

REACT
PUBLIC PERFORMANCES

LIBRARY
PRESENTATION
STORIES



A LIBRARY PERFORMANCE

Do we need to sit in a chair to read a book?

Can we take part in an animated discussion and keep it silent?

What happens if we turn theoretical knowledge from books into practice on the spot?

Library Stories is a concept developed in order to question and highlight what the shared space in a public library is and could be.

In this performance we experiment with what a library means to us, to the public, the users, the visitors and staff of the library. We investigate the library and its function as an enclosed public space where we all follow certain rules, spoken or unspoken, and take part in the specific rituals of the library.

In Library Stories, React will add an element of surprise into the predictable library environment. We use what is already there to create new and unexpected situations. We will follow some rules and bend some others. We will make the common become uncommon by allowing fantasy and drama to exist outside of the paper pages. We do not make more noise than a common library visitor, but we will cause a reaction...



“Library Stories” is a library performance by React Public Performances, where we play with the idea of performing without calling for attention.

The whole performance takes place inside the library space, without disturbing or disrupting its usage for the public. It consists of a group of small, “invisible” artistic actions that travel through the whole space and that can be enjoyed for a short moment or followed with curiosity for a longer period.

Premiered in Västerås City Library in 2011 (Sweden)



www.reactperformances.com/library-stories/

WWW.REACTPERFORMANCES.COM

GENRE

Public space performance

DURATION

Approximately 60 min.

NUMBER OF ARTISTS

5

AUDIENCE SIZE

Depending on the space restrictions. Users of the library can stay for the whole performance or come and go.

SPACE

This performance happens in a Library, it is very adaptable to the specific space at hand.

SOUND

We use no recorded sound nor voice. The performance happens in silence

LIGHT

No special light is needed.

PREPARATION AND RIGGING TIME

No rigging is needed. Due to the nature of the piece some elements have to be tried in the actual Library where the performance will take place in order to adapt to it.

1 full day is the suggested time for this, however it is possible to make it in 4 hours also.

NUMBER OF PERFORMANCES

Maximum 2 in one day, with a minimum of 45 minutes in between.



REACT

PUBLIC PERFORMANCES

React is a performance company, based in Sweden, that aims to reach people directly by performing in public spaces, therefore opening art to new audiences. Dance, movement, theatre and circus can be seen as the main artistic tools used to create playful, creative and interactive performances.

The main mission of React Public Performances is to raise questions about the rules shaping behavior in public spaces. The aim is to create situations that give an opportunity for people to question both the limits of these public spaces and how they follow the spoken and unspoken rules. We want our work to be an entry point into performing arts for new audiences as well as an original experience for expert ones.

React is also an intercultural company with members originally from Sweden, Finland, France and Portugal.

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