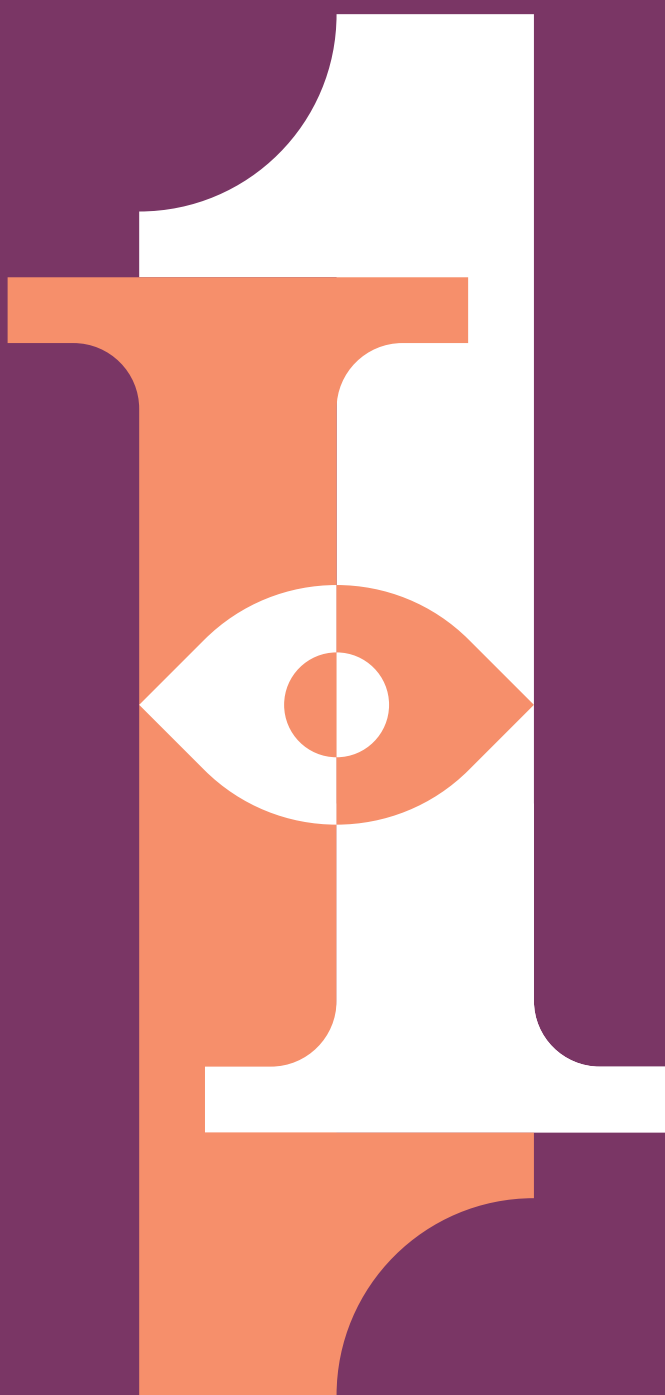


**Buffer Fringe
2026**

**Performing Arts
Festival**

**2—4
October**



A note from the Home:

Since 2014, the Buffer Fringe Performing Arts Festival, organized by the Home for Cooperation, has brought artists and audiences together across communities in Cyprus and beyond. As Cyprus' only Fringe Festival, it creates a space for experimentation, dialogue and encounters through the performing arts, installation work and much more.

From its beginnings as a small, locally rooted event in the buffer zone, Buffer Fringe has grown into an internationally recognized festival, using the arts to nurture dialogue, co-creation and positive conflict transformation. It highlights the power of arts and culture to challenge divisive narratives, open new perspectives and inspire positive social change.

Following its 10th edition in 2023 and a conscious pause to adopt a biennial format, Buffer Fringe returns in 2026 to the roots of what makes the Festival unique: a space for artists who dare to challenge physical and mental barriers, question preconceived ideas and imagine new possibilities.

