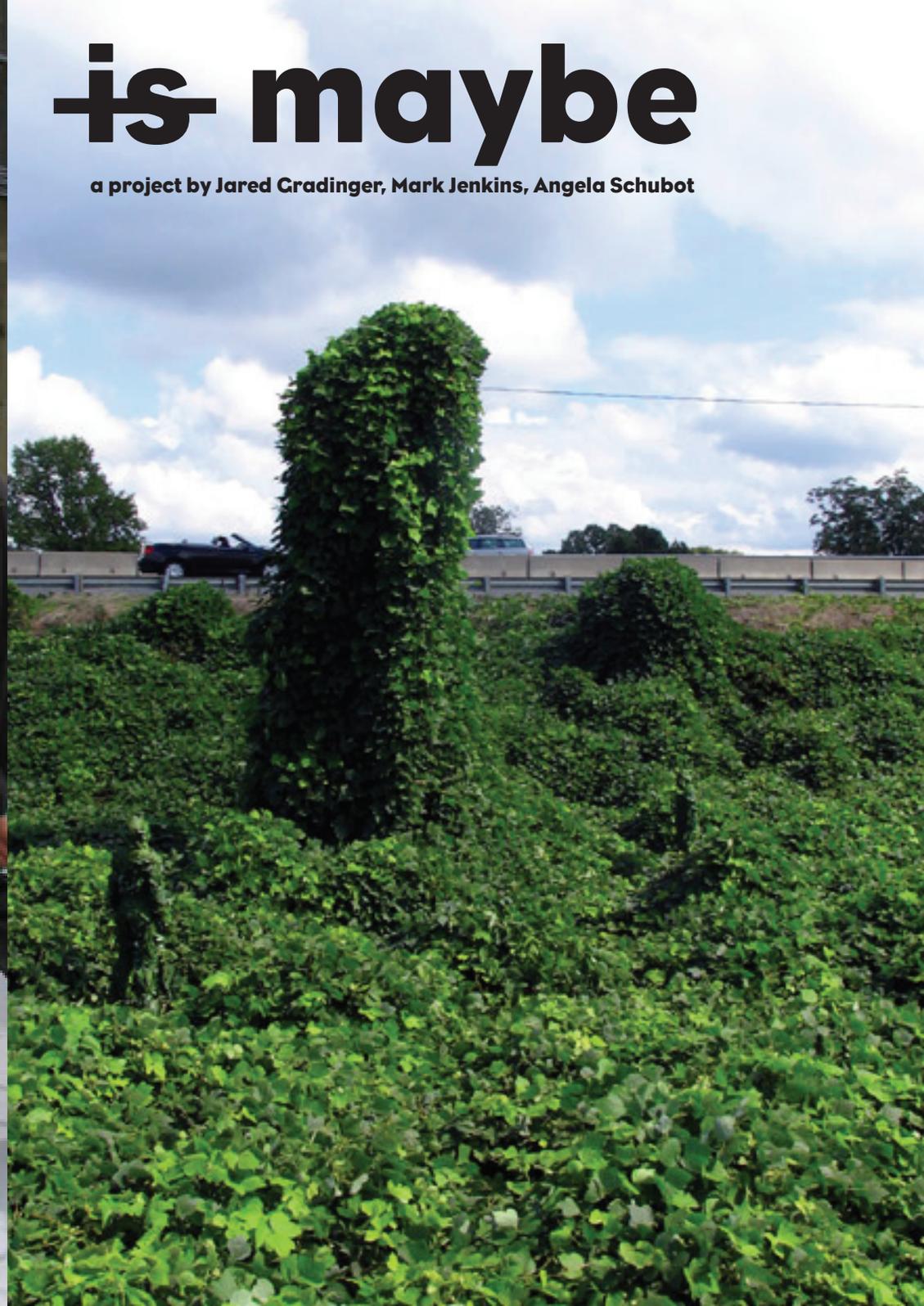


is maybe

a project by Jared Gradinger, Mark Jenkins, Angela Schubot



A production by Jared Gradinger and Angela Schubot/TWO FISH
Co-produced by Hebbel Am Ufer Berlin
In collaboration with Pictoplasma www.pictoplasma.com
and Les Grandes Traversees Bordeaux www.lesgrandstraversees.com

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is maybe (AT)

a project for 2011 by Jared Gradinger, Mark Jenkins, Angela Schubot
with Johannes Malfatti (sounddesign), Tatiana Saphir (dramaturg) and Andreas Harder (lights)

"A country where one calls himself 'I' sinks rapidly into the ground." (Elias Canetti)

The new piece **IS-MAYBE** is a continuation of the duet 'What they are instead of' in the attempt to dissolve identity. Assuming that our bodies do not end with our skin, this project will explore other forms of existence, belonging and absence. Can bodies that are infinitely divisible, infinitely changeable be positioned against the concept of the "undivided individual"?

The term "Being" (in German "Wesen") dominates Western metaphysics and assembles notions of identity, duration, residence and possession. Being has substance. Power is its substantiality: the power of Being-ness stands firm in the face of others, asserting itself.

We will explore how the statement "I am you" does not have to be a statement about identity but a statement about the absence of identity. What physical "realities" are created if individuals do not contextualize things in relation to their 'Being': what if they stop saying "I"? Can identities be discarded, and in doing so, is it possible for other forms of coexistence to emerge?

The piece aims to create the almost utopic state of "I am you"; where no identity, no coercion of "Being" exists that differentiates between the I and the You. "I am I" could easily transition into "I am you", "You are me", "I am we", never settling in a solid entity. Whilst What they are instead of pursued a fusion or symbiosis with the Other as a means of escaping the 'I', and thereby reduced the space between bodies to the absolute minimum, **IS-MAYBE** uses precisely this space to operate within, guiding attention to and creating spaces from the inbetween, which are neither interpersonal nor occupied by dialogue.

The project aims to present the work in a theatre space that will be transformed by the street artist Mark Jenkins who traditionally places his work in public spaces. This transformation is important to us in order to destabilise the perception of the audience; in a space that neither keeps them safe nor is unfamiliar to them. It can even go as far as to create a feeling of loss or authority. The space alone can be experienced physically by the audience as a blurring of subject boundaries and therefore prepare a bed for the experience of the body languages encountered. In order to create a space of in-difference, Mark Jenkins will try to make elements flow spatially to a greater degree until it is no longer clear where one thing ends or another begins. The space of in-difference is reminiscent of the Zen saying: "Snow lies on the clustered blossoms of the river bank reeds; it is difficult to say where one starts and the other stops."

