

Art in the Public Space (Gdansk, 17–18 May 13)

The Baltic Sea Cultural Centre, 33/35 Korzenna St., Gdansk, Poland, May 17–18, 2013

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Art Line Gdansk 2013 | Conference

Art in the Public Space – Festival or Not?

The role of art in the public space is frequently discussed in the Tri-City artistic circles. One thing that has recently stirred up the discourse is the growing number of festival-like projects with a more or less populist profile appearing in the urban space. The festivals vary in form and purpose but what they all share is the common air of an ephemeral event. Often dubbed interventions in the public space, their aim is to familiarise the average viewer with art.

What about the responsibility to local communities involuntarily exposed to and involved in such activities? What strategies, if any, could be employed to initiate cooperation with all those locals who experience thousands of strangers flooding their streets in a quest for artistic projects? Should such interventions in the public domain be represented by institutions? Isn't it then a contradiction? And last but not least - what is the public space as such, since it no longer embraces merely the urban space?

The conference organised by the Gdansk City Gallery and the Baltic Sea Culture Centre will address these and other issues. The invited curators and artists will share their experience with projects in the public space. However, it is the inhabitants invited by the organisers who will remain at the centre of the discussion, both those accepting and rejecting such projects.

Friday, 17th May 2013

9:45 - 10:00 registration

Contexts, spaces and commissioning

10:00 - 10:50

Martin Schibli

What is it with Public Art that Makes it so Hard to Love it?

10:50 - 11:40

Dominik Lejman

The Right to Space

11:40 - 12:30

Michał Bieniek

Curator-Orderer: from the Context and Medium to a Curatorial and Organisational 'Failure'

12:30 - 13:30 LUNCH BREAK

Economy, funding and institutions

13:30 - 14:20

Kuba Szreder

The political Economy of Public Art Projects

14:20 - 15:10

Michaela Crimmin

Art for All? Observation, Participation, Collaboration and Opposition in Contemporary Art Practice

15:10 - 16:00

Roundtable Discussion

Saturday, 18th May 2013

9:45 - 10:00 registration

Dialogue, conflict, site-specificity and the role of an artist

10:00 - 10:50

Julia Draganović

Note on Time Based Public Art

10:50 - 11:40

Julita Wójcik

Daily Life of a Festival

11:40 - 12:30

Agnieszka Wołodźko

Discuss, not Decorate!

12:30 - 13:30 LUNCH BREAK

Festival, regionalisation and the public

13:30 - 14:00

Torun Ekstrand

What and where is Art in the Public Domain?

14:00 - 14:50

Bettina Pelz

Visual Seismographs

14:50 - 16:00

Roundtable Discussion

Reference:

CONF: Art in the Public Space (Gdansk, 17-18 May 13). In: Arthist.net, Apr 27, 2013 (accessed Jul 16, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/5200>>.