Buffer Fringe 2026 brings together 13 artists and artist groups from Cyprus and abroad for three days of performances and installations across Nicosia, taking place on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th of October 2026.

Buffer Fringe has never been just a festival; it is a space held by many. Artists, audiences and cultural practitioners from across Cyprus and the world continue to shape it as a platform for expression, experimentation and dialogue. And we warmly invite you to join us.

Together, we are many.

Together, we are Fringe.

Day 1

Friday

2.10.26

CYENS Centre of Excellence

16:00 **Nicosia Walk: Art and Activism**
(starting from Home for Cooperation
and ending at CYENS)
Demetra Ignatiou and Melek Kaptanoğlu

18:00 **One Sunday Morning**
Yeva Sai and Matteo Marongiu

19:00 **In Our Bubble(s)**
Koullou Makka Collective

Day 2

Saturday

3.10.26

Home for Cooperation

ongoing **Pinned, Camera Obscura**
Melina Michael

ongoing **Threads of Heritage**
Yasemin Kemal

ongoing **Witness: Past and Present**
Lüsen Işık

18:00 **One Sunday Morning**
Yeva Sai and Matteo Marongiu

18:30 **Don't look at the dead cat!**
Beatrice Mariani, Skyla Buchanan,
Chiara Capizzi, Jitske Cosemans

19:00 **folkLOL: more**
Maria Savva

20:00 **deep inside.**
Antonis Christ

21:00 **Lingo Lingo Şişeler**
Selsu Solman

21:30 **On Anger and Fatigue**
Anas Younes

22:00 **DJ Alejjos**

Day 3

Sunday

4.10.26

Rüstem Bookshop

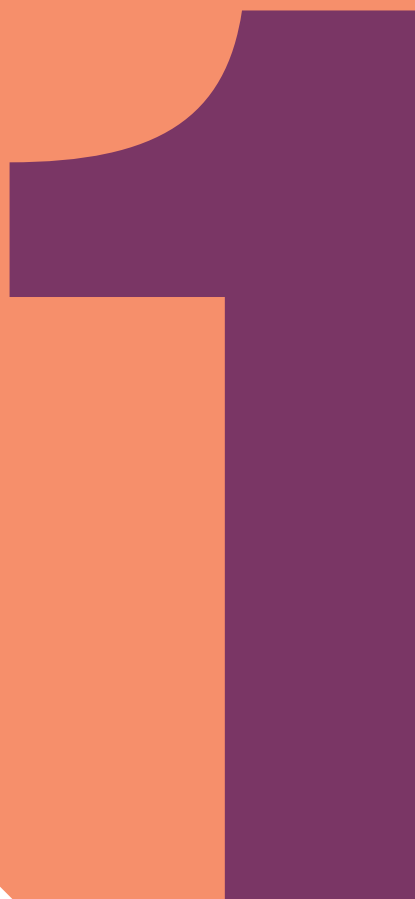
16:00 **φρούτα ονείρων · rüyadaki meyveler**
Sophie Fetokaki and Rahme Veziroglu

20:00 **Karakoncoles**
Karakoncoles

21:00 **MISSPELINGS!**
x.ypno & panayotis

22:00 **DJ Nevss**

Day



Friday 2.10.26



CYENS
Centre of Excellence



Nicosia Walk: Art and Activism

by Demetra Ignatiou and
Melek Kaptanoğlu



The Home for Cooperation's Nicosia walks, organized with the Association for Historical Dialogue and Research, are a meaningful shared experience for those who wish to explore Nicosia through a different lens, often discovering aspects of our city that may not always be visible. This walk, co-curated by Demetra and Melek, explores art, cultural production, identity, and the reclaiming of public space across the divide in Nicosia's urban landscape.



→ UKR/IT

One Sunday Morning

by Yeva Sai and
Matteo Marongiu

Two humanoid figures, dressed entirely in white, wander through a park like aliens trying to belong to a world they have accidentally landed in. The performers work with dizzying shifts in depth, from the extremely near to the very far, staging impossible appearances and disappearances. Narrative is merely an accident. The park becomes a theater, the passersby become both scenery and actors, and the characters are nothing other than characters.

