



# EXCHANGE RADICAL MOMENTS!

Live Art Festival

**30.9.2011 – Tom Pohl – Fremd Gehen**

**<http://11moments.org/fremd>**

## **Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival**

INTERVIEW #19: Today's interview partner is Tom Pohl, an actor from Linz, Austria. He will present his work „Fremd Gehen“ in Linz as part of the Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival. Hi Tom, where are you at the moment?

**Tom Pohl** is at home, in front of his laptop.

## **Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival**

I know you don't want to reveal too much of your project, especially not too much about the venues. But can you describe your plans in one sentence?

**Tom Pohl** wants to give the visitors the chance to visit places they would never discover without the festival on November 11.

## **Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival**

How many people can join your project and what can they expect on 11/11/11? And do they have to register somewhere?

**Tom Pohl's** project is very special: Only 43 persons can be on the "Yellow Train" of Linz and go to the six places I chose. Yes, they can register by sending an email to Tom Pohl's adress: [tompohl@tompohl.at](mailto:tompohl@tompohl.at).

## **Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival**

As an actor you are used to be on stage with the audience sitting in the auditorium. With "Fremd Gehen" you are leaving the typical field of theater and explore parts of the city where even locals haven't an easy access. How did this happen? Where does your intention come from?

**Tom Pohl** is curious, always has been. A colleague of mine and myself, we thought that a conventional performance would be boring. So we had the idea of bringing the persons to very special places and meet persons they never could meet without this festival.

## **Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival**

Your participants will make a journey to places representing different groups of inhabitants of



# EXCHANGE RADICAL MOMENTS!

## Live Art Festival

a city that might not be so very well known. How did you choose the venues? Which kind of criteria did apply?

**Tom Pohl** honestly must say that the criteria were somehow very pragmatic: The places had to be in the center of Linz. Fortunately Linz is a very interesting city that offers a lot of different locations in its center. Locations providing a certain atmosphere and giving special information to the visitors.

### Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival

What is the essence of this project? Is it connected to your earlier works?

**Tom Pohl** hopes that these visits in "Fremd Gehen" make the visitors richer of stories and experiences. The project is connected to a piece of my work in this sense that we want the visited persons to speak about their most beautiful and their most awful moments in life. I already did this within a performance with youngsters who are not originally from Austria.

### Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival

Did you learn more about your own city because of this project? If so, can you give us an example?

**Tom Pohl** learned that people are eager to show what they do or what they are when you ask them in a so called "official" manner. With this festival as a background it is easier to find these chances of meeting each others than as a single person.

### Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival

Do you think that your visitors might be driven by voyeuristic motives?

**Tom Pohl** never thought about voyeurism and hopes that curiousness drives the visitors to go with the "Yellow train". But both motivations are close together. The visitors do not have to declare themselves, anyway...

### Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival

The vehicle you use to bring the participants to different places. Regularly it is being used for tourist transportation. Why did you choose the yellow train? Is there a story behind it?

**Tom Pohl** confirms the story is what you said: It is for the tourists. "Fremd Gehen" wants to use this vehicle for visiting "unknown" places. This is better than going on foot. And the



# EXCHANGE RADICAL MOMENTS!

Live Art Festival

"Yellow Train"-drivers are happy about doing some things differently.

## **Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival**

How do you define the exchange of a radical moment? When does it happen?

**Tom Pohl** thinks that this exchange happens twice: During the visit and during being together at the place where all the festival-visitors come together, in the KunstRaum. There, all the stories can be exchanged at last.

## **Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival**

Where can we find your work online?

**Tom Pohl** asks: which work? The project "Fremd Gehen" is online in the life art magazine. My work is on my homepage: [www.tompohl.at](http://www.tompohl.at).

## **Exchange Radical Moments! Live Art Festival**

Thank you for the interview and looking forward to your project here in Linz!

**Tom Pohl** also says thank you for the invitation to explain the Live Art Festival project and keeps his fingers crossed for November 11!