORY EXPERIENCE List the sensations your body experiences daily – touch, temperature, gravity, pressure, sound, etc. How might these sensations translate to a virtual environment?

EMOTIONAL CONNECTION Reflect on the emotions your body expresses physically. How does your body language change when you're happy, sad, scared, angry, excited, or relaxed?

EMBODIED IDENTITY Think about how your physical body shapes your identity. How might your virtual avatar represent or challenge this identity?

SKETCH If your virtual body could express your identity or the emotional space you inhabit, how would it look like?

BODY SOUNDS How does your body respond to different sounds? Reflect on how your movements, posture, and overall physical presence are influenced by various auditory stimuli. How could these bodily responses enhance your experience with sound? And the other way around?

If you associate a sound to your body or body parts, what would that be, draw or describe it here:

NOTES

NOTES

TAKE-A-WAY & FEEDBACK

TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY	
10-11	INTRO	10-11	DEEP LISTENING	10-11	COMPILE
11-12	MOVE	11-12	BODY TRACKING	11-12	COMPILE
12-13	MOVE	12-13	BODY TRACKING	12-13	COMPILE
14 -15	VR DRAWING	14 -15	SOUND & MOVE	14 -15	DOCUMENT
15-16	VR DRAWING	15-16	SOUND & MOVE	15-16	REFLECT
16-17	WIND DOWN	16-17	WIND DOWN	16-17	PRESENT

4 April 2024

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come... dance with us!

Universität der Künste Berlin

Stiftung Innovation in der Hochschullehre

Public Performance of Your Work
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KüLe