Choreography and Performance:
Yeva Sai and Matteo Marongiu

Mask Artist:
Tommaso Radaelli

In Our Bubble(s)

→ CY

by Koullou Makka Collective

A small "island" is created through gradually unfolding a bubble wrap - a protective material used to wrap fragile objects. As a bubble breaks, the rupture is transformed into a small manifestation of hope. The work treats fragility not as failure but as a generative moment: each burst releases both air and potentiality, producing a soundscape reminiscent of waves touching the shore.

Performers and co-creators:
Eleftheria Sokratous
Aggela Stavrou
Panagiota Zintili
Giannis Ferros

Photo credit:
Loucas Stavrou



Day

→ UK

by Melina Michael

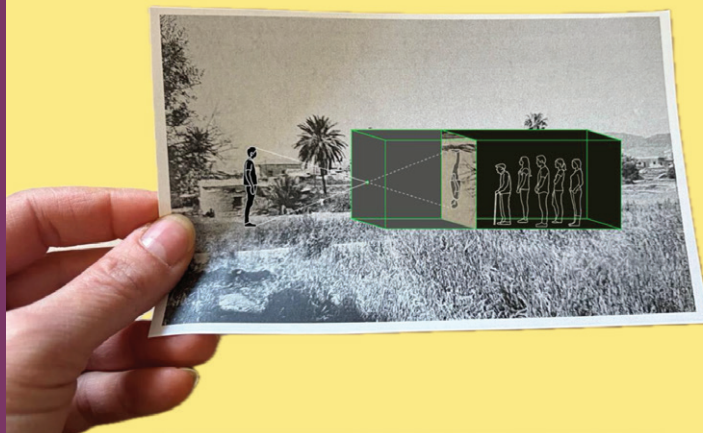
Pinned, Camera Obscura

A site-responsive installation. Through the Camera Obscura's transformative qualities of light as both material and metaphor, "Pinned" explores themes of visibility, belonging, and connection, focusing on shifting perspectives and shared experience. Rooted in a layered reading of its title; the pinhole camera, pinned in light to form an image and having attachment to place—the work creates space for new understandings.

Saturday 3.10.26



Home for Cooperation





Threads of Heritage

by Yasemin Kemal

The work explores personal memory, Cypriot heritage, and material tradition. By reinterpreting traditional Cypriot stitching techniques alongside contemporary textile and mixed-media practices, the work creates a dialogue between past and present, tradition and contemporary artistic practice. Sewing becomes both an act of remembrance and transformation, with thread moving across painted fabric like a drawn line, binding together memory, identity, and place. Stitching becomes a gesture of repair, with each sewn line acknowledging rupture while suggesting the potential to reconnect what has been separated.

Witness: Past and Present

by Lügen Işık

Exploring the themes of refugeehood, migration and displacement, this photography installation explores the intricate relationship between the still and fluid, past and present. Juxtaposing photography, story-telling and philosophical contemplation, the installation concerns humans' relationship with their surroundings and their altering perceptions.



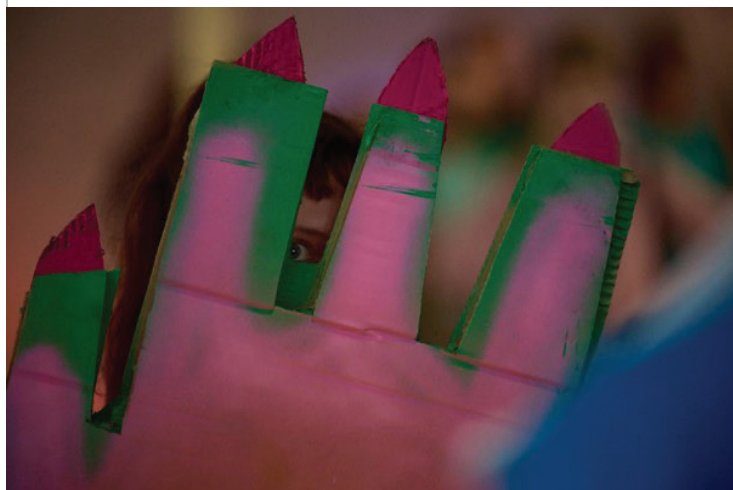
Don't look at the Dead Cat!

