

## Indexing and Investigation of Artists' Publications (Bremen, 13-14 Nov 09)

Indexing and Investigation of Artists' Publications Workshop & Art Salon

Workshop on Indexing and Investigation of Artists' Publications  
13 and 14 November 2009 at the Weserburg | Museum of Modern Art

From the 1960s onward, artists, publishers and collectors all over Europe started establishing networks that were quick to spread internationally regardless of political borders, their primary means of communication being the postal exchange of published artworks such as artists' books, magazines and newspapers conceived by artists, and multiplied objects and prints reflecting approaches ranging from Mail Art to Concept Art. The large majority of the works originating in this alternative artists' movement have not yet been investigated or catalogued, and only a small proportion of them have been published on the Internet to be accessed through archival finding aids or databases.

Whether in museums, libraries or art institutions in Europe or elsewhere, archives and collections of artists' publications do not have sufficient personnel resources at their disposal to register their holdings. What is more, many institutions have no clear concept for the indexing and investigation of these artistic publications, or of the factors to be taken into account in the process. A uniform approach or standardised guidelines for indexing have yet to be established.

The aim of this two-day workshop will be to deliberate on the standardization of the indexing categories, to work out chief criteria for a comprehensive search mask and (thus laying the foundation for later digital networking by way of online finding aids), and to begin thinking about the exchange of data. Within the framework of the workshop, an initial draft of a content-related standard is to be discussed and further developed with representatives of museums, collections, archives, and libraries. Building upon existing standards, the participants will work towards a common manual to serve as a set of regulations for the indexing of artists' publications. Thesauri, standardised data, and catchword indexes are also to be addressed. Presentations on already existing digital networks will grant insight into the possibilities, problems, and opportunities associated with digital networking, hence fostering discourse on long-term cooperation

between artist publication collections and archives and on the establishment of collaborative affiliations between these collections and archives. Through joint efforts - including the exchange of information and data on artists' publications - we can accomplish the task of investigating and indexing artists' publications and making them accessible for all institutions despite diversity of language and of socio-cultural and historical contexts.

The workshop has been conceived as a meeting of experts that is likewise open to other interested parties, while also serving as a means of training staff from the participating institutions.

#### Programme

Friday, 13 November

10.00 - 10.30 Welcome and Introduction

10.30 - 11.00 Lecture by Dan and Lia Perjovschi, Bucharest

11.15 - 11.30 Break

#### Session I:

Facts and Information to Be Considered in Indexing Artists' Publications

11.30 - 12.15 Presentation of Manuals:

- Artists' Books, Magazines, Newsletters

- Graphics

- Objects

Sylvie Boulanger, Centre nationale de l'estampe et l'art imprimé (CNEAI), Chatou

Elizabeth James, Victoria and Albert Museum/ National Art Library, London

Anne Thurmann-Jajes, Research Centre for Artists' Publications, Bremen

12.15 - 13.00 Discussion

13.00 - 14.00 Lunch Break

alternative: Guided Tour through the Exhibitions of the Research Centre

14.00 - 14.30 Lecture by Mauricio Nannucci, Florence

14.45 - 15.00 Break

#### Session I (continued):

15.00 - 15.45 Presentation of Manuals:

- Radio Art

- Distribution Media

Anne Thurmann-Jajes and Patrycja de Bieberstein Ilgner, Research Centre for Artists' Publications, Bremen

15.45 - 17.00 Discussion

#### Evening Programme

18.00 Celebration of 10 years of the Research Centre for Artists' Publications

19.00 Exhibition Opening Pro Musica Nova  
20.00 Art Salon  
20.00 and 22.00 Concerts by Die Maulwerker

Saturday, 14 November

Session II:

Skills for Standardisation

10.00 - 12.00 - Why Metadata and Thesauri?

The Uses and Properties of Metadata and Authority Files

Jörn Sieglerschmidt, Library Service Centre Baden-Wuerttemberg,  
Constance

12.00 - 12.15 Break

12.15 - 13.00 Discussion

13.00 - 14.00 Lunch Break

alternative: Guided Tour through the Exhibitions of the Research Centre

Session III:

Online databases and online finding aids and their possibilities

14.00 - 15.30 - Artists' Books Collection of CNEAI

Sylvie Boulanger, CNEAI, Chatou

- Artists' Books Collection of the V&A Museum

Elizabeth James, Victoria and Albert Museum, London

- Online finding Aid, Planned by the Research Centre

Kathrin Stärk, Zetcom, Zurich, and Anne thurmann-Jajes,  
Research Centre for Artists' Publications, Bremen

15.30 - 15.45 Break

15.45 - 17.15 Presentation of Networks

- BAM

Jörn Sieglerschmidt, Library Service Centre Baden-Wuerttemberg,  
Constance

- European Art Net

Claudia Jolles, Kunstbulletin, Zurich

- European Library / Europeana

Britta Woldering, German National Library, Frankfurt am Main

17.15 - 17.30 Break

17.30 - 19.00 Conclusion: Further Proceeding, Building a Working Team

Art Salon

With an aim of showing both dated and contemporary European artistic productions from the special field of artists' publications, the Art Salon welcomes booksellers, publishers, institutions, and artists to present their publications and put them up for sale.

Participants:

20th Century Art Archives, Cambridge

Antiquariat Udo Seinsoth, Bremen  
Boekie Woekie, Amsterdam  
Book Works, London  
Bremer Verband bildender Künstler und Künstlerinnen (BBK), Bremen  
Jan Van Eyck Academie, Maastricht  
Material Verlag, Hamburg  
Roma Publications, Amsterdam  
Salon Verlag, Cologne  
and a collective stand with publications from:  
Centre nationale de l'estampe et l'art imprimé (CNEAI), Chatou /  
International Graphic Arts Centre (MGLC),  
Ljubljana / Research Centre for Artists' Publications - Weserburg,  
Bremen

The Art Salon will be running parallel to the workshop. On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Research Centre for Artists' Publications, the Art Salon will also be held on Friday evening from 8 p.m. to midnight.

The Workshop and the Art Salon are part of the comprehensive network project "Living Memory - Artists' Publications in Europe" which is being funded with support from the European Commission.

The project is being carried out on a cooperative basis by:  
Research Centre for Artists' Publications - Weserburg | Museum of Modern Art, Bremen/ Dr. Anne Thurmann-Jajes  
MGLC - International Graphic Arts Centre, Ljubljana / Lilijana Stepancic  
CNEAI - Centre nationale de l'estampe et l'art imprimé, Chatou / Sylvie Boulanger

Opening Hours:  
Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Closed on Monday

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Reference:

ANN: Indexing and Investigation of Artists' Publications (Bremen, 13-14 Nov 09). In: ArtHist.net, Nov 4, 2009 (accessed Apr 25, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/32019>>.