

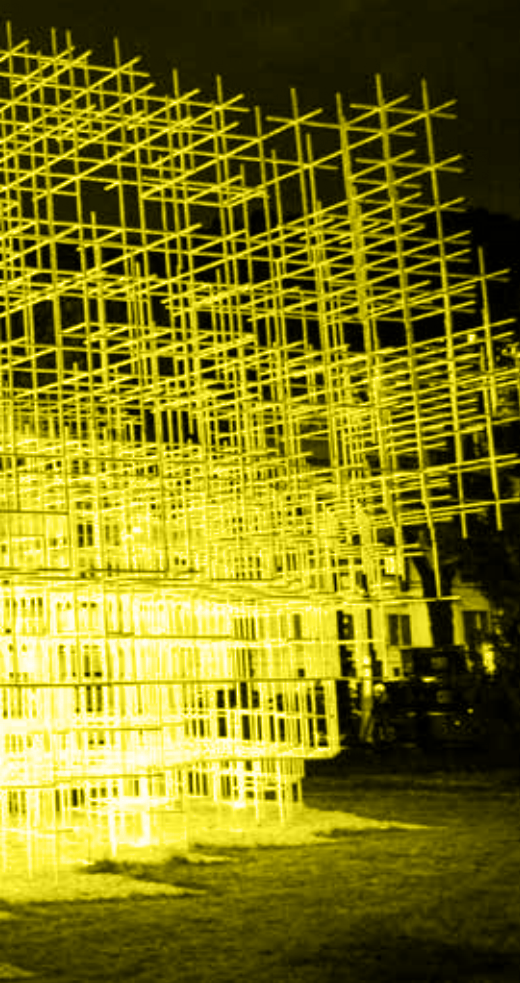
THE CLOUD FESTIV AL

20-27 May, Tirana

CONTEMPORARY DANCE/PERFORMANCE ART
URBAN GAMES/HILAL DANCE
VIDEO PROJECTIONS/TANGO SHOW
POLYPHONIC VOICES/SOUND INSTALATION
POETRY/PICNIC/WORKSHOPS







REJA-THE CLOUD FESTIVAL 2017

Celebrating the 1st
anniversary of REJA
in Tirana.
Performance as Art,
as Movement, as
Sound.

REJA – The CLOUD SERPENTINE GALLERY PAVILION 2013 at the gardens of The National Gallery of Tirana, Albania

*A British Concept, a Japanese ART work, a
Swiss Initiative and Albanian Engagement make
REJA-The CLOUD, not only a monumental art
work, but Tirana's latest cultural venue.*

DESIGNED BY SOU FUJIMOTO
28 May 2016 – 30 April 2019



Originally conceived as a temporary art project for The Serpentine Gallery's Pavilion commission in London in 2013, (owned by Luma Foundation), Sou Fujimoto's Cloud arrived in Tirana dismantled in pieces, in January 2016.

Five months later, the fences of the construction site at the National Gallery of Tirana came down.

With a footprint of 350 square-meters and a gross internal area of 142 square meters, the Pavilion's delicate quality, enhanced by its semi-transparency, creates a geometric, cloud-like form.

On 27th of May 2016, Mayor of Tirana Mr Erjon Veliaj (whose vision is to turn Tirana into a renowned Cultural City), Maja Hoffmann, President of the LUMA Foundation (whose mission is to support pioneering art initiatives), togeth-

er with the well known Albanian artist Anri Sala (whose influence and his untiring commitment to the Albanian art scene is always present), with Sou Fujimoto the architect himself, and also the directors of Serpentine Gallery, Miss Julia Payton - Jones and Hans Ulrich Obrist, stepped into the CLOUD and blessed it with an Albanian name - REJA.

Since then, Reja became not only the biggest attraction and the most visited place in the city of Tirana but most importantly, an additional cultural asset functioning as an events venue with a rich cultural program, created in partnership with local, regional and international cultural and architectural organizations, and individuals.

