



LITHUANIAN NATIONAL DRAMA THEATRE



Ataka Fungus

1st of August – 31th of December 2023 | Vilnius, Lithuania

PAULIUS MARKEVIČIUS

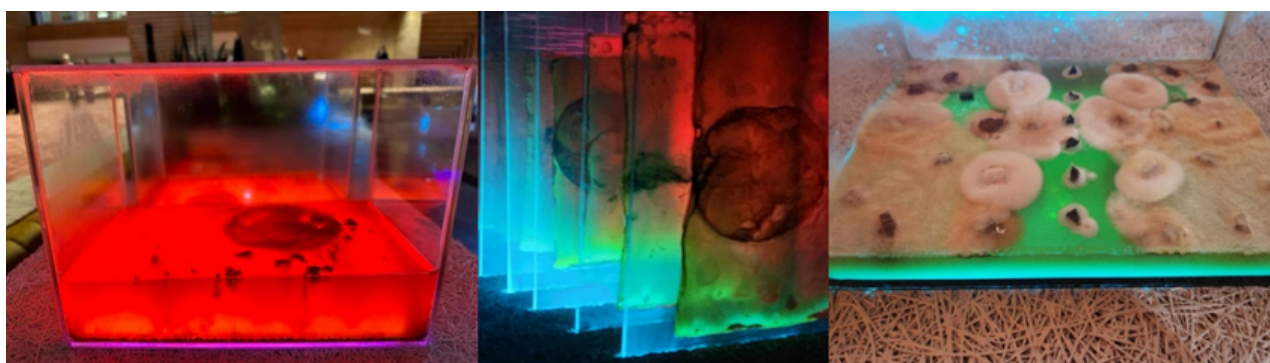
Director, actor, performance and installation artist. His work captures the viewer's relationship and experience. He started his research on the synthesis of art and science in the Art and Science Lab at MMLAB, where he explored quantum physics, scientific errors, light and reflections, and the moral issues of science. Earlier work analysed the Anthropocene, philosophy, and popularised the branches of astronomy and cosmology.



THE RESIDENCY

In July 2023, theatre director and interdisciplinary artist Paulius Markevičius won the STAGES Art and Science Residency competition organized by the Lithuanian National Drama Theatre, and on 10 January he will present his installation to the audience.

The installation "Attack of the Fungi" presents a space created to explore the realm of fungi and the use of sustainable methods in creative work. As one of the first organisms to evolve, fungi have not only survived to the present day but are constantly evolving. Scientists in fields ranging from medicine to space technology are turning to them. Fungi are also being experimented with in order to find solutions to various ecological problems. The main character of the installation Attack Fungus is a mushroom that has grown and is growing in the LNDR, in a suspended dialogue with inorganic substances created by recycling waste materials specially selected for this research. It is a living, growing, changing, and disappearing spatial work. "At first I thought I was trying to learn about mushrooms, now it seems that mushrooms are teaching us," says Paul Markevičius. Consulting with scientists and researching contemporary uses of mushrooms, actively used or still being developed, in different spheres of life, the artist created his own symbolic space in the theatre. The installation - a space of experience - is shaped by a paraphrase of suspended time, in which intermittent mushrooms in the form of mycelium, mycelium, and fruiting bodies remind us of the nature and power of organic matter. The mushrooms that grow and mature here exist in dialogue with artificial materials. Each one of them creates an original scenario for a new possibility of development, knowledge of the environment, and adaptation



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THE GLOBAL GOALS

