



**Conference
4 & 5 March 2016
Zurich
SWITZERLAND**



Booklet by FOA-FLUX

Cover images

Front: fb Chingchun Warehouse Hong Kong

Inside: Jatiwangi art Factory

Back: foa-flux.net

Concept by

FOA-FLUX foa-flux.net

Julia Weber Alumni, researcher ZHdK

Build Up buildup.org

Organized by

FOA-FLUX foa-flux.net

& Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK):

Master Transdisciplinary Studies,

Connecting Spaces Hong Kong—Zurich,

Master Fine Arts ZHdK,

zhdk.ch, trans.zhdk.ch, connectingspaces.ch,

masterfinearts.zhdk.ch

Action Art



Venues

Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK)
Toni-Areal, Pfingstweidstrasse 96
8005 Zurich / Switzerland

Meeting point both days:
-> Toni Entrance Hall
 10:45 in front of the Cafe

Workshops & Presentations
-> Kunstraum

Toni Room 5.K12, which is level 5
 Friday, 4 March, 11 am—4 pm
 Saturday, 5 March, 11 am—6 pm

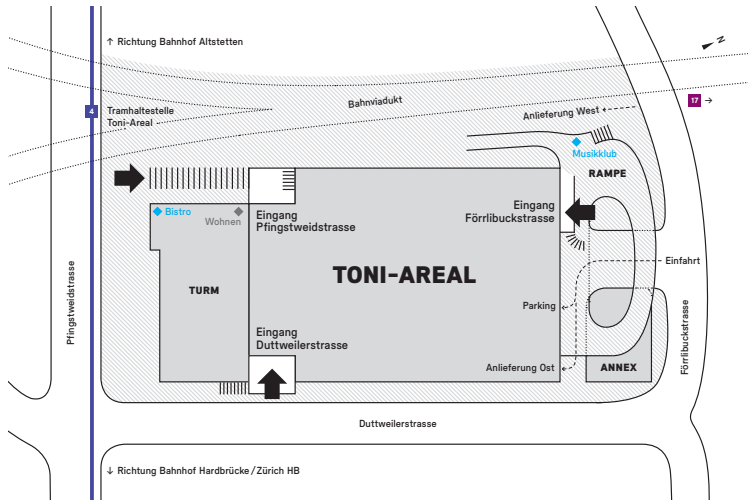
//event Exhibition
-> Gallery 1 & 2

Toni Room 4.K13, which is level 4
 Friday, 4 March, 4—6 pm

Films

-> Kino Toni

Toni Room 3.G02, which is level 3
 Friday, 4 March, 6—10:30 pm
 Saturday, 5 March, 6—10:30 pm





THE ROLE
OF ARTISTS
AND ART
STRATEGIES
IN CIVIC
EMPOWERMENT
AND TRANS-
FORMATION
PROCESSES.

Image Wooferten, leechunfung.blogspot.com



THE CONFERENCE

The conference brings together artists, community and peace building workers, scholars and (art) students.

The conference provides a platform for sharing experience, ideas, and knowledge on using art strategies as key factors in their civic empowerment and transformation projects.

The artist's role and artistic strategies are reflected in relation to the social, cultural and individual transformational objectives and from practical and theoretical points of view.

Key to the conference are the issues and questions that come up in these projects. They will be put forward in presentations and discussion workshops, and synthesized in plenary sessions.

THE CONFERENCE TOPIC

In recent years there has been a growing interest in topics connected with art, civic empowerment and transformation processes. Art groups, networks and movements across the world are increasingly fostering involvement in a direct relationship with their surroundings, and as such play an active part in the ongoing political, social and cultural transformation processes. The conference invites artists and other stakeholders who are actively engaged in such processes to share their experiences.

We are using the term ACTION ART as a sub-section of ACTION RESEARCH to describe this phenomenon. This term and research field equally include perspectives and methodological groundings in art practice and theory discussions. By examining these artistic civic empowerment and transformation projects in relation to the scholarly ACTION RESEARCH, we will gain an in-depth understanding of the agenda and value of these projects. We are especially interested in how artists and the involved groups connect their individual perspectives and goals, and how they benefit from each other.

ART & SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS

Challenges?
Advantages?
Reach?
Limits?
Role of Art?

Which key questions are guiding the project?

Who benefits directly and indirectly of the project?

What kind of art strategies, formats, and forms are used?

Who started the project?

Which issues are raised, transformed, introduced, and/or produced?

Who is involved?

What role do the artistic strategies play?

Why was it started?

What is the output?

In what ways is the project sustainable?

CHECKLIST: PROJECT ANALYSES

Direct information on the projects and observation of the presentations:

Founders, Agents?
(Presenter?) WHO?
Data/narration/
visuals? WHAT?
Communities,
groups involved?
Artists, non-artists?
FOR WHOM?

Forms of action?
Participation?
Relationships? HOW?
Effects, Impacts?
WHAT FOR?
Sustainability?
Ethical issues?



Maya Minder *FOOD-ART*

www.mayaminder.tk

Maya Minder is a curator and artist based in Zurich. Her vision is embedded in enabling dialogues between people. Searching for possible exchanges, she employs curious pragmatism and rational awareness as intuitive tools to research collective narratives.

Milena Schneider *FOOD-ART*

www.applied-theatre.org

Milena Schneider is a Swiss-Italian cook and activist from Zurich City who flirts with the art scene. She studied Dance Pedagogy at GDS in Basel, while she never lost her passion for gastronomy. With her catering “Mi-

Image mimiskitchen.ch

mi's Kitchen" she cooks for several festivals like "Stromereien", "Zürich tanzt", "Zürichs moves" or for art openings, for example at "Tanzhaus Zürich", "ZHdK" or "Galerie Freymond-Guth".

Mimis Kitchen

<http://mimiskitchen.ch>

Since 2011 Milena owns her catering service "Mimi's Kitchen" and often works in collaboration with art projects. She is amazed by the possibilities of interlinking cooking and art. She is inspired by her Italian roots, Mexican family background and the diversity of life. Her motivation is the fact that food can overcome borders and bring together people regardless of nationality and interests.

