

OnCurating Issue 26, October 2015

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Curating Degree Zero / Curatorial Research

With contributions by

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The issue 26 of OnCurating related to the Zurich based Curating Degree Zero Archive concentrates on curatorial research. Contemporary curating exists as a media conglomerate; the production of meaning is achieved through a combination of artworks, photographs, commentary, publications, design, gestures, music, film, press releases, websites, and interviews. It is situated in a specific political and cultural context. To analyse these complex situations we need a variety of approaches; for every project the combination should alter, it makes a bricolage of methodical approaches necessary. The undertaking to discuss curating on a profound level also inspired the conferences Curating as a Glittering Myth, Curating as a Social Symptom, Curating as a Revolutionary Force?, and Curating Everything (Curating as Symptom). The ironic title of the second conference, Curating Everything, already proposed reading the activity of curating as a social symptom. We presume that the contemporary urge for a curatorial position has an imaginary side: the wish to gain authorship and agency as an illusory closure in an overall unsteady and precarious labour situation for cultural producers.

We would like to discuss curating in relation to changes in image production, changes in experiences of distance and modes of perception, changes in the conception of subjectivity and communities, changes in ways of the circulation of images, and changes in digital and material infrastructures. We would like to question curating with respect to topics of “race”, class, and gender. What can we propose as a critical attitude in curating achieved through ruptures, gaps, inconsistency, failures, and dissent?

All contributors share an interest in political agendas in artistic and curatorial practices.

The articles we want to present here show exemplarily how curating can be discussed not so much as case studies, but as scientific analyses. As for every critical debate, the writers have clear positions; they are not uninterested or aloof in any way or “neutral” and instead centre their arguments around a specific urgency. This urgency is then argued throughout in depth. With these varieties of approaches, we hope to offer future researchers some trajectories, new perspectives, and “methods”—in the above-mentioned sense—of debating curating.

Curating Degree Zero Archive: Curatorial Research

Dorothee Richter & Barnaby Drabble

Editorial: Curating Degree Zero Archive: Curatorial Research

Dorothee Richter & Barnaby Drabble

Curating Degree Zero Archive 2003–2008

Felix Ensslin

The Subject of Curating – Notes on the Path towards a Cultural Clinic of the Present

Sabeth Buchmann

Curating with/in the System

Sergio Edelsztein

Are Boycotts the New “Collective Curating?”

Elke Krasny

Feminist Thought and Curating: On Method

Avi Feldman

Performing Justice – From Dada’s Trial to Yael Bartana’s JRMiP Congress

Brian Holmes

“Something that has to do with life itself” World of Matter and the Radical Imaginary

Ellen Blumenstein

The Curator and Her Double. The Cruelty of the Avatar

Dorothee Richter

Thinking About Curatorial Education

Reference:

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<<https://arthist.net/archive/11287>>.