



liverpool biennial

City Breaks?

Art and Culture in Times of Expediency

19 – 22 October

Workshops

Bio Mapping

Christian Nold is an artist, teacher and cultural activist living in London. He studied Fine Art at Kingston University as well as Interaction Design at the Royal College of Art. In 2001, he wrote the book *Mobile Vulgus*. He has been commissioned by Independent Photography to develop his Bio Mapping Project into the 'Greenwich Emotion Map'.

The Bio Mapping project has been shown in Italy, Holland, Finland, Latvia and India. Bio Mapping is a research project which explores new ways that we as individuals can make use of the information we can gather about our own bodies. Instead of security technologies that are designed to control our behavior, this project envisages new tools that allows people to selectively share and interpret their own bio data.

The Bio Mapping tool allows the wearer to record their Galvanic Skin Response (GSR), which is a simple indicator of emotional arousal in conjunction with their geographical location. This can be used to plot a map that highlights points of high and low arousal. By sharing this data we can construct maps that visualize where we as a community feel stressed and excited. How will our perceptions of our community and environment change when we become aware of our own and each others intimate body states?

CAVA (Centre for Architecture and the Visual Arts)

Felipe Hernández is an architect and lecturer in Architectural Design, History and Theory at The University of Liverpool. He has taught at the Bartlett School of Architecture (UCL), The Universities of Nottingham, Sheffield, East London and Nottingham Trent in the United Kingdom as well as at Brown University and Roger Williams University in USA. Felipe has published numerous essays and articles examining the situation of contemporary Latin American cities and revealing the multiplicity of architectural practices that operate simultaneously in the constant re-shaping of the continent's cities. He is editor of 'Spaces of Transculturation: Architecture and Identity in Latin America,' *Journal of Romance Studies*, Berghahn Journals, 2002, and co-editor of *Transculturation: Cities, Spaces and Architectures in Latin America*, Amsterdam & New York: Rodopi, 2005. He is currently co-editing the book, *Rethinking the Informal City: Critical Perspectives from Latin America*, Oxford & New York: Berghahn Books (forthcoming).

The University of Liverpool has established CAVA in order to enhance, focus, and co-

ordinate high quality research in the areas of architecture and the visual arts. CAVA will create links with other institutions in the city, the region, the nation, as well as internationally. CAVA is based in the University's School of Architecture – one of the UK's largest and long-established departments. As part of the School's and the University's research programmes relating to Liverpool's 2008 European Capital of Culture status, CAVA will both generate new and support existing architecture/visual arts research initiatives.

Flying City

Jeon Yong Seok and Jang Jong Kwan are the founding members of the urban research group Flying City, based in Seoul, South Korea. Flying City conducts research into the impact of rapid industrialization on the city, interpreting the transfiguration of Seoul and the complex and chaotic structure of the city through psychological geography or 'mental maps.' Mental maps are a city's psycho-geographical, subjective record. By recombining texts and images, they record psychological shocks of a specific place, leading to a new understanding of space and time. Moods of places and patterns of action become more important than cartographical facts, helping us to appreciate the city's overwhelming scale and views. Flying City's workshops attempt to revive the feelings and ideas of the physical and relate them to a sort of activists' state of mind. They will present 'the way of understanding and stimulating the informal dimension in urban life,' considering possible applications and methodologies which could be experimented in Liverpool.

Micro-Urbanism

Ti-nan Chi (Beijing/Taipei) is founder of Urban Flashes and Human Environment Group NGO. He teaches at Bergen School of Architecture, Norway, and is Visiting Professor at Singhad School of Architecture, India. He has exhibited works at 'Cities on the Move' at Secession, PS1, and Hayward Gallery (1997), 'Ker Da Ker Xiao' at AA, London (1998), 'Venice Biennale' (2000), 'Urban Flashes: Micro-Urban Istanbul' at Garanti Gallery, Istanbul (2003). Publications in Chinese include: *Thinking Architecture* 1992 and *Trans-Prophecy* 1998, project document *Tangibleintangible* 1998. *Introduction to Phenomenology of Architecture* 1992 and *Urban Flashes* 2002 are available in English. Chi has been the curator of Urban Flashes workshops, symposiums and exhibitions in Taipei, Linz, London, Istanbul and Mumbai. He is currently undertaking 'micro-urbanism' research and urban regeneration projects in Europe and Asia.

