

F R O M M O R N ' T I L L M I D N I G H T

JULIAN BECK STEVE BISHOP ADRIANO COSTA
LENA HENKE ALEXIS HUNTER VINCENZO LATRONICO
TOBIAS MADISON & FLAVIO MERLO KATRINA PALMER
CORIN SWORN PILVI TAKALA JAY TAN

SUPPORTICO LOPEZ
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From Morn' Till Midnight is an exhibition that plays tribute to the artistic practice of Julian Beck (*1926, died 1986), founder of the Living Theatre, abstract expressionist and poet. Alongside Robert Motherwell, Mark Rothko, Willem de Kooning, Jackson Pollock and Yves Kline his lively paintings were exhibited at Peggy Guggenheim's groundbreaking gallery "Art of this Century". Although inspired by this prominent group of abstract expressionist painters, the fascination with Beck's paintings lies within his variety of techniques and styles. He preserved "his autodidactic willingness to try anything". Painting was a joy for him. He turned the act of painting into a live gesture which involved the whole body, making the picture and the painter a single entity. Along with his wife, Judith Malina, he was the original engine of the avant-garde performance group "The Living Theatre" established in 1974. This is where he would fuel his artistic fervor until the end of his life, promoting ideas of anarcho-pacifism and liberalism throughout Europe, South America and the US.

From Morn' Till Midnight is the title of one of Beck's drawings from 1946. Translating his idea of action integral in the concept of chance and unveiling his notion of giving form to the progression of a free thought inside a defined yet temporary space is the aim of this exhibition. The artists share the common trait of a demand for confrontation with action, voiced by dynamic gestures, opposing time that elapses passively but provoking change through active participation. By this means the exhibition invites the view to reflect upon the anarchist militant and peace activist Julian Beck.

In this context Tobias Madison & Flavio Merlo developed an in-situ work that constitutes as an amplifier of the work of Julian Beck, a sort of pool in which the recording of the performance *Frankenstein* by the Living Theatre held in Berlin in 1965, is filtered, edited and sent back through the help of water; a swimming pool and sculpture of a stage that recovers the idea of action and freedom.