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Transformationen und architektonische Manifestationen”

PhD Research Project

Performing the Non-Human: Art Exhibitions Since 2000

On a meta level, this thesis explores the ways that humankind positions itself in the universe. In particular, it investigates how the fluctuating relationship between humans and the (natural) environment is critiqued and performed by post-millennial contemporary artist-and-curator-led exhibitions held in Europe and North America. From a proliferation of post-2000 exhibitions, this thesis identifies six key themes through which artists and curators conceive, present and perform the non-human, with an exhibitionary case study selected for each. Making reference to a broad range of artistic, curatorial and exhibition practices, this thesis evaluates these six exhibitions. It uses art historical and museological methodologies to elucidate their content, narrative form and materiality, paying particular attention to the ways they engage with art and exhibition history. Through this analysis, I attempt to answer several key questions: how do artists and curators develop new paradigms of understanding the shifting relations to the world in the era of the anthropocene? What narrative forms and material structures are used to present these paradigms? To what extent how are these exhibitions performative, making artists and curators agents of social action?

Throughout, this thesis explores the wider question of the position of (art) museums within the anthropocene debate. Although museums have long been influential in performing our relationships with nature, the very characteristics of the Anthropocene challenges museological spaces and methodologies. How do museums negotiate these challenges and fulfil their potential as agents for social change in the age of the Anthropocene?

Curriculum Vitae

Louise Malcolm (*1981 in Wegberg, Germany), 2000–2001 Art Foundation course at Winchester School of Art, 2001–2006 History of Art BA at University of Leeds, 2009–2012 Museum Studies MA at University College London, Distinction.

2007 Assistant Arts Administrator, Lewis Elton Gallery, University of Surrey, 2006–2013 working as a researcher in major international art galleries including, Galerie Gmurzynska, Zurich and Hauser & Wirth, London and Zurich, 2013–2016 Curator Hugentobler Collection.

2014–2016 Researcher, Institute of Art History, University of Zurich, 2014 – 2018 Stipendiatin des Schweizerischen Nationalfonds for the research project (and PhD research relating to) *Holy Spaces in Modernity. Transformations and Architectural Manifestations*, run by Professor Dr Anna Minta. 2017-2018 Researcher, Institute of Architectural History, Catholic Private University Linz.

Teaching

KU-Linz. Spring Semester 2018. Pro-Seminar: *The Museum is the Message. Ausstellungspolitik und Ausstellungsarchitekturen vom 19. bis ins 21. Jahrhundert* (joint teaching with Ass.-Prof Dr Julia Rüdiger)

Organisation

Workshop: *(Post)Nature / Natur(T)Räume*. KU Linz, 1 & 2 December 2016. Concept and organisation, led by: Professor Anna Minta, KU Linz

Workshop: *Auratische Räume der Moderne. Zum performativen Charakter von Versammlungsstätten*. University of Zurich and Schweizerisches Institut für Kunstwissenschaft, 12 & 13 November 2015. Support, led by Professor Anna Minta (University of Zurich) and Dr Frank Schmitz (University of Hamburg)

Lecture series: *MANIFESTATIONEN! Architekturkonzepte zwischen Aura und Repräsentation nach 1945*. Autumn semester 2015, University of Zurich, led by Professor Anna Minta

Publications

Editorial

kritische berichte 45 (2017), volume 2: *(Post)Nature / Natur(T)Räume*. Editing and editorial with Professor Anna Minta.

Two Vietnamese Modernists. Bui Xuan Phai and Nguyen Tu Nghiem. Paintings from the Hugentobler Collection, Zürich 2016

Articles

Allora and Calzadilla's tangible ecologies, in: *Seismopolite. Journal of Art and Politics* 15 (2016) (online).

Behind the Scenes of the Hanoian Art World, in: Malcolm, Louise (Ed.), *Two Vietnamese Modernists. Bui Xuan Phai and Nguyen Tu Nghiem. Paintings from the Hugentobler Collection*, Zürich 2016.

Capturing Callanish: a phenomenological exploration of how art transmits essence, in: *kritische berichte* 44 (2016), volume 2, 62–73.

Lectures

Recalibrating Museums in the Anthropocene, AURA international conference. University of Aarhus, Denmark, December 2017

The Rural in Vietnamese Identity, Southeast Asia Meet Up. University of Zurich, September 2017

The Village in Vietnamese Modern Art May 2017, University of Zurich, May 2017

Introducing (Post)Nature / Natur(T)Räume and 'Affective' Artistic Approaches That Bring Ecology Closer to Human Experience, Workshop (Post)Nature / Natur(T)Räume. KU Linz, December 2016

Auratic Nature, Privatissimum/Forschungskolloquium „Architekturgeschichte“, Leitung: Professor Anna Minta. KU Linz, October 2016

Changing Conceptions of Nature, Forschungskolloquium, Leitung: Professor Anna Minta. University of Zurich, December 2015

Contemporary Landscape Art, Swiss Doctoral Summer School. University of Zurich, June 2015

From Mountain Gloom to Mountain Glory: A Narrative of Auratic Change. Lecture series *Aura* by Professor Anna Minta, University of Zurich, March 2015