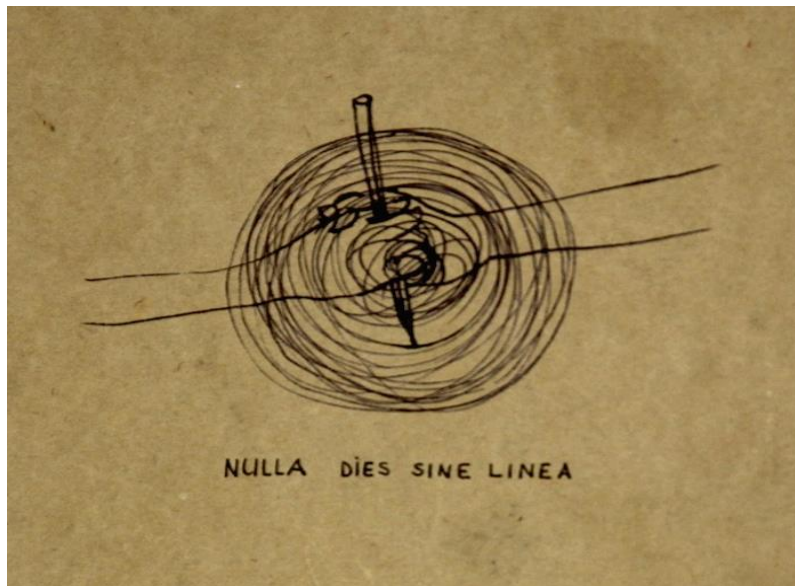

THE TWO GULLIVERS

GENESIS

Special event

28 avril – 29 avril 2015.

Preparatory drawings, video-performances



*The Two Gullivers, Nul jour sans une ligne, 2009-2015
(Cover page of notebooks of preparatory drawings for performances)*

Since 2009, Besnik Haxhillari and Flutura Preka (The Two Gullivers) in parallel to their performative artistic practice are conducting doctoral research on performance art at l'Université du Québec à Montréal (UQÀM). In a dynamic collaboration that they call *Twin Thesis*, they explore the performance from two different and complementary points of view: the before and the after of the action. Besnik's research on the genesis of the performance through the preparatory drawing is constantly being confronted with the research of Flutura Preka on the challenges of the archive and the re-enactment of the performance after its realisation (completion).

For this special event, the duo *The Two Gullivers* present a series of preparatory drawings, set up in dialogue with the videos of their performances. During the two days of the event, the artists are available to discuss their research.

Biography

Flutura Preka & Besnik Haxhillari, (*The Two Gullivers*) live and work in Montreal. Born in Albania, they studied visual arts in Tirana, Lausanne, Berlin and in Montreal, at UQAM. They notably exhibited their work at the Biennale of Venice (1999), at the Hamburger Bahnhof (Berlin, 2000), at the Biennale of Pékin (2005), at VIVA Art Action (Montréal, 2006 and 2009), at the Leonard & Bina Ellen Gallery (Montréal, 2013), at Joyce Yahouda Gallery (Montréal, 2004, 2007, 2013) and for the 32^e Symposium de la Baie-Saint-Paul (2014). Their work is included in the anthologies *Installation art in the new millenium* (2003) and *East Art Map* (2006). In 2009 - 2010, *The Two Gullivers* participated to the preparation of the exhibition *The Artist is Present* by Marina Abramovic at MoMA (New York, 2009). Besnik Haxhillari is professor in the department of philosophy and the arts at UQTR and Flutura Preka is artist-researcher member of the research group URUV at UQTR.