REJA is under the supervision of the Municipality of Tirana and administration of Agency of Parks and Recreation.

Since last May 2016 until the end of the year, we had more than 90 events in the Cloud covering all genres of art, dance, performance, theater, music, film, debate, sport, etc.





REJA-THE CLOUD FESTIVAL 2017

*Celebrating the 1st anniversary of REJA in Tirana
With Performance as Art, as Movement, as Sound*

On 27th of May 2017, we celebrate the 1st anniversary of REJA – the Cloud in Tirana. As one day was not enough, we decided to celebrate with a weeklong outdoor FESTIVAL focusing especially on PERFORMANCE –as a form of art, movement, sound and all the in- between.

We have created an inspiring program, in collaboration with invited artists, who have been encouraged to consider REJA's a structure and its poetic dimension, a starting point for adapting their work or when creating a new work especially for the REJA-The CLOUD FESTIVAL 2017.

The appreciation of REJA – the CLOUD as site specific art work in itself first, then as an unconventional hosting venue, makes the artistic interventions in it always surprising and fresh new experience for the public, as well a unique work opportunity for artists.

REJA – the Cloud and its gardens will be the grounds for *physical dance and sonic interventions, free dance workshops, and artist lead urban games*, the best *international mélange* between contemporary art practices and traditional rituals, throughout the weekend days and nights of the festival.

The mission of REJA is to cultivate and grow audiences by inspiring and exposing them constantly to new art forms and experiences. We thrive in support and promotion of initiatives that partner with our vision and whose focus is in creating opportunities for public participation.

Edit Pula
Artistic Director
REJA - the CLOUD Festival 2017



TEAM



Edit Pula (J)

Artistic Director
Reja-The Cloud Festival
2017

She is a renown visual artist, the culture adviser of the Mayor Veliaj, and also the Project director and Events programmer of the Cloud from the start.



Erjona Hanku

ToK events – Producer
Reja-The Cloud Festival
2017

Former performer with a degree in Arts management she used to work as festival organizer at a French – Japanese art institute in Paris. Now she is a culture entrepreneur and founder of TOK events agency.

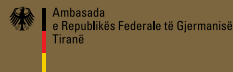


Iris Canaj

Cloud Manager
Reja-The Cloud Festival
2017

Is an aspiring young theater and film director, also a photographer, Cloud manager and events curator.

WITH THE SUPPORT OF:



WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO:

In alphabetical order

Adriana Frisenna
Aldrin Dalipi
Ardian Mullahi
Andreas Faoro
Besim Petrela
Bijona Troqe

Christiane Wolters
Drita Lolla
Eljana Mankollari
Erjon Veliaj
Erjona Hanku
Iris Canaj

Jonida Beqo
Kledia Baci
Klod Dedja
Mira Tuci
Robert Wilton
Rose-Anne Bisiaux

Rudina Memaga
Stephan Orosco
Vasil Tole
Viola Gjoni
Yuvale Fischer





PROGRAM

Celebrating the 1st anniversary of REJA in Tirana
With Performance as Art, as Movement, as Sound

DATES: 20-27 May, 2017

VENUE: REJA and its Garden at the National
Gallery of Arts, Tirana

All performances /events will happen at REJA-The CLOUD, and its gardens (unless differently specified) are free, and family friendly.