by Beatrice Mariani,
Skyla Buchanan,
Chiara Capizzi,
Jitske Cosemans



A piece investigating ignorance as a survival mechanism, a condition that is shaped by social, political, and emotional forces. Contained within the parameters of a meticulously constructed garden, the performers are sedated by comfort, nostalgia, and beauty. Beneath this cultivated surface, a constant tension is present as they move through states of numbness, forced joy, quiet detachment and overstimulation.

Within a world that feels too vast to hold or often leaves us feeling helpless, what is worth ignoring to preserve our own sense of peace?



folkLOL:more

→ CY

by Maria Savva

A site-specific performance which transforms the street into a folkloristic space where weirdness, awkwardness and absurdity are re-negotiated and used as tools of joy and empowerment. The work is inspired by Cypriot folklore and built on the creature of Kalikanjari that emerges from underground during the twelve liminal days of Christmas. Kalikanjari are portrayed differently depending on who you ask, but are usually seen as monstrous, threatening, chaotic and unsettling. The project attempts to reclaim these creatures through excessive behavior, humor, absurd sound and confrontation with the audience. folkLOL:more becomes a living framework where it's possible to question how cultural and social values are constructed, performed, negotiated and policed.

Credits:

Maria Savva (Co-creation, Performance)
Brunella Sabatino (Co-creation, Dramaturgy)

Co-Creation, Choreography, Performance:

Maria Savva

Co-creation, Dramaturgy:

Brunella Sabatino

Co-creation, Performance:

Pani Georgiou

Photo:

Julian Duprat Petrich

Performer on photo:

Djamila Polo



deep inside.

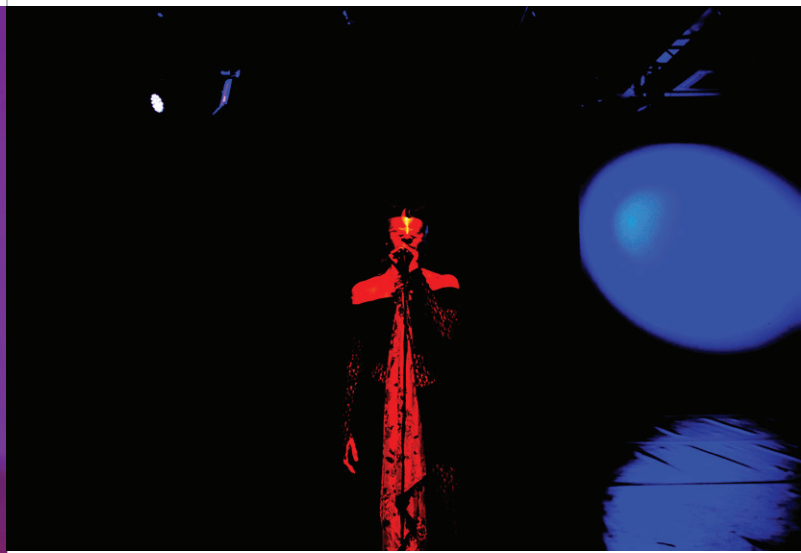
→ CY

by Antonis Christ

An up-to-date installation performance, a journey inside our juices. Fragmented, misplaced, altered.

Rather than proposing unity or resolution, the work remains within the tension of being together without fully understanding one another. Be okay with me re. I'm not breathing your air. It's not even yours. We can both breathe.

Perhaps now is the right time to dig into your insides and your fractures; after you've met mine. A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity anyway. Probably.



