

Seminar Art Theory & Practice (Zagreb, 19–22 Oct 06)

hegyidóra

Free School for Art Theory and Practice launched by tranzit. hu

October 2006

2nd seminar weekend

The Free School for Art Theory and Practice considers as the basis of its philosophy the concept that contemporary art and culture produce an excess of knowledge and experience, which can be recycled and used in broader social discourse, beyond their own primary context. The aim of the Free School is to increase the theoretical and practical arsenal of the local art scene based on active participation and dialogue in seminars, and also by analyzing artistic positions, critical aspects and the institutional system. With its name, the school marks community gatherings for people to meet with a view to exchange knowledge and learn from one another.

The school will function in the form of regular weekend seminars, held by invited curators, theoreticians and artists, allowing for the specificities of the contemporary Hungarian art scene and local discourses.

Who, What and for Whom (WHW) formation, Zagreb

19 October 6 p.m.

Public lecture at the Art History Institute of the Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest

20 - 22 October

closed seminar at Bulcsu u. 20 (Studio Little Warsaw), Budapest

Exhibiting Normalization (excerpt from the seminar description of WHW for the Free School)

The topic of the seminar will be to explore the tactics and approaches through which exhibitions can challenge and deconstruct omnipresent strategic systems of representation of national identities marching towards self-fulfillment in recently historicized narrative of progress towards the free-market and liberal democracy grail. The key question is: how to create critical projects that will not become prisoners of their own "will to influence" but will stay open to play of contradictions and enable constant re-investigations of representational strategies, exhibiting forms and actions in public space, at the same time working out a kind of

parallel 'cultural policies' and infrastructure.

In Croatia, as in the wider region, complex relationships emerge between issues that are ignored, made unfashionable by their lack of "New Europe glamour" and non-marketability, swept under carpet or even openly suppressed, such as collective relationship to the past and construct of history, economic transition, questions of national identity and nationalism, post-war normalization, pro-EU orientation and status of ethnic minorities (primarily Serbian) in contemporary Croatian society. During the seminar, we will discuss approaches taken by several recent WHW exhibitions such as "Side Effects", "Collective Creativity", "To be put up for a public debate" and "Normalization, dedicated to Nikola Tesla" and the ways exhibitions and art projects can be used to parasite on "cultural industries" in order to implant discussions on relevant social issues into broader public discourse.

What, How and for Whom/WHW is an independent team (its members are curatorial collective Ivet Curlin, Ana Devic, Natasa Ilic, Sabina Sabolovic and designer and publicist Dejan Krsic) formed in 1999, that organizes different production, exhibition and publishing projects. Since 2003 WHW has been directing the non-profit gallery called Galerija Nova in Zagreb, Croatia.

How to apply:

Artists, curators and anyone interested in contemporary art, who undertake to prepare for and to take an active part in the seminars (as is relevant to the lecturers), are invited to send a letter of motivation.

One seminar may be attended by maximum 15 participants.

Attendance at the free school is free. On request we can help in organization of accommodation.

Application deadline for the second seminar: October 12, 2006

(III. November 12, 2006, IV: December 3, 2006)

Send applications to: tranzit@enternet.hu

Lecturers 2006

Barbara Steiner, director Galerie für Zeitgenössische Kunst, Leipzig (21 - 24 September, 2006)

Who What and for Whom (WHW) formation, Zagreb (19 - 22 October, 2006)

Branislav Dimitrijevic, art historian, curator. Founder and lecturer of the School for History and Theory of Images, Centre for Contemporary Art, Belgrade (23 - 26 November, 2006) Jens Hoffmann, director of exhibitions,

Institute of Contemporary Arts, London; appointed director of CCA Wattis
Institute for Contemporary Arts San Francisco (16 - 17 December, 2006)
Detailed seminar program at [www. tranzit.org](http://www.tranzit.org)

Reference:

ANN: Seminar Art Theory &Practice (Zagreb,19-22 Oct 06). In: Arthist.net, Oct 10, 2006 (accessed May 12, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/28590>>.