Menus Friday 4 March

Margehrita & Giovanni in Love

Minestrone, home-made foccaccia and salad.

Swiss realm lost in Seoul

Jaepchae; Seaweeds-cucumber salad, kimchee, rice, and lukewarm Korean noodles-vegetables salad.

Menus Saturday 5 March

Shouf shouf Habibi

Vegetable tajin with almonds and dried fruit, cinnamon harissa, tahini-yogurt and salad.

I stumbled over your naked feet at the goa beach

Okracurry with paneer, daal, raita, Basmati rice, and salad. Dessert: Pistachio and chocolate cake.



Julius Heinicke *WORKSHOP*

www.applied-theatre.org

Julius Heinicke studied Culture and Theatre at Humboldt University in Berlin. In 2012, Julius defended his PhD-thesis on Theatre and Politics in Zimbabwe at the Department of African Studies. In the last years, Julius spent time researching and teaching as well as working as a dramatic advisor in performance projects and in theatre in education, mainly in Africa and Europe.

Image Julius Heinicke

Generating Transcultural Spaces in Creating Amorphous Aesthetics

WORKSHOP by **Julius Heinicke**

The arts are often used to create spaces for inter- and transcultural reflections and strategies of empowerment. Especially since the 1970ies, a lot of so called “multikulti” projects – for instance on theatre in education – have found new ways to (re)present and bring together different cultural traditions. However, the post-colonial critique argues that these projects are often “directed” by European and Western concepts of aesthetics, which dominate or even suppress other cultural forms. The workshop will ask the participants to experiment on this background by creating performance techniques of action art that transfer or build a transcultural space.



Daria Zavodskaja *VISUAL NOTE*

Daria Zavodskaja was born in Abkhazia. She began her studies in the field of history and theory of culture and art at the Saratov State University (Russia). During her studies, she developed an interest in cultural contacts between Abkhazia and Russia. She continued to study at Zurich University of Art.

Image Daria Zavodskaja

Craft as art *VISUAL NOTE* by **Daria Zavodskaja**

The idea of this video comes from an attempt to understand the difference of two notions - "craft" and "art"—and where it comes from..



Image M.P. Leung, Out of Place 2005—2015

M.P. Leung PRESENTATION

www.lmp.hk

Leung Mee-ping received her BFA from L'École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts à Paris, France and her MFA from the California Institute of the Arts, LA, U.S.A. She was awarded her PhD at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Her creative practice includes installation, mixed media, public art and community art. Research-based practicing leads her to experimental interaction and integration. Her works integrate elements and platforms of theatre, design, commercial space and social space in order to extend performance or action; those can be read as issue-based creativity. Closely intertwined with her theoretical research area of visual culture and globalization are her concerns with ethics, community and memories of the human living situation.

Art as an interaction—MOCA in Donjiu Island *PRESENTATION by M.P. Leung*

Donjiu Island is a tiny island in Taiwan. Taiwan made it a crucial political and strategical foothold possessing many evidences about the history of point duty until now. After decades, the cross-strait relations between Mainland China and Taiwan have been alleviated and the strategic role of Donjiu has also faded gradually, resulting in people forgetting the island. Hong Kong artists came to this sparsely populated island in April, 2014. They focused on the functions of art as a form of education and a way to enable viewers' re-examination of their outlooks on island life. The community actively engages in the discussion of issues such as civil awareness, community life, and cultural capital by launching various creative projects, coalitions, and actions.



Ginggi Syarief Hasyim & Ismal Muntaha

PRESENTATION

fb Jatiwangi art Factory

Ginggi Syarief Hasyim (1971, Jatiwangi, Indonesia) is a cross-disciplinary artist and Founder of Jatiwangi Art Factory, a not-for-profit organization that focuses on discourses of local rural life through arts and cultural activities. He has participated in a wide series of art projects and international exhibitions. He lives and works in Jatiwangi.

Ismal Muntaha studied journalism and communication at the Islamic University in Bandung (Indonesia). He is an interdisciplinary artist and researcher at Jatiwangi art Factory, and also the founder of the Sunday Screen Video Collective in Bandung. Currently Ismal Muntaha is initiating a Research Centre of Clay
Image fb Jatiwangi art Factory

Culture with JaF. Munthaha's work was shown in many art spaces and festivals in Indonesia.

Mother Place *PRESENTATION* by **Ginggi Syarief Hasyim & Ismal Muntaha**

Jatwangi art Factory was built in 2005. Anyone who lives there is a part of the family. In this place the arts and everyday life find a common ground - not in a fixed form, but in relationships between humans and between humans and their ecologies and homes. Jatwangi art Factory experiments with different formats: festivals, art projects, discussion forums, exhibitions, music and community media. Ideally, the audience learns to construct, re- and deconstruct their own social capital through collective activism and the democratization of information.



Lee Chun Fung *PRESENTATION*

leechunfung.blogspot.com

Lee Chun Fung is an artist and curator based in Hong Kong. He graduated from the Chinese University of Hong Kong's Fine Arts Department in 2007. His artistic interests include: art activism, urban space, autonomous self-organized practice, and independent publishing. His practices cover different media and disciplines, ranging from art action, video, photography, zine-publishing, workshops, writing, and curating.

Image leechunfung.blogspot.com

Recalling the Past, Connecting Tomorrow

PRESENTATION by Lee Chun Fung

On the 4th of June in 1989 almost 1 million Hong Kong people (around 1/6 of the population) took to the streets, expressing the voice of democracy. Beijing's democratic movement shocked an entire generation in China, it had an impact on the democratic awakening of the English-colonized Hong Kong. Since then, a candlelight assembly with around 150 thousands citizens is held in Hong Kong every year. It is also the biggest memorial event to the Tiananmen massacre in all of China's society. Lee presents art projects he organized and participated in recent years, regarding the issues of 1989's democratic movement. One example is f.e P-at-riot : June 4th Cultural Festival of post-80s generation, a campaign aiming at connecting the young generation to the history of Tiananmen massacre.



