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**Master's Thesis Exhibition  
Universität der Künste Berlin**



*PLZ KRUSH is both my artistic persona and ongoing research framework, using footwear as a catalyst to investigate labor, desire, commodification, and sound.*

*The project originated as my Master's Thesis at the Universität der Künste Berlin (2022), where it first manifested as a sound installation and age-restricted YouTube channel documenting performative research with an oversized pair of vinyl platform heels – a hyper-sexual object associated with sex work and pole-fitness. By amplifying the shoes' sonic potential, often performed through a pair of anonymous legs, I explored how fetish and ASMR communities produce value and intimacy, and how these aesthetics intersect with the economies of academic artistic labor. The installation staged these inquiries through a four-channel sonic collage, mirrored surfaces, a prepared floor, and pink lighting, translating bodily gestures into a spatialized sound environment.*



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# PLZ KRUSH

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## PLZ KRUSH | Barrels of Fun! Red Crushing in Transparent Plea...

1,102 views · 3 years ago

I don't just want to crush one Big Red Apple with my huge transparent Pleaser High Heels, but a whole barrel full! It was so sloppy and sticky. I almost slipped so many times! What do you think I should crush next? Leave me a comment below ;P

If you like watching me food crush, heel crush, or just play in m...  
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### For You



PLZ KRUSH | Special Request - Car Crush



PLZ KRUSH | Crushing a Big Red Apple with High



PLZ KRUSH | Power Clacking in my See-Through



PLZ KRUSH | Soft Smash with my

PLZ  
PLZ

KRUSH  
KRUSH

POWER CLACKS



A person is sitting on the floor, looking upwards and to the right. They are wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt with a geometric logo on the chest. On their lap is a large, clear, cylindrical object, possibly a piece of art or a musical instrument, with a dark circular opening at the top. The entire scene is bathed in a green light.

KRUSH  
KRUSH

KLACK  
KLACK

TRAP  
TRAP

**Improvised Performance**  
**Sonic Curiosities II**

*KRUSH KLACK TRAP (2021) - Performed with musician Aleksander Filipiak during the development of my MA thesis. The piece centers on a repetitive movement of slowly parting and closing the legs, producing a sharp clacking sound each time the shoes meet. The room was miked and the live sound routed through a multi-channel mixer, Roland SP-404SX, and Norns sound computer, which Filipiak manipulated in real time. The work investigates the hypnotic and violent potential of repetition—casting a trance through sustained rhythm, then breaking it with the sudden impact of closure. The gesture evokes both seduction and entrapment, translating bodily motion into an audible mechanism of desire and control.*



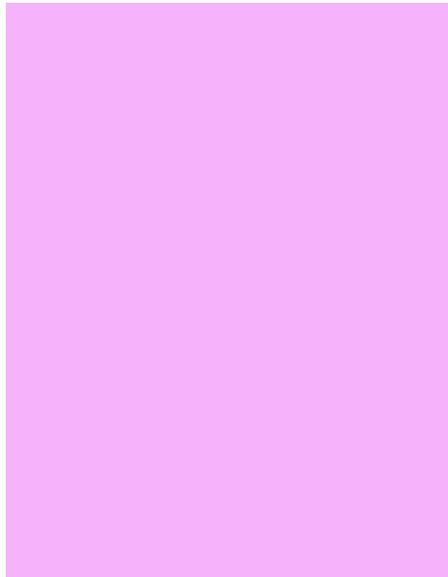


# DRUM

**Live Performance  
Movement Space Pankow**

# KRUSH

*DRUM KRUSH (2024) – Post-thesis, I ventured to collaborate with jazz percussionist, Mark Ballyk, at Movement Space Pankow. We expanded fetish crushing into a shared sonic language. I crushed boxes, Mark used various percussive tools to improvise with the sounds of popping vinyl, crinkling boxes, and booming sudden impacts.*

