

→PERFORMA•19  
NOVEMBER 1→24, 2019  
NEW YORK CITY



SHU LEA CHEANG AND MATTHEW FULLER

• *SLEEP1237*

NOV 2 – NOV 3  
5:51PM → 6:28AM  
47 WOOSTER ST

## → INTRODUCTION

*SLEEP1237* draws inspiration from Matthew Fuller's recent book, *How to Sleep: the art, biology and culture of unconsciousness*. *SLEEP1237* brings together reading, streaming, tea, food and beer for a night's enquiry to the question, "How can we have an aesthetics of sleep—of sensing, experiencing, doing and perceiving—without consciousness?" Art, attending to which usually implies being alert, but which also has a long history of working with the everyday, the mundane, the bodily, and the imperceptible or intuitive is one resource here. Equally, how might we rework things that are often outside of art, such as medical processes, or brewing, so that new conditions for sleep arise?

*SLEEP1237* works with some of the following approaches:

**Duration.** Projects that work over a period of time involve variation in waking state and provide a terrain for moving across from wakefulness to sleep, with soundscapes and language to accompany and texture it.

**Transposition.** Refining everyday activities such as the making and taking of food and drink, various approaches to exercise and movement by transposing such activities into an art context.

**Instituting.** We seek an imagination of what the institution might look like were it to recompose itself in relationship to other kinds of bodily state.

**Recording.** What archives of sleep can we find in film, books, sound and art? What records are made by and of sleepers.

**Rethinking.** We open the question of the organism up to experiment and enquiry. Sleep can be understood as placing us in a position of vulnerability: which can be something shared with nonhuman participants in the world, a valuable condition from which to think and to act.

### **Radio live streams on Wave Farm**

*SLEEP1237* will be live broadcasted on Wave Farm's net radio and WGXC 90.7-FM in New York's Upper Hudson Valley. Listen LIVE: <https://wavefarm.org/listen>

*SLEEP1237* is the third edition of the *SLEEP* project by Shu Lea Cheang and Matthew Fuller, following *SLEEP48* (STWST, Linz, 2018) and *SLEEP79* (C-Lab, Taiwan, 2018)

## → READERS

5:51pm–6:56pm (followed by 3 minute intermission)

Martha Rosler reads *The Battle for WBAI-FM Pacifica Radio*

6:59pm–8:04pm (followed by 3 minute intermission)

Lawrence Chua reads “Colonization of the night” from Wirayuth Pisali’s กรุงเทพมหานคร (Midnight Bangkok, 2014)

8:07pm–9:12pm (followed by 3 minute intermission)

exonemo reads texts from Natsuki Ikezawa’s *Nihongo* (2016) selected by Yukiko Shikata.

9:15pm–10:20pm (followed by 3 minute intermission)

Surya Mattu reads FACEBOOK Inc. Patent No. US9485423B2

10:23pm–11:28pm (followed by 3 minute intermission)

Phumzile Sitole reads Pantone color codes

11:31pm–00:36am (followed by 3 minute intermission)

McKenzie Wark reads instructions for hormone replacement therapy medicine.

00:39am–1:44am (followed by 3 minute intermission)

Jason Lucas reads *The Joy of Life* (1978) by Elliot Goldwag

1:47am–\*1:52am (\*DST time change) (followed by 3 minute intermission)

Morehshin Allahyari reads *The Blind Owl* (1936) by Sadegh Hedayat

1:55am–3:00am (followed by 3 minute intermission)

Larissa Pham reads *The First 10,000 Primes*

3:03am–4:08am (followed by 3 minute intermission)

Shu Lea Cheang reads *draw face* (code by Jason Lee for 3×3×6)

4:11am–5:16am (followed by 3 minute intermission)

Prince Harvey reads Frank Chops

5:19am–6:24 am (followed by 3 minute intermission)

Dennis Yi Tenen reads *Typewriting Behavior* (1936) by August Dvorak.

6:28am

Walk out, walk to riverfront, breakfast (New York take out style) at Pier 34 at Hudson River Park.

## → FOOD, BEER AND TEA

*Food is medicine, and recent studies show that a diverse, high fiber diet full of phytochemicals, antioxidants, vitamins, minerals, tryptophan, melatonin and fatty acids helps the body fall asleep faster and stay asleep longer.*

### **Goodnight Rice Pilaf**

**Candace Thompson**

**The Collaborative Urban Resilience Banquet**

**@the\_c\_u\_r\_b**

#### **Ingredients:**

- Lemon Balm and Evening Primrose vinaigrette (phytochemicals known to regulate hormones and induce sleep)
- Toasted Walnuts (Tryptophan, Fatty Acids)
- Pomegranates (Fiber, Vitamin C, Melatonin)
- Roasted Sweet Potatoes (Vitamin A, B6, C, Magnesium and Zinc)
- Raw Spinach Ribbons (Magnesium, Calcium, Potassium)
- Tossed in Indigenous Wild Rice, hand harvested by the Anishinaabeg nation, who are actively fighting climate change through direct action against the fossil fuel industry. The purchase of this rice supports their work on the front lines: [www.honortheearth.com](http://www.honortheearth.com)

### **TEATOPIA teas for sleep**

**brewed by Amanda McDonald Crowley**

- Kalustyan's Pitta // Calming and cooling herbal tea. It reduces heat and inflammation, calms the nervous system, reduces hyperacidity. Contains: chrysanthemum, saffron, marigold, green cardamom, hibiscus, peppermint, lemon, sarsaparilla, raspberry leaf, tulsi.
- Camomile Flower and passionflower herbal tea // Both flowers relieve insomnia and ease anxiety.
- Forget-Me-Not flower and Valerian root // Forget-Me-Not soothes nerves and promotes restful sleep and valerian also improves sleep quality.