Ivana Livia Lakic *PRESENTATION*

living-museum.com

Ivana Livia Lakic is an artist and social scientist. She holds an BA in ethnology and is studying Fine Arts at ZHdK and ethnology at the University of Zurich. She is an Artist-in-Residence at Atelier Living Museum Wil (Switzerland).

Image living-museum.com

Living Museum *PRESENTATION by* Ivana Lakić

Living Museum is by its own definition an art - asylum for people with ‘mental impairment’, a museum for contemporary art, a center for social networks and a meeting point. Ivana will introduce the Living Museum by discussing an exemplary project embedded in the annual exhibition of 2015 titled “Irritationen”, a “heraldic cyborg” project to which around 25 artists contributed. The work consists of 23 flags referring to Wil’s historical abbot’s emblems.



Him Lo //event *EXHIBITION and PRESENTATION*

himlo.com

fb: chingchun warehouse, Mr Lung's wood workshop

Him Lo is a performance artist, painter, illustrator, and curator. He co-founded and co-runs the Chingchun Warehouse and Mr. Lung's Woodworkshop. He is also the director of Hong Kong House of Stories. Him Lo received his MA Cultural Studies from Lingnan University Hong Kong, a BA Fine Art from RMIT University Hong Kong and a BA in Illustration from Middlesex University London. His work focuses on activating possibilities, aiming at changing living conditions and leaving a mark in reality. He uses artistic strategies, empathy, and his profound knowledge on bottom-up strategies and on how to connect people. In recent years he has (co-)run many art projects to initiate social transformation processes in

Hong Kong. Whilst focusing on empowerment, sharing and understanding, he is also interested in personal and public memories and how to alter or keep these alive.

{the mind map - living together}
empowerment | sharing | understanding

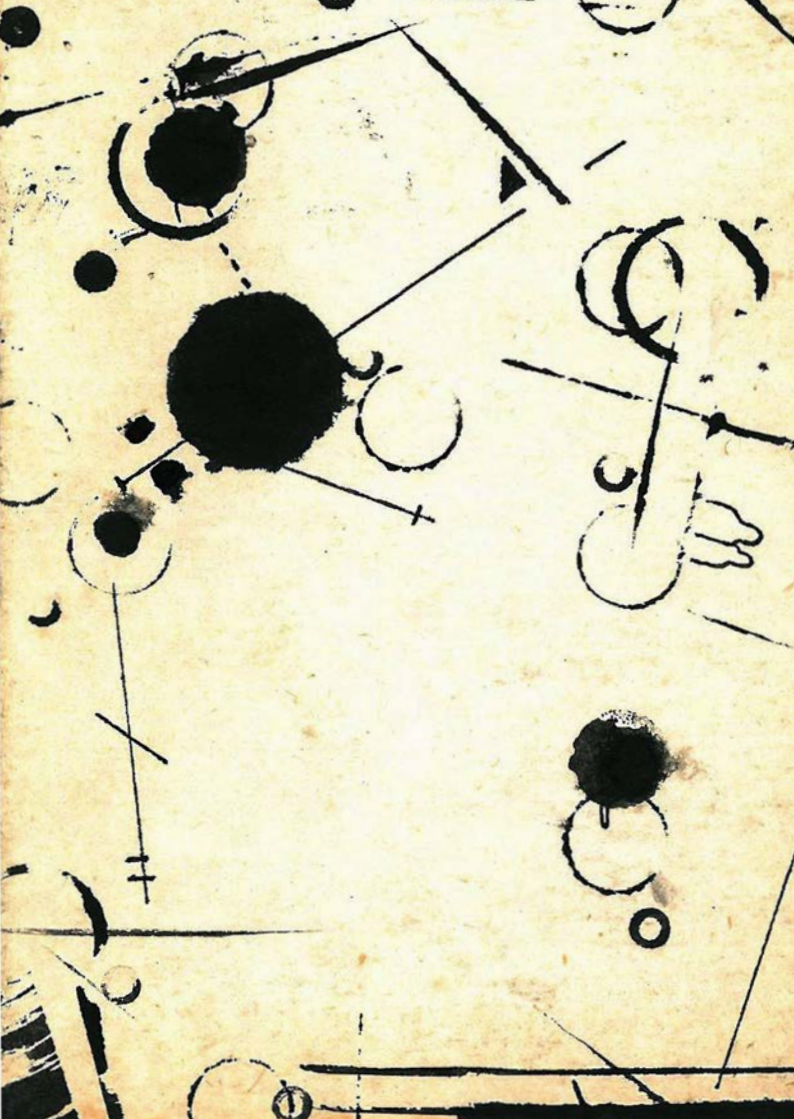
//event EXHIBITION by **Him Lo**

The exhibition at Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) has been organized by FOA-FLUX and Connecting Spaces Hong Kong—Zurich. Some of the images shown reflect collaborative artistic work based on his in-depth experiences. They reflect the many dynamics at work when connecting people through using artistic and empowerment strategies. His video “Invisible Marks” talks about personal experiences and expectations.

Communication *PRESENTATION by Him Lo*

I like painting , I like sculpture, I like to deliver my feeling through different art forms. I still think that this is the best thing I learned in my life until now. I think it would be nice for more people to experience this process. What does art mean? For me it is not just a painting, not just a sculpture , it is something that can show you the direction to discover yourself. So I jump into a new art form: socially engaged art. I am not "the" Artist anymore, I don't use a brush, I don't use a hammer, what I use is communication. I need to talk, I need to understand myself through other people. It's not a painting, it's not a sculpture, it's a platform built by a group of people and this platform allows more people to experience the process of making art. It is not just

line, form, colour or proportion now . It is empowerment, sharing, and understanding.



**ACTIVATING POSSIBILITIES.
ART, COMMUNITY, COLLABORATION.**

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATION edited by

Him Lo and Dominique Lämmli

*The publication will be downloadable from
foa-flux.net/activating-possibilities*

The forthcoming publication reflects some of Him Lo's recent projects in Hong Kong. Project overviews reflect his use of art, sports and communication to make people think about their living conditions and to start shaping their realities.

