



SLEEP 7

A Shu Lea Cheang and Matthew Fuller project

In collaboration with METOOD (MFK Metood För Konstnärlig frihet)

November 2–8, 2020, 2pm

Readings for Sleeping: November 2–6, with Tawanda Appiah, Parvin Ardalan, Ansar Bakir, Ida Börjel and Jeuno Kim
Stora Festsalen, Malmöhus Castle

Night of Sleep : from 4:16pm, November 7 to 7:29am, November 8, durational solo performance entitled 7x7 for 9 by Sainkho Namtchylak.

Installation and live events held at Stora festsalen, Malmöhus Castle .

Radio streams of daily reading and night of sleep at Paris- based independent artist radio [p-node](#).

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Art for sleepers, art by sleepers and art as sleep.

Sleep is a refuge. The English romantic poet William Wordsworth called sleep the "blessed barrier between day and day." We want to inhabit this barrier as something

arising out of nature but that is also deeply built-up out of other aspects of life. It is these that form the grounds for the experimental work of the sleep series.

Sleep is a refuge from the work of having a subjectivity, of having to endure, being alert, to respond. But it is also an unexplored aesthetic domain. We are still sensually and metabolically "on" when asleep, just working in other registers. An aim of these projects is to subtly dialogue with these capacities. The sleep series works with an expanding domain of aesthetics through the capacities of the unconscious body. It revises the philosophical cut between the mental subject on the one hand and the somatic object on the other.

Sleep is also a refuge since it is increasingly being discussed as a human right in its own terms, not simply as a sub-set of the right to private and family life. Sleep deprivation is a technique of torture but it is also a crucial function of our permanently alert economies. Finding the differential arrangement of sleep in a society is one way of understanding and reimagining it.

This project is the fourth in a series of works, *Sleep 48* (Linz, 2018), *Sleep 79* (Taipei, 2018), *Sleep 1237* (New York City, 2019) that build on the idea of an aesthetics of sleep developed in Matthew Fuller's book, *How to Sleep, the art, biology and culture of unconsciousness* (Bloomsbury, 2018). These projects transpose art into sleep, and everyday and scientific sleep actions into active aesthetics.

Programme

An installation composed of 20 beds with 1.5m distancing are open for people to sleep in during museum opening hours.

November 2-6 at 2-4pm

Readings for Sleeping: a series of siesta matinées exploring the relationship between text and sleep.

November 2: Tawanda Appiah reads *Black Sunlight* by Dambudzo Marechera

November 3: Parvin Ardalan reads *No Friend But the Mountains* by Behrouz Boochani

November 4: Ansar Bakir reads *Conclusion to the Chilcot Enquiry* conducted by Sir John Chilcot

November 5: Ida Börjel reads *Årsredovisningen* (The annual report)

November 6: Jeuno Kim reads *The Book of Deuteronomy* addressed to Moses

November 7-8 at 4:16pm-7:29am

Night of Sleep: An overnight performance lasting from Sunset to Sunrise. For the duration of 15 hours and 13 minutes Sainkho Namtchylak performs *7x7 for 9*, inspired by Bordo Tödol (*The Tibetan Book of the Dead*).

During the week, "Pandemic Dreams" tea concocted by artist Cecilia Germain is served. For Night of Sleep, Schlafgutbier 4 brewed by local craft brewer, Rocket Brewing will be served, along with sleep-inducing food composed by Cecilia Germain.

Shu Lea Cheang is an artist and filmmaker whose work aims to re-envision genders, genres, and operating structures while engaging in social interface and open network constructs. In 2019 she represented Taiwan with *3x3x6*, a mixed media installation at the Venice Biennale 2019. Cheang is currently at work on *UKI*, a viral alt-reality scifi cinema.
<http://mauvaiscontact.info>

Matthew Fuller is Professor of Cultural Studies at Goldsmiths, University of London and an author

working in media theory, software studies, cultural theory, and contemporary fiction. Fuller's book *How to Sleep: The Art, Biology and Culture of Unconsciousness*, (Bloomsbury 2018) provides an initial starting point for the series of Sleep projects.

The activist network METOOD (MFK, Metood För Konstnärlig frihet) works from within institutions, towards a situated politics of the body. Voicing a "we" that comes across with carnivalesque thrust, METOOD previously produced *The Violence and Social Care Inspectorate* at Malmö Konsthall (2019)