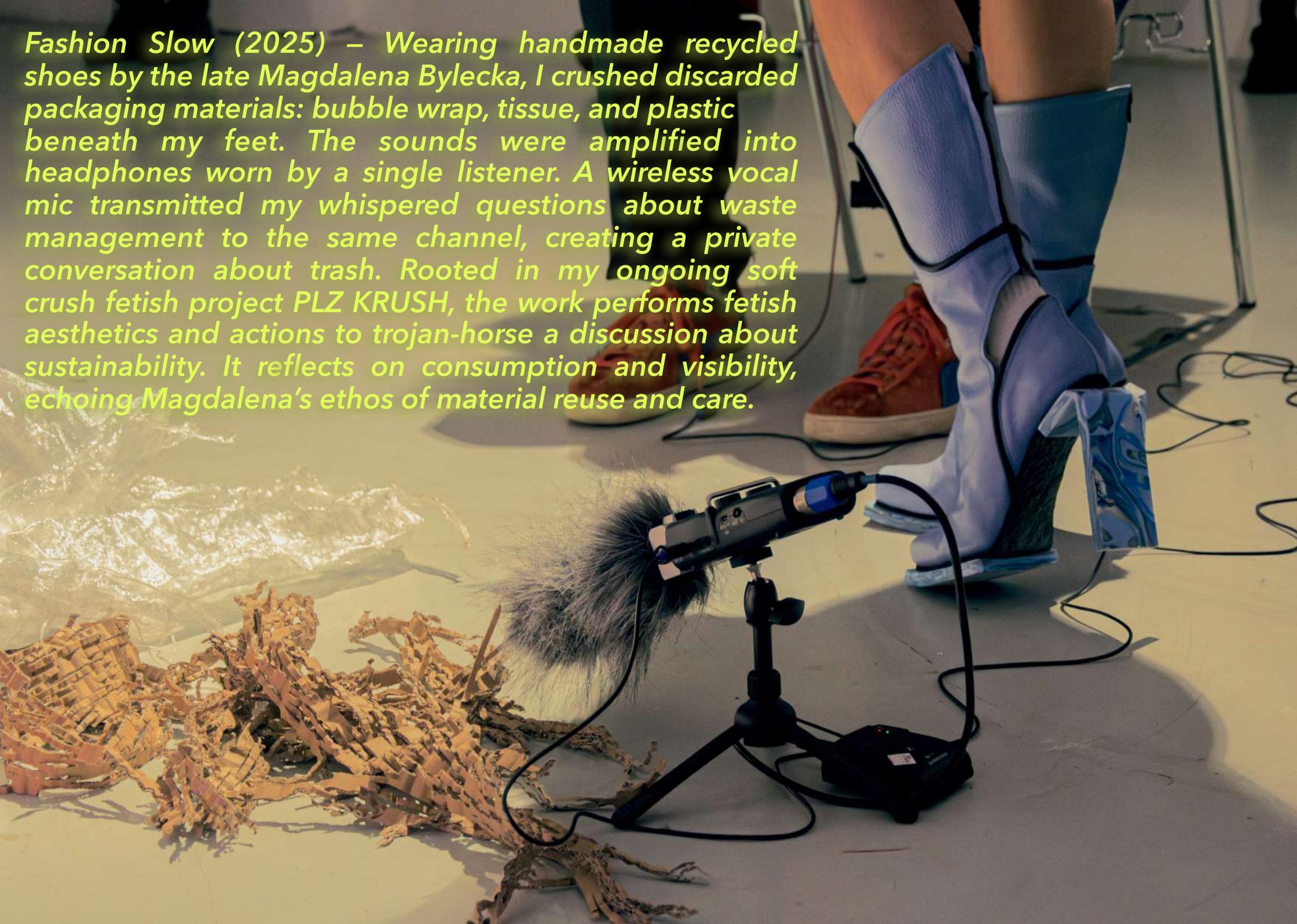


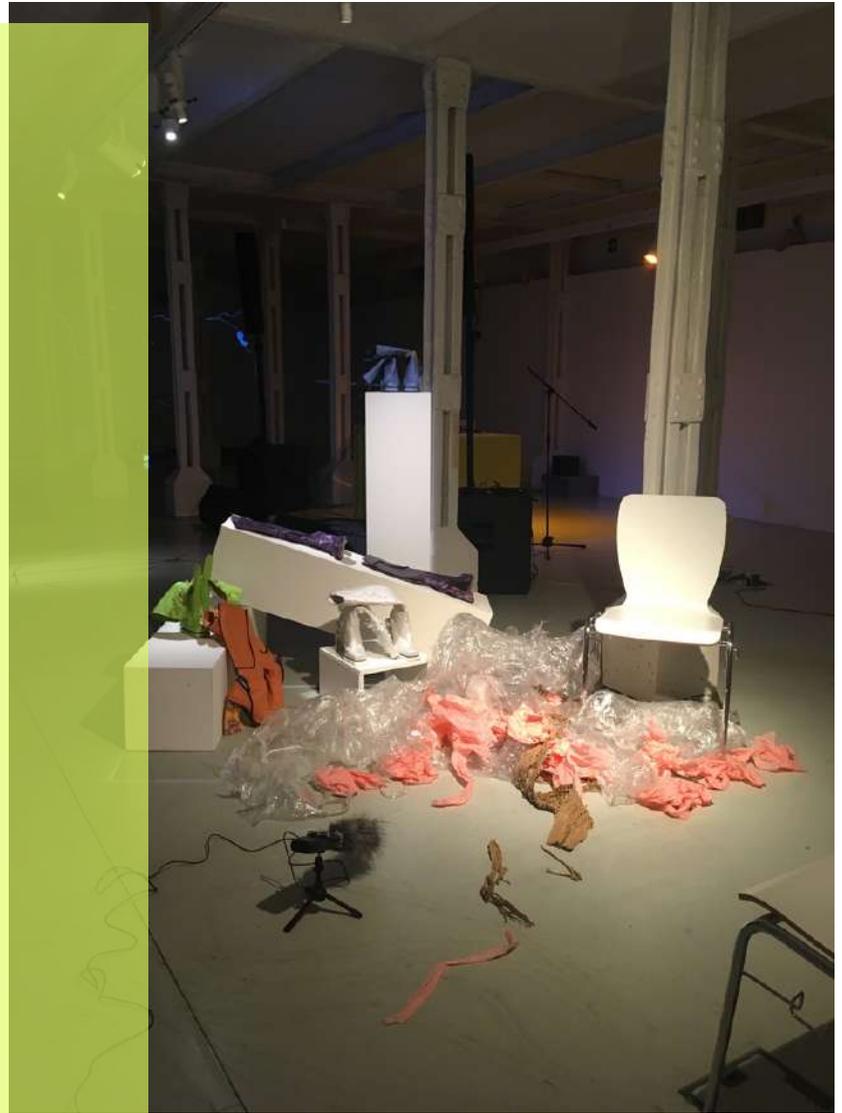
# FASHION SLOW



Sound Performance & Installation  
MŁODE WILKI 25 TEKHNE SOUND SESSIONS

*Fashion Slow (2025) – Wearing handmade recycled shoes by the late Magdalena Bylecka, I crushed discarded packaging materials: bubble wrap, tissue, and plastic beneath my feet. The sounds were amplified into headphones worn by a single listener. A wireless vocal mic transmitted my whispered questions about waste management to the same channel, creating a private conversation about trash. Rooted in my ongoing soft crush fetish project PLZ KRUSH, the work performs fetish aesthetics and actions to trojan-horse a discussion about sustainability. It reflects on consumption and visibility, echoing Magdalena's ethos of material reuse and care.*







# MADE LEMONADE

Sonic Engagement (*beverage included*)  
AADK Centro Negra | Dinero Estudio Artist Talk



*Made Lemonade (2024) – During the LODE residency at AADK Centro Negra I created a site-specific performance at Dinero Estudio using locally sourced lemons sealed in blue plastic bags. Wearing silver low-heeled señora shoes purchased from a neighborhood shop, I crushed the lemons to make lemonade for those present. The video documentation, cropped at the ankle, captures a choreography of proximity: as I retreat, a man advances, his own uneasy shifting feet becoming part of the composition. The work revealed how every movement of the foot invites narrative, turning ordinary gestures into sonic storytelling.*



## CV

### PRODUCTION

2022-2024 LODE collective, Co-Founder  
2019-2024 Sonic Curiosities Collective, Co-Founder  
2016-Present Freelance Artist  
2014-2018 Blackstone Audio, Sound Designer  
2014-2018 KSKQ Radio, DJ, Music Director

### EDUCATION

2022 Master of Arts, Sound Studies & Sonic Arts, UdK  
2014 Bachelor of Science, SOU  
2011 Associates of Arts, LRC

