

HUMAN	SIGNS
BY	YUVAL
	AVITAL



## Human Signs LIVE GRID N.2 – Донцо, St. Petersburg

Premiere: Monday 23rd of November 7.00PM (CET), 9.00PM (MSK)

On Human Signs Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/humansignsproject>

***Human Signs, Yuval Avital's global participatory art project, premieres the second performance of its series of global live events titled 'LIVE GRID' in the occasion and as a part of Manifesta 13' Art Biennial, within Real Utopias exhibition curated by Bianca Cerrina Feroni and Melania Rossi. In LIVE GRID N.2 – Донцо, St. Petersburg, the artists come together in a grid made of and surrounded by ruins and nature, united in meaningful co-creation of the artwork as an art ritual.***

*Human Signs* presents the second live and real life performance titled **LIVE GRID N.2 – Донцо, St. Petersburg**, part of the series of live manifestations of Avital's participatory artwork involving its network around the world, that until now includes 180 performers from 47 countries.

For the past six months, *Human Signs* presented weekly online live streaming of art-testimonies created by vocalists and dancers worldwide and filmed by the artists themselves in their homes mostly during seclusion, connecting them in dialogues, and with the *Human Signs Mantra* - the first brick in this project, carrying Avital's voice.

Carrying the Human Signs streaming aesthetics into the real world, the **LIVE GRID** becomes a **physical stage** in which the artists are invited to perform live; bringing the best of its experience into public spaces, creating a sense of unity and connection, transcending the recent fear of closeness.

The second LIVE GRID took place in Донцо, a small village close to St. Petersburg, on November 15<sup>th</sup>, involving a unique group of independent dance artists and choreographers: **Liliya Burdinskaya, Victoria Maksakova, Elena Churilova, Krestina Yolkina, Irina Poskorkova, and Alena Tarasova, girls. Moving girls. With**

*no titles, with no expectations, with no past and with no future.* And with the participation of **Andrey Spiridonov** – restoration artist, and the collaboration of **Alexey Kazakov, Ivan Tumanov, Pavel Krot** and **Georgy Tabanin**. The performance was filmed by **Vladimir Koksharov** and **Sergey Filimonov**. All the artists involved are part of a community, a close group of people whose paths have lead them to this moment of encounter and being together in the live expression of human signs as an art ritual.

The performance was coordinated by the artist Liliya Burdinskaya, taking place as part of the artist's wedding celebrations. The group of artists - boyfriend, girlfriends, best man, the bride, humans, audience - found themselves immersed in this unique and truthful experience where the LIVE GRID became a moment of celebration and deep connection.

*“Isolation is my second skin. I have always felt isolated. And during the lockdown it all made sense. When the whole world became isolated from within I started breathing slowly without realizing it. It was almost like I received the permission to go to the forest and stop worrying about having or not having work as an artist. I was free from responsibilities and my own expectations. Suddenly there was space. Sleep found me. Food found me. Love found me. Time found me. Friendship found me. Sisterhood came into my life. I gained 9 kilos and became happy. I have invited a stranger in my house. And in the beginning of the second wave we got married. And as the nature was getting clearer I was getting sober from the toxic environment that held me tight. I started to wash hands regularly and wear mask in the train. Covered face and constant feeling of water on my hands made me feel religious and fragile. At the same time clean and hidden. I enjoy being hidden and feeling soil on my hands. I have always wanted to be in the nature and perform from the moment to the very small amount of audience because I wanted to be true and let them very close to me. But I did not know how. Human Signs showed how. And gave me a push into my new life where being hidden and isolated from the masses is already my choice”.* (Liliya Burdinskaya)

The **HUMAN SIGNS LIVE GRID** performances will continue during the following weeks in Tel Aviv on November 20th, and in Bandung (Indonesia) on November 28th, involving amazing artists from the Human Signs community.

Bringing together the art rituals as collective testimonies happening all around the globe, the **HUMAN SIGNS LIVE GRID** series will be premiered in Human Signs Facebook page, as well as shared at Manifesta 13 Biennial website (<https://manifesta13.org/projects/real-utopias-human-signs/>) and as part of Human Signs' *Living Digital Archive* ([www.human-signs.com](http://www.human-signs.com)) *the project's website-as-a-museum*, realized in collaboration with **Yalp, Leftloft**, and the **Anthropology Department of Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca**.

Born from a dystopian reality – the COVID-19 pandemic -, **Human Signs** is participatory art project by **Yuval Avital** in collaboration with an international interdisciplinary équipe, that involves some the most celebrated figures of ancient traditions, contemporary and experimental scenes; religious performers from every faith, key figures of classical and baroque music; dancers and soloists of leading contemporary dance and ballet companies; choreographers, and visionary performance artists, from every part of the globe.

## **Credits**

### **ARTIST**

#### **Gesture**

Liliya Burdinskaya, Victoria Maksakova, Elena Churilova, Krestina Yolkina, Irina Poskorkova, Alena Tarasova, and Andrey Spiridonov

#### **St. Petersburg Coördianor**

Liliya Burdinskaya

#### **Production**

Alexey Kazakov  
Ivan Tumanov  
Pavel Krot  
Georgy Tabanin

#### **Filmed**

Vladimir Koksharov  
Sergey Filimonov

#### **Edited by**

Vladimir Koksharov

## **TEAM**

**Author** Yuval Avital

**Dance Curator** Stefania Ballone

**Live Broadcast Editor** Franco Covi

**Coordination Assistant** Valentina Viviani

**Communication** Yalp

**Art Direction** LeftLoft

**Art Direction Assistant** Sebastian Rodriguez Mendieta

**Social Media Manager** Ceren Yamac

**Research** Silvia Cognizzoli and Andrea Carraro

## Information

### **LIVE GRID N.2 – Донцо, St. Petersburg**

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### **Also available at:**

*Human Signs* website <https://www.human-signs.com/artwork/live-grid-n-2-st-petersburg/>

Manifesta 13' Art Biennial website <https://manifesta13.org/projects/real-utopias-human-signs/>

## Contact

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**Manifesta 13' Marseille** [m13press@manifesta.org](mailto:m13press@manifesta.org)

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