

INSTITUTIONAL ATTITUDES

24 – 25 APRIL 2010

WITH ZDENKA BADOVINAC, BART DE BAERE, MIROSLAW BALKKA, BASSAM EL BARONI, MANU CLAEYS, ANN DEMEESTER, CHARLES ESCHE, ALEX FARQUHARSON, ANSELM FRANKE, PASCAL GIELEN, ANN GOLDSTEIN, SOFIA HERNANDEZ CHONG CUY, MARC JACOBS, NATAŠA ILIĆ, MARTA KUZMA, MAURIZIO LAZZARATO, DIETER LESAGE, VANESSA JOAN MÜLLER, JULIA MORITZ, DIETER ROELSTRAETE, IRIT ROGOFF, NICOLAUS SCHAFHAUSEN, SIMON SHEIKH, DIRK SNAUWAERT, FRANS TIMMERMANS AND MICHAEL TURNER.

A RESEARCH CONFERENCE ORGANIZED BY DE APPEL, M HKA AND WITTE DE WITH FOR THE COMITÉ VAN ROOSENDAAAL, IN COLLABORATION WITH DE BEURSSCHOUWBURG, DEBUREN, FARO AND RESEARCH GROUP ARTS IN SOCIETY.

**LOCATION: DE BEURSSCHOUWBURG, AUGUSTE ORTSSTRAAT 20 -28, BRUSSELS
INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS: WWW.COMITEVANROOSENDAAAL.EU**

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INSTITUTIONAL ATTITUDES

Institutional Attitudes looks at a founding premise of the Comité van Roosendaal: the shared conviction that contemporary art institutions may be an important voice in society. Within this premise, key questions include: What kind of contemporary society must be envisioned, given the recent economic crisis and the ecological state of emergency? How can existing art institutions adjust to these paradigm shifts? In full confidence that institutions are not only products of their society, but also constitute active agents capable of shaping society in return, what novel public potential exists for the art institution? These research questions are stimulated by recent proposals engaging with notions of commons and of the commonwealth, such as Italian philosopher Paolo Virno's call to consider a non-representative democracy that might be expressed through "a galaxy of foundations, a network of institutes."

The Comité van Roosendaal has invited a range of esteemed art professionals and academics, as well as public figures from outside the art world, to critically evaluate recent events and sketch scenarios for the near future and beyond, in a program of three chapters.

CHAPTER 1 – INSTITUTIONAL DOMAINS

Institutional Domains takes stock of existing institutions, considering their status both as material or physical entities and as immaterial bodies of authority. Practices such as new institutionalism, institutional creativity and experimental institutionalism emphasize a shift from the material to the immaterial institution. What does this mean for the current decade? Keynote lecture by Alex Farquharson

CHAPTER 2 – BEYOND CRITICALITY

Beyond Criticality assesses the limits of practices posited on performative and ongoing acts of self-reflection. The notion of criticality has had great resonance for various forms of experimental institutional practice. The impetus of this chapter is to consider the historicity of the term, its manifold readings, and a vision for it to continuously activate places, projects and artists. Keynote lecture by Irit Rogoff

CHAPTER 3 – DISMEASUREMENT AND PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY

Dismasurement and Public Responsibility puts the notion of values up front and underlines the urgency of the conference. If the current crises are to be understood as social constructs instigated by a logic of production and exponential growth, is there a new unit of measure that may be imagined in reference to intellectual labor? And what institutional structures are needed as engines of social transition? Keynote lecture by Maurizio Lazzarato

ABOUT COMITÉ VAN ROOSENDAAL

The Comité van Roosendaal is a platform involving some of the leading contemporary art institutions in the Benelux/Rhineland area. It has been functioning for some years as a reflective meeting platform to discuss policy questions for public contemporary art institutions. With this conference, the Comité van Roosendaal creates an opportunity to discuss issues at the heart of the group's main interests – our relationship to the increasingly privatized public sphere; our role in articulating cultural politics; our specific engagement in both global and local positions; and our response to the dominant modes of consumption.

The Comité van Roosendaal members are: de Appel arts centre, Amsterdam; BAK, Basis voor Actuele Kunst, Utrecht; BPS 22, Charleroi; Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle, Bonn; Extra City, Kunsthall Antwerpen; Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen, Düsseldorf; Mudam, Museum of Contemporary Art Luxembourg; M HKA, Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp; Museum Ludwig, Cologne; Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven; Wiels, contemporary art centre, Brussels and Witte de With, Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam.