### AWARDS

2024 Goethe Institute Culture Moves Europe Mobility Grant  
2023 Initiative Neue Musik Projektförderung  
2023 EDIII Scholarship for Theatrical Intimacy Education  
2022 Kultur Räume Berlin, Project Space for Professional Artists  
2021 Music Board Berlin, Career Springboard Berlin, SCC  
2019 Voice Arts Award, Sound Design  
2016 Flixx Fest, Best Emerging Artist

### ABOUT

American-born, Berlin-based artist Kayla Elrod uses sound and body to construct experiments and performances, engaging audiences with topics like sex work, classism, utility, and waste. Her approach combines touching, listening and role-play to inform the designs and explorations of props which also function as instruments. Since moving to Berlin she has earned her MA in Sound Studies and Sonic Arts at UdK as well as help found Sonic Curiosities Collective and LODE collective, both of which promote FLINTA\* musicians, sound artists, and performers. Her works usually take the shape of durational performances, music, site-specific engagements, videos, audio collages, and installations.

### SELECTED WORKS of PLZ KRUSH

2021 Krush Klack Trap, SCC II, Villa Kuriosiumm, Berlin, DE  
2022 PLZ KRUSH, UdK Masters Thesis Exhibition, Berlin DE  
2024 Drum Krush, Movement Space Pankow, Berlin, DE  
2024 Made Lemonade, AADK Centro Negra | Dinero Estudio, Murcia, ES  
2025 PLZ KRUSH Fashion Slow, TRAFO, Szczecin, PL

### LINKS

**[PLZ KRUSH Youtube](#)**

**[Drum Krush](#)**

**[Fashion Slow](#)**

**[Krush Klack Trap](#)**

### RESIDENCIES

2025 Młode Wilki / Tekhné Sound Session, Szczecin, PL  
2025 AADK, Blanca, ES  
2025 Sound Art Lab, Struer, DK  
2025 Schloss Wiepersdorf, DE  
2025 Movement Space Pankow, DE  
2024 AADK Centro Negra, Blanca, ES  
2021 Countdown Grabowsee, Brandenburg, DE



For an extended list of works and portfolio, please visit my website [kaylaelrod.com](http://kaylaelrod.com) Full portfolio PDF [download](#)