Texts by Annemarie Bucher, Lee Chun Fung, and Dominique Lämmli put Him Lo's impressive work in broader contexts: collaborative painting as a research tool, Contemporary Art discourses, linkage to glocal context and questions of resistance.

ART in ACTION

ART in ACTION *FORTHCOMING PUBLICATION* edited by
Annemarie Bucher and Dominique Lämli

*The publication will be downloadable from
foa-flux.net/art-in-action-publication*

FOA-FLUX has been working on Art in Action as part of its research on functions of art in global contexts since 2008. In 2014 and 2015 some projects have been part of Connecting Spaces Hong Kong—Zurich. This collection of documents includes articles, transcriptions of discussion rounds and presentations, images of exhibitions and information on exemplary socially engaged artist groups. Texts by Annemarie Bucher, Meera Curam & Talitha Roberts, Chantal Wong, Nkule Mabaso, Grace Samboh, Rada Leu, among others. The events took place at the Hong Kong Arts Centre, Connecting Space Hong Kong and Museum Bärengasse Zurich.



Image Pittstreetriot.blogspot.com, photo: Manson Wong

PITT STREET *FILM* by **Him Lo & Lee Chun Fung** In Cantonese, with Chinese and English subtitles
2015/Hong Kong/DVD/40min/Colour

At midnight on the 7th of June 1989, a few days after the Tiananmen massacre at Beijing, a riot took place at Pitt Street in Yau Ma Tei, Hong Kong. After this riot, public memorial events, with an expected 1.5 million visitors, were canceled. It is said that the riot was started by the Chinese government for this reason. Nonetheless, HK sees big memorial events of the massacre until this day, 25 years later. "Pitt Street Riot" is an action theater based on the documents and oral history collected from the Yau Ma Tei neighborhood. The theatre consists of three storylines – A left-winged old man brushing past the 'riot'; two lovers missing out on a date, because of the riot, and a secondary school student who tries to start an action in school to support the movement.



Benny Chan *PREMIERE FILM*

Benny CHAN Yin-Kai has been making documentaries and holding video education workshops since he was in university. He was a member of v-artist from 2007–2014, an art group in Hong Kong.

Filmography and awards

Raging Land: A Record of Choi Yuen Village, DV 80 Min, 2009; **Raging Land 2:** Breaking New Ground Through Thorns And Thistles, DV 120 min, 2010; **Raging Land 3:** Three Valleys, DV 310 min, 2011; **Award of Excellence**, Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival, 2013; **Raging Land 4:** The Way to the Village 2015 DV 90 min.

The Agro-way—New Youth On Farming

PREMIERE FILM by **Benny Chan**

2016, DV, 200 min

This documentary project covers the situation of Hong Kong's new organic farmers. Taiwan and Japan are also covered in order to see how different experience can be shared with Hong Kong. It is his latest feature-length documentary.



Ibra Seck Cassis *PRESENTATION*

cassis.mondoblog.org

echos2rues.com

Ibra Seck Cassis is a journalist, hip-hop artist and screenwriter. With the emergence of new technologies, he became an activist 2.0. He is a founding member of “Rufisque Tech Hub” (a social innovation in community building), a blogger for cassis.monoblog.org, and a writer for the citizen-oriented media echos2rues.com. A manager for a variety of community causes, he is also the administrator of a number of social media forums.

Ibra Seck Cassis ou l'activiste 2.0

PRESENTATION by **Ibra Seck Cassis**

A professional journalist since more than four years, he is also pursuing activism 2.0. The emergence of new technologies led him to become a professional blogger.



Image Artist: Raghu Wodeyar

Naveen Mahantesh *PRESENTATION in absentia by*

www.ecologiesoftheexcess.wordpress.com

Naveen Mahantesh is the principal architect of CRESARC, whose practice lies at the intersection of art, architecture & the city. His projects provide alternate perspectives for the banal routines, eulogise urban myths & engage the ecologies that the city thrives upon. Exhibitions- Sarai Reader Exhibition'09(2013)&Insert(2014)-curated by Raqs media collective Conferences- Mediating Modernities-Srushti School of Design(2013) & FOA-FLUX Symposium(2015) Grants- KHOJ(2013) & IFA Project560(2014) Fellowships- City as Studio(2013)-Sarai-CSDS & Curator for Students Biennale,Kochi Muziris Biennale(2016) Recent Talks - WPA:Washington DC,The department of Cultural Affairs for Arlington County &ISCP-NYC(2015).

Smart—the new local?

PRESENTATION in absentia by **Naveen Mahantesh**

“1909 Theorem, The skyscraper as an utopian device for the production of unlimited virgin sites on a single metropolitan location.”[1] The internet in the 21st Century accommodates infinity at the finger tip. The omnipresence of the internet allows the click of a button to be translated into a following, an opinion, a support, a retort or a tangible social gesture. Scrolling is a method of looking around and clicking is a method to select. A kid with a mobile phone is assured to remain within the radius of the wifi signal and cell phone users gravitate to places with “good network”. A bench in an airport with good wifi signal will gather more people than a bench without. How can architects and planners shift from traditional spatial

design informed by physical topographies to accommodate the instinctive human tendencies to navigate the virtual topography of cell phone and wifi networks? [1] - S,M,L,XL



Majid Abbasi Farahani *PRESENTATION in absentia*

Majid Abbasi Farahani lives in Iran. After studying architecture he has been focusing on art, and held his first solo exhibition in 2004. Since then, Majid has had numerous solo and group exhibitions in Iran, as well as around the world, such as in Italy and South America, England, and Kuwait. In addition, he has been a longstanding member of the Society of Iranian Painters. Majid Abbasi Farahani is the founder and director of CP Biennial.

CP Biennale & Farahan art week project

PRESENTATION in absentia by **Majid Abbasi Farahani**

cpbiennale.com

In recent years, uncontrolled migration of people from villages to larger cities caused empty villages. FARAHAAN ART WEEK aims at bringing attention to rebuilding these villages and making them more attractive to live in. The first FARAHAAN ART WEEK took place in 2013. Artists and residents join in the rebuilding of these places.



