

# IVAN CIVIC

# WAKE FOR JAMES

# LEE BYARS

Performance duration: 3 days  
Beginning: November 9th 2010  
at 14:00 to 19:00

Wednesday November 10th  
from 14:00 to 19:00

Thursday, November 11th  
from 19:30 to midnight

Ivan Civic will be performing his first tribute ever to another artist. This need comes from a certain level of acknowledgement that the importance of other artist's influences and amount of inspiration in one's own work are very significant.

Civic will perform a tribute to the late James Lee Byars. He was an incredibly strong influence on Civic's work. The performance will be a sort of wake or ritual of reflecting upon the tension and amount of energy Byars would always bring with him to any space he would enter, pass through and perform in.

This wake will take place in the newly founded Grimm Museum in Berlin. A place James Lee Byars never went to. The performance is supposed to awaken the memory of this artist and bring him back to life in this new space, with new people surrounding him and new approaches to the way his work can be seen and experienced.

Civic will not reperform or remake any of Byars' art works and performances. He will simply stay close to his own work and way of performing but will try at the same time to come as close as possible to what he thinks and feels Byars' essence in performance was.

Memory plays tricks on all of us and time divours even the strongest of memories if they are not properly transmitted from generation to generation. We have forgotten the ways of our ancestors of traditional transfer of memory and values through the ritual of speech, storytelling and performing.

This performance is an attempt to bring back the ancient values of the importance of transmission of experience, respect, memory and love.

James Lee Byars is in the artist's heart and

the artist wants to share this emotion and memory with anybody interested, no matter how apparently futile all this might seem. In the end we might lose the fight of memory preservation but it is sure worth the effort to try and invest all the energy into what we believe in and pass it on to others.

Special thanks to Kristina Estell for her loving support and energy in helping me make this project concrete and even more precious.

Thank you J.L.B  
Love I.C.

For all information about the performance "Wake for James Lee Byars", daily updates and information about the artist "James Lee Byars", please go the blog:

[www.ivancivic.wordpress.com](http://www.ivancivic.wordpress.com)



GRIMMUSEUM

Open daily 14-19 h.

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