

FIREBIRD



Photo by Bart Grietens

INTERVENTIONS

GOVERNORS
ISLAND
ARTS

FIREBIRD

October 3 & 4, 2025 at 7:00PM

Run time: Approx. 60 minutes

Location: Parade Ground

By Touki Delphine

Concept, music and visuals by Bo Koek, John van Oostrum,

Rik Elstgeest and Chris Doyle

Concept and design by John van Oostrum, Theun Mosk

Sound design by Toon Boland

Specialty Rigging by United Staging and Rigging, LLC

Audio and Production Support by Audio Inc

ABOUT FIREBIRD

Inspired by Igor Stravinsky's 1919 Firebird Suite, Touki Delphine have devised FIREBIRD, an orchestra of light made of over 600 recycled car taillights that illuminate the dance of the firebird. The taillights were sourced locally in the Berkshires during Touki Delphine's MASS MoCA residency. A thoroughly hypnotic experience, this rule-breaking concert program and extra-terrestrial installation connects sound and light to create a 'symphony of light re-envisioning Stravinsky's work as an homage.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Bo Koek, Rik Elstgeest, John van Oostrum & Chris Doyle are Touki Delphine, an artist collective of musicians, performers and visual artists. The members draw from their eclectic backgrounds to create stimulating visual works and modern music performances. In their multidimensional works, they pull from classic and modern music from all corners of the globe and combine reinterpretations with original compositions and new visual concepts crossing and blurring disciplinary boundaries. Committed and resourceful. Serious and playful. An open question or visual stimulant can form a point of departure. Their methods result in a unique, dynamic cross-pollination of the arts.

Inspired by the climate crisis and the insights of Alexander von Humboldt that nature is a living whole, not a dysfunctional mass — that stones, plants, animals, and people are all permeated by creative force — Touki Delphine pursues a restoration of balance between nature and modern humans. With all of our technological advancements, humans have significantly disrupted nature over the past two centuries. There is no going back. But maybe there's a way forward. Not by deeming technology the leading culprit, but by achieving a new harmony with the help of that technology.

Using recycled materials, technological inventions, and new or adapted compositions, Touki Delphine creates installations that explore these themes and the relationship between nature, humans, and technology

ABOUT INTERVENTIONS

INTERVENTIONS is a site-responsive, multidisciplinary free annual performance series from Governors Island Arts that presents local, national, and international artists and invites audiences to experience work made and adapted for the outdoors. INTERVENTIONS is curated by Juan Pablo Siles, Associate Curator and Producer at the Trust for Governors Island.

GOVERNORS ISLAND ARTS

Governors Island Arts, the public arts and cultural program presented by the Trust for Governors Island, creates transformative encounters with art for all New Yorkers, inviting artists and researchers to engage with the issues of our time in the context of the Island's layered histories, environments, and architecture. Governors Island Arts achieves this mission through temporary and long-term public art installations and exhibitions, an annual Organizations in Residence program in the Island's historic houses, and the curated multidisciplinary INTERVENTIONS performance series.

Governors Island Arts presents its program with support from Bloomberg Philanthropies, Charina Endowment Fund, Stardust Fund, Surgo Foundation US, Donald A. Pels Charitable Trust, the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, Carrie Denning Jackson and Dan Jackson, the Ripple Foundation, the Howard Gilman Foundation, and the Jerome L. Greene Foundation.

The Governors Island 2025 season is generously supported by the Blackstone Charitable Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, and STIHL Inc.

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