

## BIRCA RITUAL RESIDENCY – 15-28/6

We have often in recent years worked with how the ritual plays a role in performing arts, and together with performing artist Alaya Riefensthal from [Myrkr](#), we have now created a framework and curated artists to participate in a residency with this theme. This also has a Nordic perspective, and artists with Greenlandic and Sami backgrounds will participate.

Alaya Riefensthal (DK), Liene Jurgelane (LAT/DK), Camilla Brogaard (DK/DE), Christine Gaski (NO/DK), Varste Mathæussen (GL/AX), Þóranna Dögg Björnsdóttir (IS)



**Alaya Riefensthal** (DK) Performance artist, scenographer and producer, artistic director of MYRKR since 2014. Works with darkness as a sensory, poetic space through walking performances, film and podcasts. Creates ritualized processes (e.g., full-moon rituals) as a central part of her practice. Interests: Ritual practice, night, dream-horror and the interweaving of art, natural science and magic.



**Liene Jurgelane** (LAT/DK) Artist, curator and anthropologist. Intertwines performance, singing traditions, rituals and multispecies collaborations with plants and trees. Creates sensory walks, participatory performances and workshops focused on mutual exchange. Interests: Earth-based wisdom traditions, plant-collaboration, community and ecological belonging.



**Camilla Brogaard** (DK/DE) Performance artist, philosopher and somatic facilitator. Works with collaboration, text, choreography and social organization with a focus on relational care. Researches discomfort, doubt and ritualized uncertainty as embodied, political and ethical practice. Interests: Ritualized doubt, mental rituals/OCD, somatic practice and social transformation.



**Christine Gaski** (NO/DK) Performing artist and artistic director/producer of Kompagniet ILT. Creates outdoor ceremonies and mythological nature experiences with active audience participation. Works regeneratively with nature as co-creator and draws on Sámi roots and circular thinking. Interests: Rites of passage, nature spirituality, menstrual rites and reconnecting humans with nature.



**Varste Mathæussen** (GL/AX) Actor trained at Tuukkaq Theatre, born in Saqqaq (Greenland). Freelance actor collaborating across Kalaallit Nunaat, the West Nordic countries and Scandinavia; tours widely. Has worked on pieces about rituals and symbiosis with nature. Interests: Ritual relation to Mother Earth, West Nordic cultural expressions and performative community.



**Þórunna Dögg Björnsdóttir** (IS) Trained as a classical pianist, now multidisciplinary. Works with sound, video and performance; focuses on listening as a form of knowing and on multisensory situations. Creates works where film, live music and sculpture are woven together, often inspired by folk and fate traditions. Interests: Listening, sound as an intuitive knowledge space, myths/folk beliefs and the interface between humans and the hidden world.