→ CY

Lingo Lingo Şişeler

by Selsu Solman

Using the Cypriot wedding as a symbolic space, this performance researches where belonging lives when familiar social rituals are stripped of sight. Through the lens of chosen blindness and physical navigation, the work questions how an authentic voice emerges from a state of sensory limitation. Ultimately, it asks whether moving beyond separation allows us to truly see, meet, and enter into a whole, shared presence.

Creator, performer:
Selsu Solman

Photo credit:
Inês Corrêa

On Anger and Fatigue

→ SYR/NL

by Anas Younes

A lecture-performance that critically examines the politics of truth-telling, migration, and cultural production in contemporary Europe. Combining theatre, storytelling, video essay, and original music, the work challenges the dominant narratives through which migrant artists are expected to represent themselves and their communities. Rather than offering answers, the performance creates a space for collective discomfort, critical dialogue, and the possibility of imagining more honest relationships between art, politics, and public life.



Lecturer:
Anas Younes

Performer:
Mohsen Alzaher

Dramaturge:
Danah Kredieh

Video Artist:
Sleiman Tinawi

Day

Sunday 4.10.26



Rüstem Bookshop



φρούτα ονείρων rüyadaki meyveler

by Sophie Fetokaki and
Rahme Veziroglu

An ecofeminist artistic research project focused on the cultivation and ritual preparation of louvi/börülce. Through place-based practice and fieldwork, the project engages the contested landscapes of Cyprus as sites where ecological processes intersect with land stewardship and memories of conflict. The public is invited to join the artists in collectively enacting the ritual of louvi/börülce preparation and consumption using produce sourced from the growers. Through collective acts of listening, preparing, reading, and sharing food, the installation becomes a space for dialogue rooted in the ecological and social histories of Cyprus. Turning to agricultural and domestic practices whose ancient origins long predate contemporary contestations, we open space for imagining alternative subjectivities and forms of identification. In an ecofeminist mode, we explore the regenerative relationship between louvi/börülce and vital soil bacteria, asking what microbial solidarities might teach us about Cypriot feminist praxis.



Karakoncoles

by Karakoncoles

A group of three Cypriot goblins rooting from the local folklore of 'Kalikantzaroï' (gr) or 'Karancolos' (tr) come out of the shadows to interact with the overground world. When and why do we, the goblins, decide to come overground? Exploring folk in a tangible and interactive way enables us to see each other, while operating within a system that sometimes feels estranged to us. Using drag to disguise, clowning to fool and masks to relate with, the project aims to create an uncanny atmosphere that fuses the 'underground' world with the public. The performance invites audience and spectators to turn spect-actors to collectively reimagine our folklore, but most importantly to collectively enable the possibility of reimagining us.

Performance & Direction:

Eirini Kakopierou, Melina Sofokleous, Melina Koutsofta

Technical Support:

Lex Gregoriou

by x.pno &
panayiotis mina

What does it mean to switch, to adapt, and to be interrupted? x.pno and panayotis present a live sound poetry act that dives into the heart of the Cypriot identity. Wrapped in an immersive ambient soundscape, x.pno's voice navigates the 'in-between' space that is encompassed by the Greek and Turkish-Cypriot spoken languages. This linguistic journey is constantly reshaped by panayotis' live electronics and interrupted by a chorus of translations in Mainland Greek and Turkish. Challenging the rigid boundaries of language, this performance acts as a sonic reflection of code-switching and of the borders we cross every day; both spoken and unspoken.

Poetry Performance, Vocals:
Tasos Lamnisos

Live Electronics, Second Voice:
Panagiotis Mina

Organiser
Home for Cooperation

Production
Louvana Records

Technical Support
Ahmet Zilci

2026 Visual Identity
Philippos Vassiliades

Social Media Content Development
Ozan Tezvaran

Communication and Outreach support
Selin Begüm Karayaka
Isabel Irwin
Alexandra Hadjioannou

Videography
Antonis Pouliasis

Photography
Michalis Demetriades



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