

Politics of the Image (Frankfurt/M, 6-7 Jan 06)

Flo Maak

[deutsche Version unten]

"Politics of the Image. Symposium on the Boundaries of the Visible."

Städelschule - Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Künste
Dürerstr. 10
60596 Frankfurt/Main

friday, 6th of january, 14:00 to 19:00 and
saturday, 7th of january, 12:00 to 18:00

The symposium will be held in english.

The frequent mention of the 'pictorial turn' has now become commonplace. The changed relationship between visibility, text and spoken word has inevitably led to a change in the conditions of political debate and the formation of opinion. Some denounce the digital age of images as a disembodied photoshop-reality without any remnants of immediate or authentic experience, while others glorify the revolutionizing power of the image. Apart from such general appraisals and due to the functionalization of visual culture as an effective form of social power play, the question of taking an emancipatory perspective on the politics of the image arises. Reigning systems of visibility are constituted through, among other things, the implicitness of surveillance, normative body images and the reproduction of racist and sexist stereotypes as well as the aesthetized self-representations of corporations, nations and politics in general. For critical image production as well as competent pictorial politics, the question of the possibilities and boundaries of strategic visualization within visual culture emerges.

Visual artists have always dealt with the constitution of the visible. They are visual pioneers with the supposedly longest tradition and are also, as a result of their profession deemed 'experts in seeing'. Since modernity at the latest, the boundaries of the visible have been of special interest to artistic production. These boundaries form areas where the represented can no longer be named without difficulty and where identification can be fallible. Within the changed technological and discursive conditions of contemporary visual culture, one is

confronted with the additional question of the current potential and competence of the institution of 'art'. Thus, the heavy influence of image production outside artistic practices lends a political perspective to the edges of visibility as a contact point of critical image production and activist intervention. At the moment when decoding, articulation and identification fall into crisis, the following questions can be raised: what can 'be seen' at all under the present circumstances and which counter-imagery should it be confronted by, if any?

In the course of the conference, these questions will facilitate exchange:

How do the invited image producer react on the present visual power structures? Where would they locate their own critical image production in relation to activist practices?

[List of guests - scroll down]

"Bildpolitik. Symposium zu den Grenzen der Sichtbarkeit."

Städelschule - Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Künste
Dürerstr. 10
60596 Frankfurt/Main

Freitag, 6. Januar, 14:00 bis 19:00
und Samstag, 7. Januar, 12:00 bis 18:00

Aufgrund der Funktionalisierung visueller Kultur als effektive Form gesellschaftlicher Machtausübung stellt sich die Frage nach einem emanzipatorischen Umgang mit der Politik des Bildes.

Bildproduzenten/-innen unterschiedlicher Profession sind eingeladen im Austausch über ihre Produktionsweisen und –Strategien die veränderten Bedingungen herrschender Sichtbarkeitsregime zu diskutieren.

Die Veranstaltung findet in englischer Sprache statt.

Gäste:

Coordination des Intermittents et Précaires d'Ile de France | Judith Hopf | Sandy Kaltenborn | Naeem Mohaiemen/VISIBLE Collective | Martha Rosler | Hito Steyerl

Gästeliste / List of guests:

Coordination des Intermittents et Précaires d'Ile de France

ArtHist.net

<http://www.cip-idf.org>

http://www.republicart.net/disc/precariat/intermittents01_en.htm

Judith Hopf

http://www.ateliereuropa.com/3.3_hopf.php

Sandy Kaltenborn

<http://www.image-shift.net>

Naeem Mohaiemen/VISIBLE Collective

<http://www.disappearedinamerica.org>

<http://www.shobak.org>

<http://www.muslimsorheretics.org>

Martha Rosler

<http://home.earthlink.net/~navva/about/>

Hito Steyerl

http://www.republicart.net/disc/mundial/steyerl02_de.htm

<http://www.manifesta.es/eng/artistas/artistas/steyerl.htm>

The conference is part of the Staedelschule's lecture series of the winter term 2005/2006.

For further informations:

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Reference:

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