Reimagining Public Space in Mexico (Cambridge, 20 Jan 17)

University of Cambridge, Trinity College, Winstanley Lecture Theatre, Trinity Street, Jan 20, 2017

Mara Polgovsky

Reimagining Public Space in Mexico: Relationality, Collectivity, Community in Art and Beyond

Anti-monuments, ephemeral interventions in the city, and collectivized rituals of mourning are rapidly changing the notions of the public and public space in today's Mexico. A country with a strong history of state intervention in the arts – in which muralism linked public art with the tradition of pictorial representation – Mexico has seen in the past decades a complex remodelling of the relationship between artistic practice and that which is common, collective and assembled. Relationality and community-building have become established ethical horizons in conceptual art practice, while site-specificity has woven closer connections between art and place. Furthermore, human rights groups have dissolved the distinctions between art and activism, as creative practice shifts into denunciation and solidarity. Meanwhile, however, machines of normalization and agoraphobia, such as corporate and financialized architectures, proliferate with unprecedented speed, making it ever more difficult to create or occupy anything collective. How has public art changed in these conditions? What ought to be its role in the new century? What does public art look like today? What are the roles that memory, the body, and the archive play in it? Can a feminist vision, such as Rosalyn Deutsche's, continue to inspire us to defeat agoraphobia?

The last event in a series of symposia that have taken place since May 2016 in Mexico City and New York, this symposium brings together leading academics, curators, and architects to reflect on these issues. Engaging feminist and site-specific perspectives, this event also seeks to stress the role of the aesthetic in the shaping of public spatialities in Mexico and beyond.

PROGRAMME

9.15-9.30
Registration

9.30-10.00
"Agoraphobia No More. Preliminary Notes on the Possibility of the Public"
Mara Polgovsky Ezcurra

10.00-10.45
"Politics of Enunciation and Affect in an Age of Corporeal Violence: Mónica Mayer's The Clothes-

line and Pinto mi Raya's Embraces"
Karen Cordero

10.45-11.30
"Spaces of Absolution: Immunity and Community in the Films of Carlos Reygadas"
Geoffrey Kantaris

11.30-11.45
Coffee break

11.45-12.30
"Menos días aquí and Bordando por la Paz: Grief, Social Protest and Grassroots Memorialization in Mexico's War on Drugs"
Adriana Ortega Orozco

12.30-13.15
"Polvo/Polvoriento/Polvoreda and Desapropiación: The Poetics of Dust, Discrepancy and Migration in Writing and Visual Culture in Mexico"
Erica Segre

13.15-14.30
Lunch Break

14.30-15.15
"México hiperbólico: Democracia radical y espacio infrapolítico"
Ángel Octavo Álvarez Solís

15.15-16.00
"Violencia: La parte del espacio. Tres adaptaciones libres de ‘La Calle' de Georges Perec"
Arturo Ortiz Struck

16.00-16.15
Coffee break

16.15-17.00
"Estética y política: melancolía, delirio y connatus en el arte mexicano contemporáneo"
José Luis Barrios

17.00-17.45
"Conceptualizing the Public: Memorialization and Human Rights Law in Mexico"
Robin Greeley & Michael Orwicz

Trinity College and Centre of Latin American Studies
With the support of the British Academy Newton Mobility Grant
Registration fee: £16/ £12: Lunch will be provided

R e g i s t e r h e r e :

http://onlinesales.admin.cam.ac.uk/browse/extra_info.asp?compid=1&modid=2&deptid=308&catid=1352&prodid=1791

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/events/1317045691667723/

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Reference:

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