Tirana 2017

**May
20**

Saturday 19:00-24:00 pm

Opening Ceremony With:

WITHIN

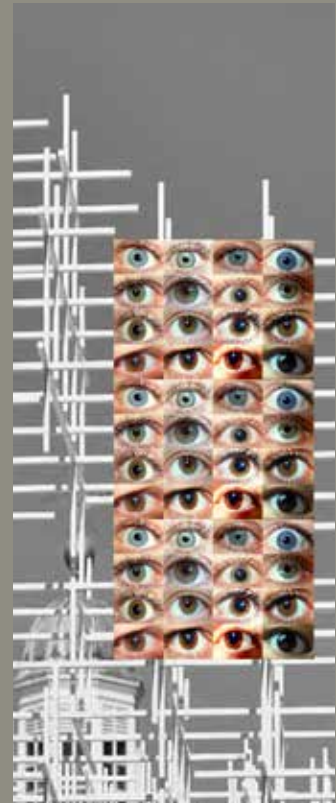
*Video projection/Installation/Performance
by Klod Dedja (Albania).*

Many pairs of Eyes will be peering out of the Cloud designed to make participants see and understand themselves, the city and others from a fresh perspective.

“Within” is a confrontation of materials opening the possibility for a reaction between conceptual and spiritual architecture (Klod Dedja).

Klod Dedja is one of the very first artists of the early nineties in post communist art scene in Albania, to practice performance art. Since then other than performing himself he also curated some of the most interesting site-specific contemporary art exhibitions like; IMFORMAL MIND in former Metallurgic Combine of Elbasan, or IRON Curtain at former dictator’s villa in Tirana.

“Within” was realized with the support of Academy of Film and Multimedia Marubi and especially produced for REJA-THE CLOUD FESTIVAL 2017.



**May
20**

ÇAM POLYPHONY

By Shaban Zeneli and the vocal ensemble Dodona of Fier (Albania).

The çam poliphonic singing is a male exclusive practice. It belongs to the so-called isopolifonia which is characteristic to south Albania. This practice that has been included in UNESCO intangible cultural heritage list, is distinguished by the bourdon (iso), that is performed by a small choir, over which arise other voices, in polyphonic movements. In the çam polyphony one can distinguish two soloists over the bourdon – marrësi e kthyesi, that is, the person who “takes the song” and “the one that turns it over”. In many cases, both voices use sophisticated ways in dealing with each other.

RDN DJ (ALBANIA)

Remixing Albanian old sounds with contemporary flavor.



**May
21**

Sunday 11:00am-21:00 pm

Picnic inside REJA's garden with:

PICNIC SUITE

By Clazz quintet (Montenegro) who is an unusual ensemble, essentially gathered around the idea to present music of the French composer Claude Bolling.

Due to the unconventional fusion of instruments in the ensemble and Bolling's music itself, Clazz has performed at the most important jazz festivals in Montenegro.

Members of Clazz quintet, flutist Boris Nikčević, guitarist Bojana Brajović, pianist Milanka Nikčević, contrabassist Slaven Turusković and percussionist Predrag Lazović.

**Clazz quintet's participation at REJA - The CLOUD FESTIVAL 2017 was supported by The Ministry of Culture of Montenegro.*

INCOGNITO

Participatory art/Video Performance by the Collective Urban Games Factory (Italy).

The format of this event has been tested with success at the exhibition "Making together" in Milan, 2012.



**May
21**

Incognito is an interactive game made possible by public participation without any age or gender restriction. It is especially interesting as family activity where all members can participate. A secret mission will be given to each participant, together with instructions of how to reach the goal of the mission at the place and the time specified (we can't reveal more about the game due not spoiling the mystery) . Each mission will be recorded and projected at the REJA-The Cloud screen upon return from the mission.

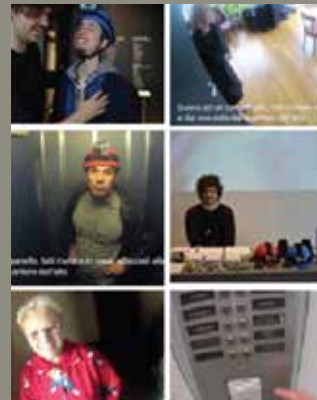
This is an open call for public participation. To sign up for participation please email us on reja@reja.al or message us on Facebook at [reja.al](https://www.facebook.com/reja.al)

**Urban Games Factory participation at REJA- The CLOUD FESTIVAL 2017 was supported by Italian Cultural Institute.*

TANGO PERFORMANCE

Workshop by Ricardo Astrada (Argentina) & Sara Shahu (Albania).