Mahroo Movahedi *PRESENTATION*

www.Mahroo-Movahedi.kleio.com

Mahroo Movahedi is a visual artist from Isfahan, Iran. She received her BFA and MFA from Iran and MA Transdisciplinary Studies at Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) Switzerland. Mahroo Movahedi explores themes of culture, landscape, and language questioning the notion of identity, the sense of belonging and sense of loss. She engages with the representation(s) of self and other through the lens of her experience of living in and between different spaces, cultures and languages. She has been participating and exhibiting in several solo and group exhibitions.

Artwork by street artist mahdi ghadyanlo, Tehran, Iran

Investigation of mural evolution in Tehran

PRESENTATION by **Mahroo Movahedi**

Murals have long been a part of Tehran's urban framework. Traditionally, blank walls were a canvas for governments to demonstrate their messages and to control public life. Nowadays, in Tehran many walls and surfaces are covered with writings, colourful images as graffiti murals, stencil and sticker works that are not approved by the government. Their contents and their positioning have changed dramatically over time: Today murals in the public sphere perform a vital and powerful role in ideological, economic, social and cultural change which are the main concerns of the new generation.



Füsun Ipek *PRESENTATION*

cargocollective.com/fusunipek

urbanseries.org

waschmaschinegruppe.com

Füsun Ipek is an artist, activist and art-theorist. She is interested in the connection between aesthetic values and social engagement. She holds an MA and BA in Art Theory and Aesthetics (ELTE, Budapest) and is studying Fine Arts at University of the Arts in Zurich.

Image Füsun Ipek

Does art matter? *PRESENTATION by* **Ipek Füsün**

Füsün gives an overview of art related critical actions made in Budapest - from the cycling movement through radical political actions to oral-history based community projects. For instance, she explains the changes of a mural painting's meaning, and how it is turned into a decorative element in a newly gentrified area. Or how a totally illegal street-art action's press release ends up with long days of non-removal in the middle of the city.



Kristin Flade *PRESENTATION*

applied-theatre.org

recording-ghosts.blogspot.com

zeitbanditen.com

Kristin Flade is a writer and a PhD student at Freie Universität Berlin. Her PhD project investigates applied theatre and politically engaged artistic practices in the Palestinian and Israeli societies. Kristin is conducting her research within the European Research Council project The Aesthetics of Applied Theatre under the direction of Matthias Warstat.

Image Participants of the 2015 Freedom Ride look onto the Israeli settlement of Modi'in Illit that is being built on Palestinian village lands.

Mobilising Solidarities and Civic Engagement Here and There

PRESENTATION by **Kristin Flade**

For a number of years, The Freedom Theatre of the refugee camp in Jenin has been organising an annual Freedom Ride, bringing together a group of Palestinians and international guests for solidarity stays and Playback Theatre performances throughout Palestine. The presentation examines the Freedom Ride in 2015: Which aesthetic strategies are employed to create affective and effective political commons over the time of the ride? How temporary are such ties and transformations? Which tactics are being used to mobilise solidarities and civic engagements in the participants from here and there?



Yamu Wang *VISUAL NOTE*

blog.fotomuseum.ch/2015/10/i-photo-forensics-from-stalin-to-oprah/#more-2607

Yamu Wang holds a double BA degree in literature and is studying media art at Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK).

<http://www.news.ch/Thomas+Hirschhorn+entwirft+-Schweizer+Briefmarke/487277/detail.htm>

Case Study: Thomas Hirschhornian

VISUAL NOTE by Yamu Wang

Her contribution, “A Case Study on the Thomas Hirschhornian” is an unfinished experiment made for the final presentation of the one-week seminar “Why Art, Which Art, Whose Art.” In this piece she, as a producer, tries to find a position functioning in the art system.

Angela Melitopoulos *FILM*

kunstakademiet.dk/en/schools-and-institutes/school-media-arts

Angela Melitopoulos has been working with electronic media since 1986, creating experimental single-channel tapes, video installations, video-essays and documentaries. Melitopoulos' videos and installations were awarded and shown in many international festivals, exhibitions and museums. Her work is often based on research and collaboration with other knowledge spheres like sociology, politics and theory. She is a Professor for Media Art at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen.

Angela Anderson *FILM & PRESENTATION*

angelaolgaanderson.wordpress.com

Angela Anderson has worked in video art and film since 2006, producing multi-channel installations, sound pieces, and filmic works which trespass the borders of fiction and documentary, often in collaboration with other artists. Her work focuses on the fields of economics, ecology, migration, and feminist/queer theory, as well as the potential of audio-visual media to open up new lines of flight. Since 2009 she has worked as the exhibition designer for Forum Expanded at the Berlin International Film Festival. She holds an MA in Film and Media Studies from the New School and a BA in Economics and Latin American Studies from the University of Minnesota.



Image Angela Anderson

Unearthing Disaster I & II and Radio Schizoanalytique – interventions into the sensory field of crisis capitalism

*PRESENTATION and FILM by Angela Anderson & Ange-
la Melitopoulos*

Unearthing Disaster I, [37'](#)

vimeo.com/channels/restlessminds

Unearthing Disaster II, [26'](#)

vimeo.com/145769933 pw: halkidiki

radio-schizoanalytique.net

The videos "Unearthing Disaster I & II" bring us to Halkidiki in Northern Greece, the site of an on-going grassroots struggle against the construction of a large-scale open-pit gold mine by a Canadian mining company which is emblematic of the exploitative power relations existing within the European Union. While the two films have been shown

in the contexts of exhibitions and lectures, the raw video footage has been used by the local activists for their for their online media campaign. Anderson and Melitopoulos have also set up a radio – Radio Schizoanalytique - with the activists from the village of Megali Panagia, one of the villages closest to the mine. Radio Schizoanalytique was initiated as a way of breaking the pro-mining media hegemony in the region as well as to encourage a different kind of dialogue to emerge between the local activists.



