

Jean Dubuffet vs. The Culture (Rennes, 6 Apr 17)

University of Rennes 2 (France), Apr 06, 2017 Deadline: Feb 28, 2017

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Résumé:

Jean Dubuffet produced a «critique of the culture», an eminently cultural and paradoxical project which aims at an «outside» of the culture while knowing that such «outsides are only, as he says, «fancies» or «mirages». This «critique of culture», that he presents as an active nihilism answering joyfully the nihilism of the western culture, has accents at the same time rousseauians and nietzscheans, but never sink into «primitiveness». The objective of this conference is to describe this critique under its diverse versions — because Dubuffet formulates it in theory and exercises it through its artistic practices (painting, sculpture, music, building...) — and to specify its spirit. What energies did he appropriate to formulate this critique (Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Arthur Schopenhauer, Friedrich Nietzsche, Dada, Marcel Mauss, Louis-Ferdinand Céline, Henri Michaux, Antonin Artaud, Jean Paulhan, Raymond Queneau...)? Who followed him (Asger Jorn, Claes Oldenburg, Raymond Hains, Jacques Villeglé, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Claude Simon, Gilles Deleuze et Félix Guattari, Hubert Damisch, Gilbert Lascault...)? Who was doubtful (Jean Tinguely, Witold Gombrowicz, Raoul Vaneigem, Pierre Bourdieu, Henri Meschonnic...)? Is this critique still current? If yes, what is its future?

Announcement

This international conference will take place at the University of Rennes 2 April 6th 2017 and will be presided by Baptiste Brun (Senior Lecturer, Histoire et Critique des Arts) and Christophe David (Histoire et Critique des Arts).

Modalities of submission

This Call for Papers is addressed to scholars working in philosophy of art, history of art, sociology, musicology, literary history, literary theory, anthropology...

The proposed papers may be sent in French or English (a title and summary of no more than 15 or 20 lines) before 28th February 2017 to Baptiste Brun (brunbaptiste@yahoo.fr) and Christophe David (christophe.t.david@wanadoo.fr). Please include a notice of 5 or 6 lines (full name, university affiliation if you have one, your most important articles or books). Your talk must not exceed 25 minutes and may be delivered in French or English.

Reference:

CFP: Jean Dubuffet vs. The Culture (Rennes, 6 Apr 17). In: ArtHist.net, Feb 3, 2017 (accessed Oct 18, 2025), https://arthist.net/archive/14681.