Ricardo Astrada, one of the most internationally proclaimed tango dancers, appearing in films like "Alma del Tango" and "Gloria del Tango". He is also the mas-



**May
21**

termind behind the choreographies of celebrities like Kylie Minogue. Sara Shahu, is a young Albanian dancer, specialized in Argentinean Tango and representative of Argentinean Tango Federation. She will be Ricardo's partner along the workshop and performance in collaboration with Niko's Dance Academy.

**Ricardo Astrada's participation at REJA- The CLOUD FESTIVAL 2017 was supported by The Fatmira Gjoni and Niko's Dance Academy.*

A GIRL WITH A SUN IN HER HEAD

Performance/Physical theater: (22 min) by Agnes Nokshiqi and Donikë Ahmeti (Macedonia).

"A girl with a sun in her head" is a performance that mixes drama and physical movements.

The play is about the woman's world and the disaster of being a prisoner in an unbroken chain, especially in the provinces, where the female «must keep her position», without breaking taboos and moral codes.



**May
22**

Monday 14:00-18:00 pm
@ Metropol Theater, Shakespeare Hall

Colorblind – Performance Workshop and Performance with BBB Johannes Deimling (Germany)

As part of his recent work cycle “It won’t only grow back”, BBB Johannes Deimling has developed “Colorblind”. The choric arrangements of people in different settings in space, with slight movement, the figures are mainly seen as an extension of the artistic re-search. “Colorblind” tries to unify the personal appearance by producing through this small change a highly aesthetic image. This performance is seeking to make visible what is hidden in our personalities. It is not about what we see, rather than what we don’t see.

OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPATION.

Maximum 15 participants (all backgrounds, ages and sexes are welcome); No Experience required but the will, curiosity and commitment to the workshop on the 22nd and to perform in the public on the 23rd at REJA, at 17:00-18:30 pm is required.



Photo: Monika Sobczak



Photo: Matthias Pick. 2016

**May
22**

To sign up for participation please email us on reja@reja.al or message us on Facebook at [reja.al](https://www.facebook.com/reja.al).

**BBB Johannes Deimling's participation at REJA- The CLOUD FESTIVAL 2017 was supported by German Embassy in Tirana.*

19:00-21:00 pm

ECHOES FROM THE CLOUDS

Poetry performance by Robert Wilton (UK), Mira Tuci (Albanian) and other poets, accompanied by "Fyejt e Gramshit" - Gramshi's Flutes (Albania) - the most characteristic Albanian traditional flute sounds from Gramsh.

Have you ever wondered what language poetry speaks? Are there any special codes, or is it the essence that conquers formal codes? Despite the form, there is only one way it can come near us, like music from the cloud. Above these air streams of heavenly muses, Robert Wilton, an English writer and translator, friend of Albanians and Albanians literature with passion for poetry and Mira Tuci, an Albanian journalist with a vocation on art and poetry invite us to



discover the echo of poetry in clouds from the English and the Albanian sky. Just as clouds and poetry cross the boundaries.

“Fyejt e Gramshit” - Gramshi’s Flutes are an instrumental formation of Albanian iso polyphony, of flutes and alto flutes playing mainly pastoral repertoire and consisting of two solo parts and drone.



**May
23**

Tuesday, 17:00-18:30pm
@ REJA's Garden

COLORBLIND

***Public performance with BBB Johannes Deimling
(Germany) and the workshop participants.***

“It is not about what you see. It is about what you don’t see”. *(artistic statement).*

Art can be just beautiful, enticing, formal or simple. The artist must not be beautiful! Art can be just this magical visual sensation which appears when Yellow and Blue melting together-creating a Green. This visual process has no purpose, deeper meaning or direction where we ought to find understanding. But



**May
23**

this simple, elemental color union is able to trigger thousands of topics, stories, themes and concept without actually mentioning them. Art is not made to be understood in a logical way, or to place it somewhere in shelves of understanding and verification. If you try to logically understand my art, you will simply destroy it before it can unfold its true nature.