Veli & Amos *WORKSHOP*
veli-amos.net

Veli Silver studied painting at the Academy of Fine Arts, Ljubljana and the Faculty of Fine Arts, Porto.

Amos Angeles studied Architecture at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich and holds a BA of at the Zurich University of the Arts.

Veli & Amos have been working as a duo since 2008. Their work has been shown at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Ljubljana; Kiasma, Helsinki; Rotor Gallery, Graz; HVW8 Gallery, Los Angeles; Helmhaus, Zurich; Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Zurich; P 74 Gallery, Ljubljana; Message S along, Zurich and W139, Amsterdam.

Image veli-amos.net



Jánosh Miháli Hübler *TRIGGER STATEMENT*

Janos Mihaly Hübler is born in Hungary. He is an artist whose creative practise includes installation, sculpture, design and public art. Currently a research fellow at IFCAR, ZHdK, he holds a doctorate in practice-based research and teaches at the University of West-Hungary. His research interests include collaborative practice in art and architecture.

Image www.hublerjanos.com



Image Sibylle Stamm

Sibylle Stamm *MODERATION*

<http://www.progr.ch/de/ateliers/sibylle-stamm/321/>

Sibylle Stamm supports political activists to take initiatives for the transformation of local conflicts and social justice. A political scientist by training, she has lived and worked in the Middle East for over a decade. Today, she is based in PROGR in Bern, experimenting with artistic methods to channel personal or collective anger and disruption into creative political change projects. She works as a researcher, coach, and facilitator with people and organisations who make trouble and break boundaries.



Lena Maria Thüring *FILM*

Lena Maria Thüring is an artist and filmmaker, who lives and works in Basel and Zurich. She received her Master in Fine Arts at the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) in 2014 and is currently teaching at the Art Institute in Basel (FHNW). Her work has been shown in solo exhibitions at the Kunsthaus Baselland (2012) and the Museum für Gegenwartskunst Basel 2013 and in group shows and screenings at the Kunstmuseum Bern, Kunsthalle Basel, Haus der Kulturen Berlin, the Reina Sofia National Museum Madrid in Spain and the Palais de Tokyo in Paris. She received several awards including Swiss Art Award (2008), Manorkunstpreis Basel (2013) and two artist residencies in Paris (2009) and New York (2010).

Image lenamariathuering.ch

Future Me (2015) *FILM, 16'**by* **Lena Maria Thüring**

In her work, Thüring approaches the personal stories of individuals or groups and their environment using various media, such as photography, video or installation. Reflections on social systems and their construction within a specific space play an important part in her work, as well the combination of memory and space.

SYNOPSIS

As part of its Education Projects series, the Museum für Gegenwartskunst invited the artist, Lena Maria Thüring to collaborate with high school students on a new work. She led the students in a workshop in which they wrote their memoirs, from birth to death, producing a series of semi-fictions.

The result is a film that bears the hallmarks of a music video. The choreographies and dramatic scenes staged for the camera burst onto the screen with a mix of dancelike grace and combativeness, while the soundtrack features the students' own offscreen voices reading their memoirs—a polyphonic verbal fabric in the rhythm of the images.

Søren Grammel, Museum für Gegenwartskunst Basel, Switzerland.



Image Lisa Pedicino & Laura Leuzzi

Lisa Pedicino & Laura Leuzzi FILM

Lisa Pedicino is an Italian art critic and freelance journalist based in Zurich. After an M.A. in contemporary art from La Sapienza University of Rome, she started to work as editor at “ArteeCritica” magazine. She writes for “Kunstbulletin” and is a regular contributor to other art magazines. Since 2015 she is a project coordinator at Pro Helvetia for the cultural exchange programs.

Laura Leuzzi holds a PhD in art history and is also a curator. She is a PDRA on the AHRC funded research project ‘EWVA - European Women’s Video Art in the 70s and 80s’ (Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design, University of Dundee). She is the author of articles and essays in books and exhibition catalogues. She is the co-editor of REWIN-

DItalia - Early Video Art in Italy (John Libbey Publishing, 2015), with Stephen Partridge.

Unter de Himmel vo Züri (2014) *FILM, 20'*
by Lisa Pedicino & Laura Leuzzi

Speaking and understanding Schwiizer-tüütsch [Swiss German] can be the first and most relevant barrier to integration for immigrants in Switzerland. For the video project, the authors researched this issue through two methodological tools - performance and interview - to stimulate a debate on integration between immigrants and the local community. The presentation will examine how these approaches allow people to experiment with their own voice in a relatively safe environment: to discuss their attempts and difficulties with the language,

to express their hopes to become part of the community, and to give a sense of their contact with lesser known, cultural aspects of the dialect (poetry and songs).



Image Sandra Bühler |

Sandra Bühler *FILM*

Sandra Bühler is a filmmaker and new media artist. In her works, she investigates the complexity and dynamics of space and human beings and researches narrative systems and nonlinear storytelling. She studied “Visual Communication” and “New Media Art/Experimental Film” at the University of the Arts Berlin (UdK).

Humming Earth Society *FILM, 20'*

by Sandra Bühler

Jatiwangi is a rural, industrial area in West—Java, the biggest roof tile producer in North East Asia. While foreign investors profit from cheap work forces and replace roof tile factories with new textile industries, villagers might benefit from this new lifestyle. The film describes how a new harmony between the villagers and their soil emerges when the local artists take this change as opportunity to celebrate the emergence of a new culture: Clay-Music!

Villagers start to listen to their earth and tune in with their surrounding. A musical exploration echoes how their commodity of roof tiles changes into an inspiring vision. Apparently they will form an orchestra of 5000 musicians to celebrate their collective

promise to uphold Jatiwangis clay culture.

DISCUSSANTS

Everyone present is most welcome to join the discussion. Additionally, some have been invited to act as “discussants in-duty” :-) to guarantee lively sessions:

Chan Wing Sze

Chan Wing Sze is a research assistant at Baptist University Hong Kong. She is interested in questions such as: What does “community” mean on a remote island? How does community art function in a “no-man’s-land”?

