

## *PARTHENOGENESIS*

Performance, Fabbrica del Vapore, 2023  
Emma Castelnuovo e Emma Dotti

Partenogenesis involves the creation of two transparent “bellies - theca” made of isomalt, worn during the performance by the two authors. The transparency of the womb, responds to the scopic drive typical of the contemporary: to see everything, to know everything, to control everything. But inside, the belly reveals the emptiness generated by an annulment by congruent poles, a union between doubles.

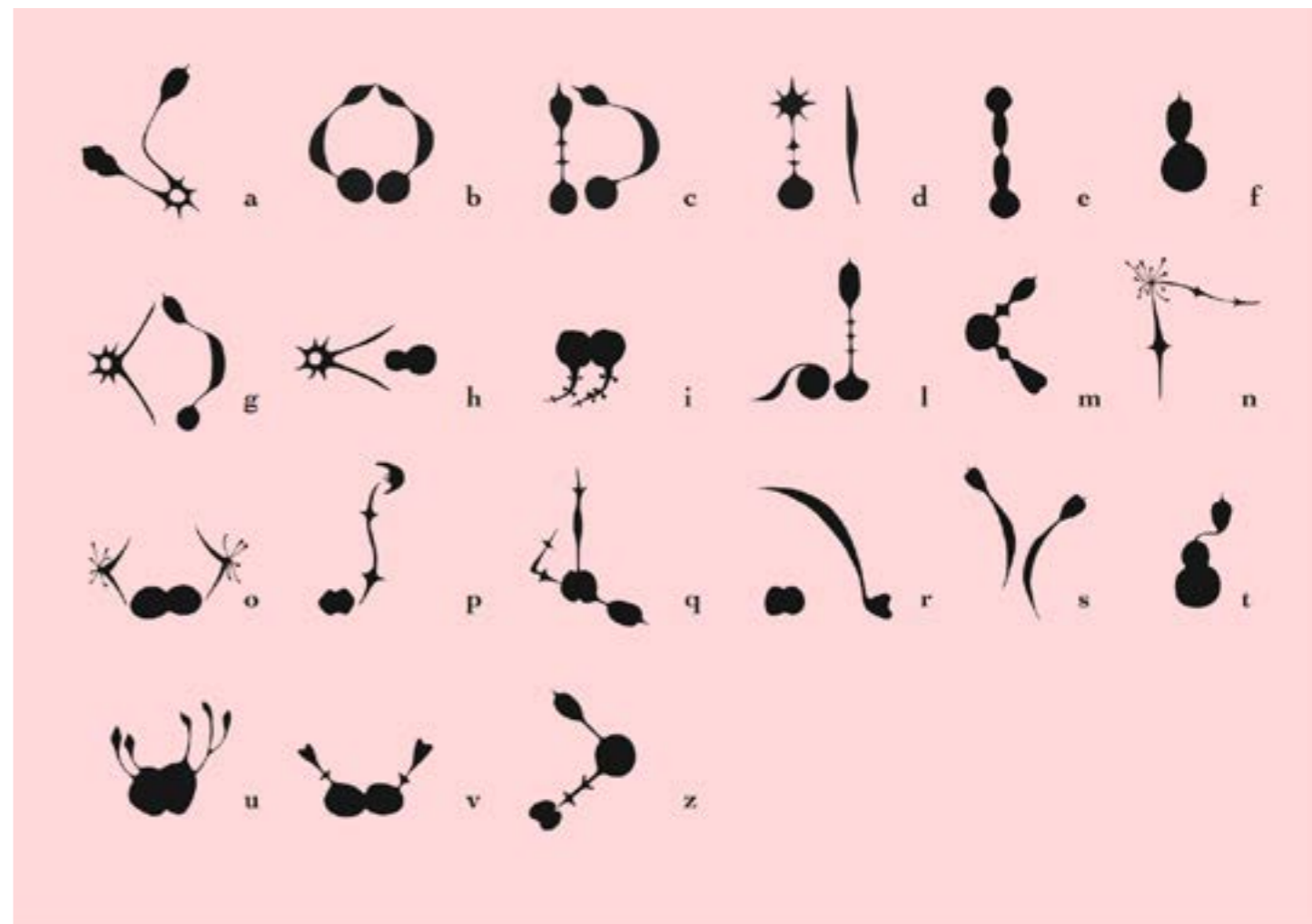
Through performative action Emma dissolves the boundary with the bowels of nothingness, rendering useless external forms of speculation and intrusion and generating dialogues that go beyond conventional ones. The line traveled during the performance is based on the act as archaic as it is banal of walking, distorting it and

bringing attention back to its protagonists: the feet. The feet because no one listens to them, because they are always hidden, because they are far from the head, the seat of that rationality in which Homo Sapiens recognized himself to the exclusion of everything else, and because they are far from the hands that Homo Faber has domesticated and skillfully exploited. Feet know the ground, thorns, sharp rocks and uncomfortable shoes. They speak only sometimes, truthfully. They do what they have done best since people were still nomads, walking. And in this walking they express the thoughts of the two performers as they slowly approach to find solace in a generating destruction. Each step corresponds to a letter, and the viewer can decide whether to interpret the silent message of the artists or simply stand by and watch their strange gait.



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performance and soundtrack, Fabbrica del  
Vapore, with Emma Castelnuovo, 2023





Postcards (front) with the "walking alphabet", 15x10 cm, printed on ShiroAlga upcycled paper.