CLOSED MEETING

The Comité van Roosendaal wishes to engage with society at large beyond the artistic realm. On the morning of 24 April, in a closed meeting, individuals from politics, academia and business will share their perspective of the cultural field. The conclusions and statements from this meeting will nourish the debates of the public program. Participants at this meeting include Jack Bakker (CEO, Uni-Invest), Sven Gatz (member of Flemish parliament, openVLD), Wouter De Ploey (director Business Technology, McKinsey), Marc Schuilenberg (Department of Criminology, Universiteit van Amsterdam), amongst others.

Credits: *Institutional Attitudes* is developed by de Appel, MHKA and Witte de With for the Comité van Roosendaal and in collaboration with de Beursschouwburg, deBuren, FARO and Research Group Arts in Society, with support of the Dutch embassy in Brussels, the European Cultural Foundation, the Mondriaan Foundation and the Triodos Fund.

Design: Panik Studio, Berlin

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

SATURDAY 24 APRIL

INSTITUTIONAL DOMAINS

- 03:00 P.M. Word of welcome by Ann Demeester & Nicolaus Schafhausen
03:20 P.M. Miroslaw Balka (artist), *Between you and me*
03:40 P.M. State of affairs: Marc Jacobs (FARO)
04:00 P.M. Keynote lecture: Alex Farquharson (Nottingham Contemporary), *Institutional mores*
05:15 P.M. Conversation: Simon Sheikh (theorist), Ann Goldstein (Stedelijk Museum), Sofia Hernandez Chong Cuy (Museo Tamayo), Dirk Snauwaert (Wiels), Frans Timmermans (Former Minister of European Affairs of the Netherlands, PvdA), moderated by Bart De Baere (M HKA, Belgium)

SUNDAY 25 APRIL

BEYOND CRITICALITY

- 10:30 A.M. State of affairs: Julia Moritz (art historian)
10:45 A.M. Keynote lecture: Irit Rogoff (Professor of Visual Culture at Goldsmiths College, London University), *On being serious in the art world*
12:00 P.M. Conversation: Nataša Ilić (What How & for Whom), Bassam El Baroni (Alexandria Contemporary Arts Forum), Vanessa Joan Müller (Kunstverein Düsseldorf), Marta Kuzma (Office for Contemporary Art), Michael Turner (author), moderated by Ann Demeester (de Appel)

DISMEASUREMENT AND PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY

- 03:00 P.M. State of affairs: Pascal Gielen (sociologist, research group Arts in Society)
03:15 P.M. Keynote lecture: Maurizio Lazzarato (sociologist & philosopher), *Does the „anartist“ (Duchamp) need an „an-institution“?*
04:30 P.M. Conversation: Dieter Lesage (philosopher & critic), Zdenka Badovinac (Moderna Galerija Ljubljana), Anselm Franke (Extra City), Dieter Roelstraete (curator & philosopher), Manu Claeys (writer & activist), moderated by Nicolaus Schafhausen (Witte de With)
06:00 P.M. Closing remarks by Bart De Baere & Charles Esche (Van Abbemuseum)

All talks will be held in English, with the exception of the lecture by Maurizio Lazzarato which will be held in French with English subtitles. Every chapter will conclude with a Q&A from the audience.

- 07:00 – 09:00 P.M. Closing reception at Wiels, contemporary art centre, Av. Van Volxemlaan 354, Brussels, www.wiels.org

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- LOCATION: De Beursschouwburg, Auguste Ortsstraat 20 – 28, Brussels, www.beursschouwburg.be
10 minutes walking distance from Brussels Central Station.
Metro: Beurs/ Bourse
- TICKETS: €25 (€20 for students). Bookings are exclusively managed by the Comité van Roosendaal via the website. Only ticket holders that have paid in advance will be guaranteed a seat. Tickets can be picked up an hour before the beginning of the program: Saturday 24 April, 02:00 – 03:00 P.M. and Sunday 25 April, 09.30 – 10.30 A.M.

For inquiries contact Nathalie Hartjes via info@comitevanroosendaal.eu

FOLLOW US ONLINE

Please see our website for program up-dates and news. *Institutional Attitudes* will also be documented for later reference. The website will include video and audio recordings of the public program and additional text material.

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