### **Schlafgutbier 3.0**

A custom sleep IPA brewed by Amanda McDonald Crowley and Han-Fang Wang at Bitter & Esters, New York. It uses Disaster IPA ingredients with added Radicle Herb Shop's Sleep Blend: hops flower, linden leaf and flower, skullcap herb, passionflower herb.

## → CREDITS

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Producers: Charlene K. Lau, Han-Fang Wang, Xica Aires

Technical Producer: Osaro Ogedengbe

Sound Technician: Asa Wember

Construction: Joe Diamond, Matthew Uhlmann, Nazar Bezanyuk

Intermission Music: Kaffe Matthews

Beer Label Design: Diana Duque

Special thanks to Galen Joseph-Hunter at Wave Farm, Debbie Huang, Douglas Amport and John LaPolla at Bitter & Esters.

*SLEEP1237* is co-curated by Taiwan Contemporary Culture Lab (C-Lab) and Charlene K. Lau, Andrew W. Mellon Post-Doctoral Curatorial Fellow. Co-commissioned with C-Lab, with generous support of the Taiwanese Ministry of Culture and Taipei Cultural Center in New York.

*SLEEP1237* is part of the Taiwanese Pavilion for the Performa 19 Biennial.



臺灣當代文化實驗場

Taiwan Contemporary Culture Lab



文化部

MINISTRY OF CULTURE

Taipei Cultural Center in New York



## → ABOUT SHU LEA CHEANG

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New media artist and filmmaker Shu Lea Cheang's practice working with digital technologies and a futuristic focus in tandem with queer and sexual politics has spanned the past three decades. Her web project *BRANDON* (1998–1999)—the Guggenheim's first Net-Art commission—pays tribute to Brandon Teena, a young transgendered man who was raped and murdered, while the film *I.K.U.* (2000) imagines a Blade Runner-esque world of cybernetic sexualities and information gathering. Cheang is representing Taiwan in the 58th Venice Biennale in 2019 with the mixed media installation *3×3×6*. Curated by Paul B. Preciado, the exhibition is installed at Palazzo delle Prigioni, a former 16th-century prison and centered on ten historical and contemporary case studies of individuals who have been outcast or incarcerated due to reasons of gender variance, sexual preference, or racial differences.

## → ABOUT MATTHEW FULLER

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Matthew Fuller is author of books including *Media Ecologies*, *Materialist Energies in Art and Technoculture*, *How to be a Geek: Essays on the Culture of Software*, *How to Sleep: the art, biology and culture of unconsciousness*, and *Elephant & Castle* amongst others. With Andrew Goffey, he is author of *Evil Media*, and with Olga Goriunova, of *Bleak Joys: Aesthetics of Ecology and Impossibility*. As an artist he has worked in collaboration with groups such as Mongrel and as part of I/O/D and also makes projects individually. Fuller is Professor of Cultural Studies at Goldsmiths, University of London.

## →ABOUT PERFORMA 19

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The eighth edition of the Performa Biennial once again celebrates the extraordinary vitality, inventiveness and significance of New York as a leading global performance capital of the world in three weeks of exciting programming, from November 1–24, 2019, at locations throughout New York City. In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Bauhaus, the influence of the school and the radical concept of its curriculum, which holds performance at its core, appears in several Commissions. The Bauhaus is also the focus of the Performa Institute programming, daily events, and talks at the Performa 19 Hubs – two temporary spaces in Manhattan’s Soho neighborhood that become the epicenter of the three-week program.

## →ABOUT PAVILION WITHOUT WALLS

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The Pavilion Without Walls is a series of new performances co-commissioned by Performa and international cultural partners to bring vibrant contemporary artists to the biennial. The performances commissioned through this initiative often travel from the biennial overseas, fostering cultural exchange and connecting international artists with both the New York City arts community and global audiences. The Pavilions are motivated by Performa’s strong belief that the arts foster tolerance and a deeper understanding among world cultures. Past Pavilions include: Norwegian Pavilion, Australian Pavilion, Polish Pavilion, Estonian Pavilion, and the South African Pavilion. The Taiwanese Pavilion is made possible by the Taiwanese Ministry of Culture and the Taipei Cultural Center in New York, and curated in collaboration with Taipei Fine Arts Museum and Taiwan Contemporary Culture Lab (C-Lab).

Visit the Performa 19 Hubs

Talks & Workshops:

47 Wooster St, New York

Open daily from noon – 8pm

Programming & Special Events:

Deitch Projects

18 Wooster St, New York

See schedule for program

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