

Figures of Conjunction

Experience and Interest in Politics, Theory, and Art

kunstverein
nürnberg albrecht
dürer
gesellschaft

“A temporary free academy”

Kunstverein Nürnberg, 18. 11. 2014 – 22. 11. 2014

A cooperation between the Academy of Fine Arts Nuremberg/theory seminar, Helmut Draxler, and the Kunstverein Nürnberg - Albrecht Dürer Gesellschaft

With the project **Figures of Conjunction** classes and theory seminars from different Academies of Fine Arts in Germany and Austria will transform the Kunstverein Nürnberg into a “A temporary free academy”.

Stephan Dillemath's „Summer Academy“, which took place at the Kunstverein Munich in 1994, raised the question as to whether the decision to become an artist could better be taken within self-organized contexts, rather than within the frame of formal institutionalized structures. Back then, “Academy” was defined as a way of being together and sharing time on an open, non-hierarchical ground, and thus simultaneously expanding towards an outside, towards the social and political conditions of art.

The project **Figures of Conjunction** will review this question. Not, however, in the sense of assuming strict antagonisms between institutionalized and self-organized, free und conditioned ways of being, but rather in relation to the specific conditions, relations and possibilities of transitions themselves. This approach will lead from a singular and decisive act of transgression to an open field of transitional situations. Thus challenging ways in which we think about modes of relation between different - institutional as well as self-organized - frames and framework conditions, it will also strongly affect the crucial symbolic representations of an “Inside” and an “Outside”, a “Before” and an “After”, the “Conditioned” and the “Unconditional”. Barriers and Boundaries in this understanding are no longer considered obstacles encountered on the pathway to a truly liberated world but rather constitutive elements that in fact enable such differences.

Accordingly, claims about being an artist will neither be restricted to statements of identity nor to a pluralistic, trans-disciplinary and “open” form of non-identity. What is at stake could rather be described as a way of understanding artistic practice in a sense of specific interests - understanding *inter esse* in a literal sense of being in between and being related on different scales. This kind of structural relatedness will be explored in its methodological, professional, existential or social dimensions and implications.

Following a defense of Correlationism („A Correlationist Manifesto“, theory seminar, Helmut Draxler, 2014), we suggest an examination and discussion of specific forms to think and/or to shape/form/create conjunctions. Within the whole project philosophical terms like “Nexus”, “Chiasma”, “Knot” or “Sythesis” will be related to artistic terms like “Gesture”, “Attitude”, or “Appropriation”, and located altogether in a political sphere that we imagine as an *encounter* or *contact zone*.

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AKADEMIE DER
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The participating classes and theory seminars will develop specific key subjects and organize various forms of presentations and discussions. The contributions, activities and events are not only intended for the students, but are also freely accessible for the interested audience, the members of the Kunstverein Nürnberg as well as for students from other fields. Furthermore, a series of public lectures will take place in the interior hall of the Milchhof-building (with free admission).

Participating classes

Monika Baer, Frankfurt
Stephan Dilleuth, Munich
Michael Hakimi, Nuremberg
Jutta Koether, Hamburg
Josephine Pryde, Berlin
Michael Stevenson, Nuremberg
Tanja Widmann, Vienna

Theory seminars:

Kathrin Busch, Berlin
Helmut Draxler, Nuremberg
Felix Ensslin, Stuttgart

Events

November 18, 2014; at 6 pm and 8 pm

November 19, 2014 – November 21, 2014; respectively at 3 pm, 6 pm and 8 pm

Saturday, November 22, 2014; from 1 pm to 10 pm

Guests: Michael Krebber, Alexi Kukuljevic, Amy Sillman, Stefan Römer, Tim Voss, Gernot Wieland

The **detailed programme** is announced on the website of the Kunstverein Nürnberg and the Academy of Fine Arts Nuremberg.

Opening hours, 18.11.2014 – 22.11.2014

Opening hours at the Kunstverein Nürnberg during the project:

Tuesday: 4 pm – 10 pm

Wednesday to Friday: 2 pm – 10 pm

Saturday: 1 pm – 10 pm

Free admission and no registration required for all events during the week.

For the support in kind we would like to thank:

Staatstheater Nürnberg

bsk büro + designhaus GmbH