

Yoga & Nawa Shibari

When: Wednesday, November 7th and 21st 2012
From 19 to 23 h

Where: ‚Teatris Hallenprojekt‘ at Uferhallen // Uferstraße 8-11 // 13357 Berlin
U8 Pankstraße / U6 Nauener Platz / M27 Pankstraße

Directions: Coming from Badstraße, the Uferhallen compound is located on the right side of Uferstraße. Turn right behind the big gate and follow the directions shown on the map below. If you can't find the studio, please call: +49 172 397 51 87

Cost: 20/15 €

More information/ questions at: workshops@dasniasommer.de, www.dasniasommer.de

Please bring training clothes, if possible a costume, a snack and personal ropes. If you don't have ropes, we will provide them.



The workshop combines principles of Yoga with the tying technique Nawa Shibari. This Japanese term is usually translated as winding, knotting or binding a rope. It refers to the classical Japanese practice to tie up a person and was originally developed by Samurais in the 16th century. Today it is a technique to play physically, to perform or to experiment with the body and restriction. The styles in Shibari are noticeably versatile, yet one can say that there are basic figures to use ropes effectively.

A crucial aspect of this is the combination of functionality with aesthetic rules. There are particular shapes and angles to tie rope, which create a certain look and a sense of solid limitation at the same time. This is comparable to a moment of embracement, which supports the body and enables the tied person to relax into the ropes. In this sense the material can be understood as an extension of arms. A firm hug.

Then there is the Kinbaku side in Shibari which is more concerned with the biochemical or psychological effects. In Japanese tradition they speak of capturing a persons heart, to connect to the partners spirit or to touch them soulfully. This experience of fragile intensity can happen in both directions. The tying person and the person being tied can direct the scene from their individual angle. The notion of power shifts within the constellations and is often not as straightforward as it appears from the outside.

To guide the mind in an enjoyable way and to bring it back on the ground is a matter of sensitive touch with ropes and care. To shape the figure from inside is an equally minimal and a seductive task. Beside the serious and almost orthodox way of Shibari technique there is an utterly playful and animal like experience in 'play'.

By starting the 4 hours with a 90 minutes Yoga session, the perception of the body gets refined before we engage into partner work. The Asanas (Yoga postures) focus on the efficient use of muscles or on alignment of the torso, head and limbs. Rotation of the spine or balance exercises can be tried in variously challenging postures.

