IMAGES OF THE BRAIN (WIEN, 25 JUN 12)

Wien, June 25 - July 25, 2012

IMAGES OF THE BRAIN

What happens when neuroscience meets visual arts? How have insights into the living brain changed our understanding of the human condition and what influence do they have on artistic expression?

Talks, visual presentation and discussion on the crossroads between science and visual art:

18:15 Opening words
Prof. dr. Radovan Stanislav Pejovnik, rector of the University of Ljubljana, prof. dr. Markus Peschl, head of Cognitive Science Research Platform of the University of Vienna, study program director of MEi:CogSci Cognitive Science joint masters program.

18:30 Neurologist’s perspective: prof. dr. Zvezdan Pirtošek, Medical Faculty, University of Ljubljana
History of attempts to look into the living human brain
Beauty and decline of painters' work when the brain is damaged

19:15 Visual artist's perspective: prof. dr. Uršula Berlot, Academy of fine arts and design, University of Ljubljana
Presentation of installations based on radiological images of artist's own brain

20:00 Art historian's perspective: prof. dr. Raphael Rosenberg, Faculty of Art History, University of Vienna
The moving eye of the beholder: art literature versus empirical data

The main goal of the event is enabling cross-talk between various disciplines of cognitive science and even wider: a discussion between science and art. After the presentations, there will be enough time for a lively discussion.

In the first part of his lecture neurologist prof. dr. Zvezdan Pirtošek from Medical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, will lead us through the history of attempts to look into the living human brain. The second part will reveal beauty and decline of painters' work when the brain is damaged.

The following speaker, visual artist prof. dr. Uršula Berlot from the Academy of fine
arts and design, University of Ljubljana, will present some of her own art projects which originate in combining art and neuroscientific theories. She will present examples of installations based on radiological images of her own brain and formally combine the use of various visual media, medical technology and light sensitive materials. In the broader sense her installations are about perception research, exploring different states of consciousness by recording and visualizing mental (cerebral) spaces.

Art historian prof. dr. Raphael Rosenberg from the Department of Art History, University of Vienna will round off the evening with the talk titled "The moving eye of the beholder: Art literature versus empirical data" where he will analyze the behavior of the eye of art beholders. He will compare the way eye movements have been thought of for many centuries in descriptions of art with the data actually collected in his eye-tracking-lab.

Time and place:
Monday, 25th of June at 18:15 in the Seminarraum 1 (SR1) of the Institut für Kunstgeschichte, Universität Wien, Universitätscampus Hof 9, Spitalgasse 2, 1090. End time: approximately 21:00.
Entrance is free.

The event is organized in collaboration between University of Ljubljana, University of Vienna Cognitive Science Research Platform, Slovenian Culture and Information Centre Vienna (SKICA) and MEi:CogSci (Joint Master program in Cognitive Science).

REFERENCE: