

Angela Schubot and Jared Gradinger are standing, facing each other and closing their eyes. Until the end of their hour long dance performance "is maybe" at HAU 1 they will not open them again. No look is cast on the other - because looking creates distance. And these two are longing for unlimited closeness, for an unconditional symbiosis. "Is maybe" revolves around the wish to be redeemed from the individual self. Accompanied by mellow ambient sounds the dancers venture more and more into the sphere of pure perception. With sharpened senses they move towards each other. At first they are only feeling around for each other, not touching. A highly erotic scene. But then his hands push into her face, she presses him to the floor with the weight of her body. Both gasp for breath in this iron grip. What started so tenderly turns into an aggressive act: the step from "I" to "Us" transports us into an increasingly furious stranglehold.

Mark Jenkins floating sculptures show the connection of two bodies in impossible variations. But the unconditional will to disintegration is met with physical resistance. Two that can't take their hands off each other: Schubot and Gradinger show themselves as devoted performers who match physical vehemence with breakneck humor.

Sandra Luzina, Tagesspiegel Berlin, 19.Juli 2011

You don't have to resort to Platon to understand the nature of love and the urge for unification. But in the last consequence Angela Schubot and Jared Gradinger refer to the same concepts, when they relate their latest work to the "delimitation of the body" and to an attempt to "escape the individual identity" through "unconditional togetherness". An attempt that is doomed to failure. Despite all desperate efforts Angela Schubot and Jared Gradinger do not become one. It is (as already discussed in Platon's "Symposion") a hopeless enterprise. And so "is maybe" ends as the performance had started a good hour earlier: with the two artists, standing facing each other.

As in their first collaborative project "What they are instead of" two years ago the co founder of Two Fish and the co founder of Constanza Macras/Dorky Park try everything to test their boundaries. The grasp into the other's face does not occur without reason, and the body contact intensifies in the course of the performance to a degree that we actually have the impression that they swallow up each other. Indeed: Jared Gradinger literally locks his jaws on Angela Schubot at some moment and is unable to let go of her. But in between they also freeze in sculptural poses similar to he ones the US-American street artist Mark Jenkins has created out of transparent adhesive tape. His "tape sculptures" are floating like trial balloons over the stage or squat on the floor: conjoined headless figures that seem to embody the utopian notion of the two performers.

All this is nearly too beautiful to behold under the ice cold light design of Andreas Harder. It is no coincidence that the piece only really gets under your skin when the revolving stage comes to a hold again and the muted thudding music dies down. The rest of the evening is not silence, but a last shared breath.

Hatmut Regitz, tanznetz.de, 19.juli 2011