20:00-21:00 pm

REFLECT

Dance performance (43 mins) by Albanian Dance Theater Company (Albania) Performers: Akreoma Saliu and Fjoraldo Doci; Chorography by Gjergj Prevazi.

As we grow up, we reflect in our lifetime the moments of our childhood, we remember some images, doubts, curiosities, complexes: memories that we want to keep forever, and memories that we want to hide from others, and sometimes, even from ourselves.

The contemporary concept will drive us to rewind our own visions and awake some of our own deepest memories.



**May
24**

Wednesday, 11:00-13:00 pm

**PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP
with Yael CARAVAN (Israel)**

OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

10-20 participants (dancers, performers, actors);
Experience required;

Award winning performer, dancer and director Yael Karavan was born in Izrael and grew up in Florence, Paris and is now based in London since 1996. At the age of 13 she began a successful acting career on the National Theatre, Television, Radio and films in Israel.

To sign up for participation please email us on reja@reja.al or message us on Facebook at [reja.al](https://www.facebook.com/reja.al).



**May
24**

20:00-22:00 pm

COBARIO

One-of-a-kind world music trio from Vienna, (Austria).

Beginning in 2006 as buskers in Barcelona, Rio Che and El Cobra first developed the instrumental acoustic project “Cobario” around their two powerful guitar styles. Several months later, the extraordinary violinist Herwigos joined their ranks to complete the trio, which casts its incomparable spell with passion and finesse over a pleasure-loving audience.

Their unique style is probably best described as “gypsy classique”. Flamenco, Gypsy, Celtic, Slavic, Asian and contemporary influences all contribute to the unique yet familiar sound, and invite the listener to close their eyes and escape from reality. In the last three years, Cobario has been expanding their audience – the dashing ensemble not only delighted listeners at festivals across Europe, but also enchanted thousands of listeners in Canada.

**Cobario's participation at REJA- The CLOUD FESTIVAL 2017 was supported by Austrian Embassy in Tirana*



**May
25**

Thursday , 11:00-17:00 pm

SONICITY TIRANA “MIRRORING CLOUD”

Is a sound installation by Arch. Andreas Faoro (Italy)

“A suggestive cloud of abstract frequencies, confused fragments of life, lived experiences, sights of urban landscapes. Noisy and electronic sounds, mechanical machine movements, concrete rumors, low frequencies fluxes, hissing sounds... alongside field recordings... a brave and uncompromising “decomposed” mosaic of one year work and geometrical co-ordinates of sonic art.”It is an sound installation of shared fragments of a collective consciousness.

An ever changing endless composition of 8 channels arising from Tirana frequencies will spread through the cloud, integrating with the fluctuations of the surroundings. Living sounds, from social to functional noises to gatherings and everyday sound traces, will melt and be part of the installation. Sonicity Tirana will mix with the many stories of the inhabitants/visitors in endless mutating sound city scapes. The audio environment will be designed to be open to interactions with other media as video/sculpture and to new



**May
25**

sound interventions. For the first time the cloud will be turned into a soundcityscapescondenser.

Andreas Faoro is an architect, urban planner and researcher. His artistic research is based on two keywords Coding and Memory: spaces are used to control audio parameter, and images are translated into sounds.

In 2004 he founded UNLAB (UrbaN Landscape Architecture Bureau) an international office based in Rotterdam (NL), with branches in Venice (IT) and Tirana (AL).

19:00-20:00 pm

LIVING THREADS BY Yael Caravan

Dance Performance (Length approx. 1hour.)

Music by Carl Beukman, Tomoko, Tim Harbridge and a local guest live percussionist.

