



Xing  
presents

**Tuesday 16 December 2025 7.30 pm**

**KIDOWS KIM**

***High Gear***

performance – italian première

**P420**

Via Azzo Gardino 9 – Bologna

**Tuesday 16 December 2025** at 7.30 pm **Xing** presents in **Bologna** at the **P420** art gallery, ***High Gear***, a performance by South Korean artist **Kidows Kim**, for the first time in Italy.

Kidows Kim's work is imbued with '**Monstrarchaeology**', a method that consists of excavating an ambiguous organic form that wanders between the figurative and the abstract, drawing from collective memories, intimate, social, political, and gender-related experiences. Based on this method, through the distortion of the normative human body, voice, and everyday objects, he explores the monstrosity that emerges from deconstructing dominant ideas within the collective unconscious.

***High Gear*** is a solo piece that explores a corporeal collection of figures drawn from parasitized intimate memories, intertwined with imagery from alternative manga. Through this excavation, Kidows Kim questions the relentless cycle of production, consumption, and reincarnation. Rather than reproducing these patterns, a figure seeks to subvert their mechanisms, disrupt their repetition, and break free from their hold. Drawing inspiration from the structure of *yonkoma manga*, a type of four-panel comic often used in political journalism, this solo delves into four fundamental themes: 1 (起) birth, 2 (承) eating, 3 (轉) working, and 4 (結) death. It unfolds within a closed circuit where representations are continuously absorbed, (de)constructed, and (re)formed. In this process, meanings accumulate, collide, and blur the boundaries between subject, object, and abject. In the interstices of this amalgamation of noise and gazes, a fragmented, ghostly body struggles to find its way. It bears witness to the uncanny that takes root in the familiar and to the growing distance that, despite physical proximity, spreads across space. *High Gear* thus becomes an excluded space, where the body exposes and decomposes itself in the pursuit of an elusive exterior.

*High Gear* inaugurates the third chapter of the intimate cosmogony depicted in his *Dictionary of Fantastic Creatures*.

**Kidows Kim** is a performing artist born in South Korea, living in Paris. After studying graphic design and mime, he continued his training at two national dance centres in France: the CNDK in Angers and later pursued the Master Exerce program at ICI-CCN in Montpellier under the direction of Christian Rizzo. His creations form an intimate cosmogony in the shape of a '*Dictionary of Fantastical Creatures*'. He has revealed its first three chapters: *Funkenstein* in 2021, the second part *Cutting Mushrooms* in 2023, and the third *High Gear* in 2025. In parallel, he has been developing a series of punctual and ephemeral video-performances centered on an obsession with manga. Kidows Kim's work aims at extracting the underground strangeness hidden in the prosaic, where the complex interactions between subject, object, and abject come to light. His aesthetic is nourished by various alternative cultures: cyberpunk, experimental music and cinema, manga, video games... that flow through his imagination and contaminate the forms. Kim's artistic practice unfolds as an interdisciplinary physicality expressed across multiple mediums (movement, clothing, sound, sculpture, writing, etc.). The body becomes the starting point for a proliferation of potential choreographic materials. In order to question their stratification and the frictions that arise from it, he conceives the relationship between mediums as a metaphor for a hierarchical social order. Inspired by rhizomatic thought, Kidows Kim seeks to approach these mediums not as fixed entities, but as fluid elements, capable of endlessly generating new configurations and new roots.

[www.kidowskim.com](http://www.kidowskim.com)

**Kidows Kim**

***High Gear***

concept, choreography, performance Kidows Kim  
with the artistic collaboration of:

textile creation & costume Josiane Martinho

creation of metal sculpture Célia Boulesteix

sound designer & live music Samir Kennedy

dramaturgy Hubert Crabières

light design Marie-Sol Kim

text reflection Lucille Belland

external eye Kazuki Fujita

delegated production Météores

coproduction ICI-CCN Montpellier Occitanie/Pyrénées-Méditerranée, La Place de la danse CDCN Toulouse Occitanie, CCN Ballet

national de Marseille, La Ménagerie de verre Paris, with the financial support of DRAC Île-de-France

residencies Workspacebrussels, La Bellone Bruxelles, Kunstencentrum Buda Courtrai, CND Centre national de la danse Paris, The Saison Foundation Japan

XING

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Partners: Regione Emilia-Romagna, Comune di Bologna, P420. Media partners: Edizioni Zero, ATPdiary, NEU Radio.

**Where**

P420

Via Azzo Gardino 9 – Bologna - Italy

**www.p420.it**

[www.facebook.com/P420gallery/](https://www.facebook.com/P420gallery/) [www.instagram.com/p420gallery/](https://www.instagram.com/p420gallery/)

**Free entrance**

(limited capacity)

**Xing info**

via Ca' Selvatica 4/d – Bologna - Italy

[info@xing.it](mailto:info@xing.it)

**www.xing.it** [www.xing.it/event/562/high\\_gear](https://www.xing.it/event/562/high_gear)

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**Press kit**

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/hgl4aial61537mwd2e6vx/AMoFghEqtcZbaJCrUaoFoT4?rlkey=i9x201ndtwfu0m0znaxvgycxl&dl=0>

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