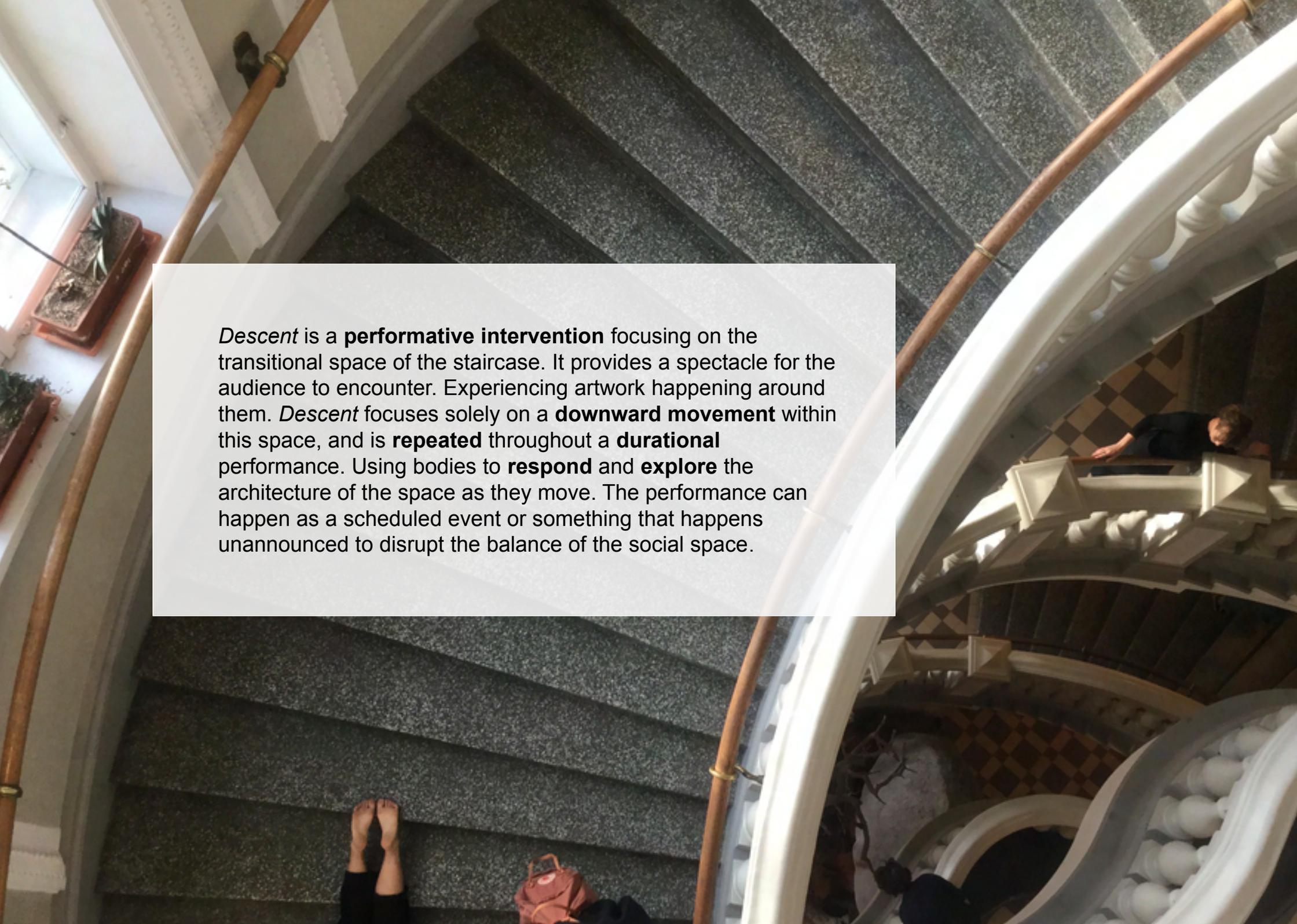




# *DESCENT*

A performative intervention by Jenny Cashmore



*Descent* is a **performative intervention** focusing on the transitional space of the staircase. It provides a spectacle for the audience to encounter. Experiencing artwork happening around them. *Descent* focuses solely on a **downward movement** within this space, and is **repeated** throughout a **durational** performance. Using bodies to **respond** and **explore** the architecture of the space as they move. The performance can happen as a scheduled event or something that happens unannounced to disrupt the balance of the social space.



Initially devised and performed in response to The Natural History Museum Helsinki, as part of Museosafari, curated by Finnish Art Agency (2017). For 2 hours, three performers begin on different levels of the staircase and begin to slowly descend. Using an improvised movement score; responding to and exploring the architecture around the staircase. At the bottom of the staircase the performer stands up and walks out of the space. A lift is then used to return to the top of the staircase and they restart their descent. #Cycles #Nature #Species #Decline #HoldOn



## VENUES

Any indoor or outdoor venue with a large staircase passing through the main public place can be used. A circular route has previously been used to create a continuous cycle of movement. However routes can be developed according to each unique location.



## ADAPTATIONS

The work will be adapted according to the context and location/venue. This will inform; the performers (whether they are professionals or non-professionals) / number of performers / what clothing the performers wear (costume or normal clothing) / how the performance is constructed (repetition of movement, timed, uncontrolled or instructional, duration).



## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

A low impact yet highly engaging intervention which uses local performers. Travel and accommodation required only for artist Jenny Cashmore.

### Pre Event

Site visit (physical or zoom depending on location).

Identify and connect with performers. It is possible to engage with professionals/non professionals of all ages and abilities.

Pre event Workshop(s) – exploring movement / provocations.

Access to site for rehearsal.

### Event

A space to gather performers and to leave belongings.

*“Jenny Cashmore’s performance was a delicate intervention with the beautiful architecture of the Natural History museum in Helsinki. The museum and the staircase was a perfect place to see the fleshy movement of human bodies against the stony stairs. The repetition within the space caused people to stop and wonder about the intentions of the performers. The act of Descent is a homage to every venue where it’s held.”*

CEO, Curator Laura Köönikkä / Finnish Art Agency





## BESPOKE SITE SPECIFIC PROJECTS ON REQUEST

This proposal developed out of research exploring how bodies can 'perform the landscape'. Exploring action and inaction of bodies in relation to public and private space.

I can develop a bespoke proposal around movement, landscape/building and the body that is unique to your space and context. Please contact me to discuss.

Descent is brought to you by artist Jenny Cashmore. A multi-disciplined artist currently living in the Wye Valley on the English Welsh border.

Please contact if you have any questions/ would like to book:

Jenny Cashmore  
[jennycashmore@hotmail.com](mailto:jennycashmore@hotmail.com)  
+44 7890679560  
[www.jennycashmore.com](http://www.jennycashmore.com)

