



Press release

GAK Gesellschaft für Aktuelle Kunst, Bremen



Dudu Quintanilha
Prophetic Complaints
January 21–March 26, 2023

Opening: Friday, January 20, 2023, 7 pm
Press preview: Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 11 am

The GAK Gesellschaft für Aktuelle Kunst is pleased to present *Prophetic Complaints*, the first institutional solo exhibition in Germany by Dudu Quintanilha (b. 1987 in Bauru, São Paulo, lives in Frankfurt and Berlin).

In his mostly filmic works, Dudu Quintanilha explores the act of performing and the ways in which it relates to ideas about how to live together. Performance is not necessarily understood here as an artistic practice, but rather—in line with Erving Goffmann and Hannah Arendt—as the moment in which individuals become part of a public society.

In *Prophetic Complaints*, Quintanilha analyses speech acts of complaining and examines the constellations of human relationships that emerge through them. What is their effect on the body and the formation of groups? How do they shape feelings of belonging and longing?

A new video work is being created for the exhibition in cooperation with artists and performers from the Blaumeier-Atelier Bremen. The group used techniques of listening, observing, and performing in order to explore the prophetic and imaginative potential of complaints.

Based on individual life stories and personal experiences within social and institutional life, Quintanilha's project also deals with wider social contexts and debates. The questions raised about the public roles that people perform are

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especially relevant in light of the increased excitement and escalation in public speaking today as well as the division between “the” public and our smaller subjective context.

In Quintanilha’s projects, speech and behavior oscillate between what is officially desirable and undesirable, leaving space for potential and imaginative possibilities. His works are often created in close collaboration with established groups of people and address complex social relationships and vulnerabilities. What makes his stories so vivid is the way in which he refrains from portraying what is supposedly essential and instead finds other forms of aesthetic presence.

Dudu Quintanilha studied audiovisual arts at the IUNA in Buenos Aires and the Städelschule in Frankfurt. His work has been shown most recently at Galerie DREI (Cologne, 2021), Kunstraum Riehen (Basel, 2021), Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen (Düsseldorf, 2019), Museo de Arte Moderno de Buenos Aires, (Buenos Aires, 2019), and Kanal Centre Pompidou (Brussels, 2018).

Performers: Dorothe Burhop, Dustin Cwiertnia, Nazli Kiziltepe, Hella Müller, Leonard Ramm, Denise Stehmeier, Ada Helene Weber, Barbara Weste

Please contact us for high-resolution images.

Installation views will be available from 19/2/2023.

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GAK Gesellschaft für Aktuelle Kunst, Teerhof 21, 28199 Bremen

More information: www.gak-bremen.de

Opening hours: Tues–Sun 11 am–6 pm

Admission fee: €3 / reduced €2 / Members free

In cooperation with Blaumeier-Atelier Bremen, an inclusive art project since 1986.



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