Anjana Chetty

Anjana Chetty is a visual artist. Her work is built on everyday rhythms, rituals, literary fictions and psychological research. She

deploy various media - drawing, object making, installation, moving-images and spoken word-narrative to realise her ideas.

Kathrin Doppler

Kathrin Doppler heads the Figuren Theater-Festival Basel and works as freelance production manager. She has been working for “Haus für elektronische Künste Basel” and for the international animation film festival Fantoche. She studied theatre, dance, and religion at the University of Bern, the University of Basel and the Sorbonne in Paris. She also completed a dance training and curated programs for various festivals, among them the Musik Open Air festival “das arcs”.

Mirjam Egloff

is currently enrolled in the Master of Trans-

disciplinary Studies at the ZHdK. Her background is in fashion design. After she obtained her Bachelors degree, she joined the sportswear giant Adidas in Germany and Shanghai, working in the design teams of a number of sub-brands ranging from commercial streetwear to high-end fashion. With an affinity for transdisciplinary topics, Mirjam tackles the paradigm of the Entrepreneurial Self in her Master thesis, trying to illustrate the conflicts that this maxim provokes both in body and mind.

Sarah Eschenmoser

Sarah Eschenmoser is studying Media and Art with focus on theory at Zurich University of Arts. The focus of her current studies is on the contemporary art scene of China.

Milenko Lazic

Milenko Lazic is an artist, musician, performer, writer, and publisher. His work “Zurich-Syndrom”, published at his publishing house “Amsel-Verlag” talks about the life of an artist in Zurich in the form of short stories. He orates his texts in “Reading Performances” with guitar, percussion, lo-op-technic, and vocals.

Rada Leu

is born in Sofia, Bulgaria, studied Literature and Film Studies in London and Paris. Following an occupation as a theatre director, she began working with a variety of media and has recently published two comic books. She lives and works in Zurich, where she is currently studying Transdisciplinarity at ZHdK.

Ilona Rüegg

Ilona Rüegg is a visual and conceptual artist who likes to intervene in the course of events by disrupting, deviating, delaying or eventually anticipating their flow, exploring the generated time structures in process-oriented projects, photo series and drawings.
ilonaruegg.com

Ferhat Türkoglu

Ferhat Türkoglu attended the theatre academy in Bern. After his education, he continued to attend singing lessons and was active in a number of street-dance formations. Following a series of engagements in film, theatre, music and media, he now feels compelled to connect the variety of his experience.

Nina Tshomba

Nina Tshomba is currently enrolled in the Master Transdisciplinary Studies. She has a Bachelor in Music and Movement, Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) and a Bachelor in International Affairs, University of St. Gallen. She conceives art as a necessity and a possibility: to deal with personal as well as societal subjects, problems, and phenomena. She understands art as a personal and at the same time universal language, a means to express, to make visible, to increase awareness, to provoke, to initiate. After her theoretical studies in economics and politics, she wants to pursue performances to create an instant impact on the surrounding as well as on the performer(s), which can lead to something new, in the moment or even permanently.

Chow Yik

Chow Yik grew up in Hong Kong. She studied Visual Culture at the School of Creative Media, City University of Hong Kong, and Aalto University Helsinki, Finland. Her work focuses on topics such as belonging, presence and recollection. She has been working and living in Europe and Asia. Her video works have been selected for Berlin Talents, Berlinale, and Film di Roma, and she has been a UNESCO Aschberg Laureate 2014 at the National Studio of Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Seoul. Yik initiated a collaborative-curatorial collective “case-open-close (aka c-o-c)” with Yip Kai Chun in 2014.

Sarah Zürcher

Sarah Zürcher is an independent curator and

art critic. She has organised exhibitions and festivals around the globe under the name I.D.E.A.S. - Intercultural Dialogues And Ethics in Arts and in Sciences since 2008. From 2014 to 2016, she worked as Director of Museum Langmatt (CH) and from 2009 to the end of 2013 as Director of the Art School esba TALM in Tours (F). From 2002 to the end of 2007, she directed Fri-Art, Fribourg (CH). She worked among others in Kunsthalle Bern, Mamco and the Print Room in Geneva. She has regularly been publishing articles and essays on contemporary art since the 1990's. www.sarahzurcher.com

JULIA WEBER *CONFERENCE CONCEPT*

Julia Weber is a sociologist and artist. In her research-orientated projects she employs photography, text, drawing and audio as means of knowledge production. Her works focus on the fields of history, memory, body and labour and transcend the borders of fiction and documentary. Moreover, she works in the field of art education (FHNW, ZHdK) and community art. She holds an MA in Sociology (University of Zurich) and in Fine Arts (Zurich University of the Arts).

MICHAELA LEDESMA *CONFERENCE CONCEPT*

Michaela Ledesma is a facilitator and practitioner focusing on design and support to innovative, locally-owned peacebuilding processes and programs. Through these, she seeks to support diverse groups to work toward positive social change. Over the past sixteen years, she has worked with civil society organizations, governments, as well as international and United Nations agencies in different conflict and post-conflict environments. She is a co-organizer of howtobuild-peace.org conference and co-founder of howtobuildup.org.

ANNEMARIE BUCHER *CONFERENCE CONCEPT*

Annemarie Bucher studied art history, ethnology, and philosophy at Zurich University and landscape architecture at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich. She has also been a research fellow at Harvard University. She is currently working as a senior lecturer at Zurich University of the Arts and an independent researcher and curator. She is the author of several books and articles on art, cultural theory, landscape, and theory. She has curated several exhibitions, such as “Why make Prints?” and “G59, the First National Garden Exhibition in “Switzerland”. Other current work includes an exhibition project on the banana as a transdisciplinary and transcultural phenomenon. She is co-founder/-director of FOA-FLUX.

DOMINIQUE LÄMMLI *CONFERENCE CONCEPT*

Dominique Lämmlí is co-founder/-director of FOA-FLUX. She is a visual artist, philosopher, and professor of drawing & painting at Zurich University of the Arts. Her recent texts on current art developments include: Forthcoming: (2016) Artists Working Reality. Connecting People, in: Activating Possibilities, edited by Him Lo and Dominique Lämmlí. (2014) Art in Action: Make People Think! (2012) Globalist or Glocalist Views? Taking Preliminary Assumptions Seriously. Texts downloadable from foa-flux.net. She has conceived and run several practice-based projects in collaborative, transdisciplinary and cultural settings.