"A dance theatre performance compilation, inspired by and adapted to the unique poetic structure of 'the cloud', I have threaded a few pieces together, like



**May
25**

fragments, striving for the unity of diversity. I imagine the cloud traveling across time and space where past and future become one continuous present”.

Created and performed especially for the REJA-the CLOUD FESTIVAL by Yael Karavan.

**Yael Caravan's participation at REJA- The CLOUD FESTIVAL 2017 was supported by Israeli Embassy in Tirana.*



**May
26**

Friday 11:00-18:00 pm

LENTICULARIS ALTOCUMULUS

Performance/dance/sculpture/landscape/experimental Circus by the French artist Laurent Channel (France). 4 times during the day.

A cloud is formed by a multitude of droplets of water or ice crystals suspended in the atmosphere. Its appearance is a function of the nature, size and distribution of the particles that make it up and the light that illuminates it.



**May
26**

In dialogue with REJA and its serial modules, we proceed to a cyclic habitation of the place. We explore the spatial, physical and gravitational qualities of this territory. Presences, sounds, sculptures and architectures invite a meteorological contemplation of REJA. There will be several interventions during the day.

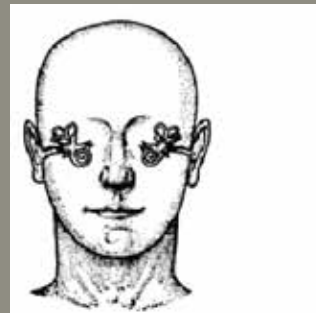
"Laurent Channel" participation at REJA- The CLOUD FESTIVAL 2017 was supported by French Embassy in Tirana.

19:30-21:00 pm

HILAL DANCE PERFORMANCE

*Live music and dance by Nensi Bego (Albania/Italy)
Simone Pulvano (Italy) - Percussions; PejmanTadayon
(Iran) - Oud, and Pellumb Meta (Albania) - Flute*

"Elements" is a performing arts show of live music and dance that experiments in crossing cultural and artistic borders. Two musicians and a dancer flow through Eastern and Western concepts of music, rhythms, movements and aesthetics, following a stream of spiritual consciousness which keeps the world and all its beings united under the same sky.



Bringing this performance to Reja is the evocative of travelling on a cloud, thus watering and nurturing new ideas of communication, love and cooperation, making these ideas grow and prosper, in order to feed the minds and hearts of the people around the world.

A Hilal body dance workshop by Nensi Bego will be offered to the public free on Saturday 27th, Time TBC.

**Hilal Dance participation at REJA- The CLOUD FESTIVAL 2017 was supported by Council District of Tirana.*



**May
27**

Saturday, 11:00 -14:00pm

TANGO PERFORMANCE

Workshop by Ricardo Astrada (Argentina) & Sara Shahu (Albania)

Ricardo Astrada, one of the most internationally proclaimed tango dancers, appearing in films like “Alma del Tango” and “Gloria del Tango”. Sara Shahu, is a young Albanian dancer,



**May
27**

HILAL DANCE

Public Workshop by Nensi Bega, exact time TBC

20:00-21:00 pm

UNIKAT

Performance/ Sound installation (48 min) by Astrit & Blerta Ismaili (Kosova).

During the Cloud festival you will get to encounter the pregnant boy from the bubblegum satellite that is the first figure of UNIKAT!

UNIKAT is the result of two years investigation on the relations between image and sound. During the process Astrit Ismaili was interested to extract the vulnerability and the emotionality that comes from the human voice that is produced by singing, breathing and whistling. As well as the construction of images that pervade bold presence, with the intention to create bubbles of imagination that transform an atmosphere into the space. He proposed three becoming figures which rise from the personal but produce new and independent trajectories for the audience. The construction of the three images is made if full transparency, one after the other in different spots of the performance space.





May

27

21:00-02:00

REJA-THE CLOUD

**1ST ANNIVERSARY
PARTY**

