

# BÁRBARA WAGNER & BENJAMIN DE BURCA: “RISE”

## GALLERY –1

31.OCT.2019–09.FEB.2020

Mexico City – October 28, 2019. Museo Jumex presents *RISE* (2018), a short film by Bárbara Wagner and Benjamin de Burca (Brasilia, 1980/Munich, 1975). Set against the background of Toronto’s new subway extension that connects the city center to the peripheries, *RISE* follows a series of poets and musicians—a group comprised mainly of young people, first and second-generation Canadians of African and Caribbean descent. Immersed in a context that is culturally and socially complex, their words of empathy, loneliness, love and hope fill the tunnels, weaving a narrative of subversion and resistance.

Through photography and film, Wagner and de Burca question the notion of “giving voice” to minorities and marginalized communities. They focus on the production of moving image as a form of intertwining tradition, fine art, and popular culture. Interrogating the boundaries between documentary and fiction, the artists collaborated on the script with poets, rappers, singers and musicians who wrote all the verses and music featured in the work. Their self-portrayal serves to reflect and comment on ideas of place and belonging, as well as freedom and the power of words.

The short film is based on the concept of edutainment—a mix of education and entertainment—as put forward by the group R.I.S.E. (Reaching Intelligent Souls Everywhere), who organize a weekly poetry slam at a community center in Scarborough, on the outskirts of Toronto. Founded by Canadian poet Randell Adjei, this youth-led initiative centers around the practice of spoken-word as a way to share stories and personal experiences. Wagner and de Burca engage in a dialogue with this new generation of artists, revealing how their creative work collectively interrogates the complex nature of identity.

As part of the opening activities of *RISE*, artists Bárbara Wagner and Benjamin de Burca will talk about their artistic practice in which they explore different aesthetic languages linked to popular visual culture. In addition, they will hold a talk with the poet Randell Adjei and the curator Emelie Chhangur, moderated by Catalina Lozano. The films *Terremoto Santo* (2017) and *Swinguerra* (2019) will also be screened, the latter presented at the Brazil Pavilion at the 58th Venice Biennale.

Location: Cine Tonalá

Tonalá 261, Roma Sur, 06760 Mexico City

Tuesday, October 29, 7:00 PM

Organized by Catalina Lozano, independent curator and María Emilia Fernández, Curatorial Assistant, Museo Jumex.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Bárbara Wagner (b. 1980, Brasília) and Benjamin de Burca (b. 1975, Munich) live and work in Recife, Brazil, having met in 2011 while Wagner was studying at the Dutch Art Institute in Arnhem. As a duo they have made six videos/video installations, and their work has been shown at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit; Wexner Centre for the Arts, Columbus, Ohio; Art Gallery of York University, Toronto; Solo Shows, São Paulo; and Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel, São Paulo.

At the end of 2018, Wagner & De Burca were invited to represent Brazil at the 58th Venice Biennale. At the Brazilian pavilion in the Giardini they presented the video work *Swinguerra*, which was shot in Recife in February 2019. On this same year, Wagner & De Burca won the Audi Short Film Award at the 69th Berlinale.

## MUSEO JUMEX

Museo Jumex is the Fundación Jumex Arte Contemporáneo's main platform. It opened its doors to the public in November 2013 as an institution devoted to contemporary art, whose aim was not only to serve a broad and diverse public, but also to become a laboratory for experimentation and innovation in the arts. Through its exhibitions and public programs, Museo Jumex aspires to become a relevant institution in the field of art by producing and co-producing original exhibitions and research, and familiarizing audiences with the concepts and contexts that inform current art practice. Through the use of critical and pedagogical tools, the museum's educational programs further the institution's commitment to build links between contemporary art and the public.

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## PLAN YOUR VISIT

### HOURS

Sundays free  
Tuesday–Sunday / 10 AM–7 PM

### ADMISSION

General admission / \$50 pesos  
Mexican citizens / \$30 pesos  
Sundays / Free

Free admission:  
Children under 15  
Students, teachers and senior  
citizens with valid ID

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