Acknowledgment

The conference is conceived and organized by FOA-FLUX (foa-flux.net) with Zurich University of the Arts (zhdk.ch), and BUILD UP (howtobuildup.org), a social enterprise working at the intersection of technology, civic engagement and peacebuilding.

The conference is part of the Master of Arts in Fine Arts module THOUGHT EXCHANGE by Dominique Lämmli. The module provides insights into current debates linked to the FOA-FLUX research. FOA-FLUX is an independent research venture focusing on art in global contexts. Additionally the conference is interlinked with the seminar Art in Action, MA Transdisciplinary Studies and MA Fine Arts.

Conference Team

Conference concept by FOA-FLUX (Annamarie Bucher and Dominique Lämmli) with Julia Weber and Michaela Ledesma (howtobuildup.org).

Conference organisation by Dominique Lämmli with Julia Weber, Mahroo Movahedi, Marilyn Umurungi, Olga Alvarez Lenskaya, Sarah Eschenmoser, Yamu Wang.

Conference booklet by FOA-FLUX, proof-reading by Rada Leu, Connecting Spaces Hong Kong—Zurich.

Exhibition in conference space: Concept and buildup responsible: Lee Chun Fung. Some work exhibited by living-museum (Ivana Latic).

//event **Exhibition**

//Event Exhibition “Living Together” by Him Lo: Concept and Organisation by Him Lo, FOA-FLUX and Connecting Spaces Hong Kong—Zurich. Buildup responsible: Katja Gläss.

Team for both exhibitions, “Living Together” and Lee Chun Fungs exhibition in conference space: Mahroo Movahedi, Marilyn Umurungi, Olga Alvarez Lenskaya, Sarah Eschenmoser.

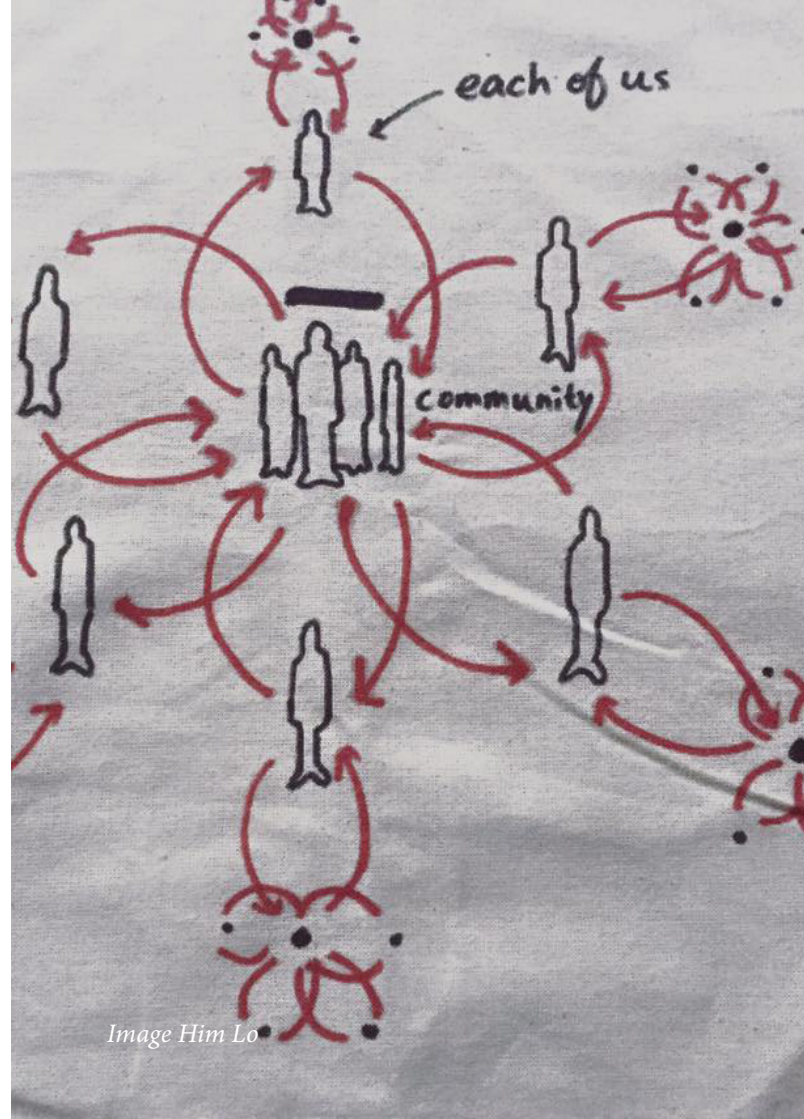


Image Him Lo

THANK YOU!

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Your contributions, participations, and enthusiasm is key to our in-depth exchange.

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- Connecting Spaces Hong Kong–Zurich
- Dossier Internationales
- International Affaires
- International Office
- Master of Arts in Transdisciplinary Studies
- Master of Arts in Fine Arts
- Institute for Contemporary Art Research

PROGRAMME FRIDAY, 4 MARCH

Meeting point 10:45 am, ZHdK, Toni,
Pfingstweidstrasse 96, Entrance Hall

Start 11 am

LUNCH & INTRO

WORKSHOP

PRESENTATIONS ART & SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS I

OPENING //EVENT: EXHIBITION

DINNER

FILMS

End 11 pm

PROGRAMME SATURDAY, 5 MARCH

Meeting point 10:45 am, ZHdK, Toni,
Pfingstweidstrasse 96, Entrance Hall

Start 11 am

PRESENTATIONS ART & SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS II

LUNCH

PRESENTATIONS ART & SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS III

DISCUSSION: CONNECT and/or STIR

DINNER

FILMS

End 11 pm

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Image foa-flux.net



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