In line with therapeutic concepts, the key findings indicate that, within the preconceived macro-structure of the city, the real urban condition can be seen as a meridian system of interrelated energy zones. Each microcosm is an indispensable part with a specific role in the overall constitution of these critical loci. Like the treatment points along "nadi" in ayurveda or "jing mai" in acupuncture, sacks of heated interactions, obscure junctures, in between spaces, retreat routes or empty areas in the city - usually invisible and insignificant from their looks - can be identified as micro-zones after close engagement.

Micro-zones can be reinstated, enhanced, or carefully implanted in the city, in which to cooperate with the indigenous tactics and tactical suggestions on the personal level, to probe permutations inside and to recreate dynamics of micro-zone network. With renewed interest in comprehension of the universe, landscape, urban reality and human karma, micro-urbanism persists in the natural process of change and progress in a longer time span, taking a path away from the frequently used jargon in architecture and urban design, which is that of intervention with an inherent notion of a forcible and phenomenal diversion.

Sala-manca

The Sala-manca group consists of two Argentinean born artists, Lea Mauas and Diego Rotman, who now live and work in Jerusalem. They create art in various fields: performance, video, installation & new media. Sala-manca's works deal with poetics of translation (cultural, mediatic and social), with textual, urban and net contexts and with the tensions between low tech and high tech aesthetics, as well as social and political issues. The group publishes *(H)Earat Shulaym (Note in the Margin): Independent Quarterly for Contemporary Art and Literature*. They produce and curate Hears events, and multidisciplinary events organized independently with no commercial or official sponsors. They are also editors of no-org.net and are involved in organizing and curating The Upgrade! Tel Aviv-Jerusalem

Quick and Easy: Creating New Platforms for Art The aim of the workshop is to develop different models of independent artistic practices based on the different platforms developed by Sala-manca group in Jerusalem between the years 2001-2006 (Heara Multidisciplinary Art Events, *Hearat Shulaym* Art Journal, no-org.net, New Media Cheyder & The Upgrade! Tel Aviv-Jerusalem). The workshop will focus on the development of strategies and tactics in order to create independent platforms for showing, producing or learning as well as different ways of creation and action of independent artistic networks. Such networks allow easy and quick actions, through collaboration between artists, groups or institutions. The models developed are auto-sustainable, non-profit, and without any official or commercial support.

StalkerLab

Lorenzo Romito is the founding member of Stalker (1995) and its network Osservatorio Nomade (2002). He has coordinated research projects including *Immaginare Corviale* with F. Careri (2003 - 2005). *Egnatia*, a path of displaced memories (2002 - 2005), and *Campagnaromana* (2006), distances, belongings and emergencies in the 'beyond-city'. Romito teaches at IUAV, Venice in the Faculty of Art and Design. He has a diploma in Architecture and Prix de Rome, at the Accademia di Francia - Villa Medici (2000-2001) with the research project 'Xenobia: the town the strangers and the becoming of public space'.

He has directed several exhibitions in Italy and abroad: 'Islam in Sicily, a garden in

between two civilizations' (2001 – 2006). He has participated in several exhibitions, publications, workshops and lectures, including the Biennale di Venezia (2001), and Manifesta Biennial in Ljubljana (2001).

Static

Paul Sullivan is Director of Static, Liverpool. Sullivan is an architect, artist and writes on the subjects of art, architecture and criticism. His latest publication 'art, criticism and organised crime (2006)' has received international critical acclaim. The arguments about the local and global are redundant. In a proposed culture of expediency, criticism will in fact replace the object, if it hasn't already. The rules of the game have changed, changed forever, but the artist hasn't even realised. In his workshop 'critique', Sullivan will look at the example of the critically acclaimed PressCorps, which Static undertook at the Liverpool Biennial 2004, the Gwangju Biennale 2006 and Artist Forum International/Seoul (AFI) 2006.

STEALTH.unlimited

Stealth.unlimited is a Rotterdam based practice, founded in 2000. STEALTH uses a cross-disciplinary approach and experiments on the borderlines of cultural and technological issues to conceive tools to deal with the spatial implications of changing societies. STEALTH established and participated in a number of projects that deal with the complexity of the contemporary urban condition and specifically the relation between planned and non-planned urban processes - through the perspective of architecture, media and culture.

Ana Dzokic (Belgrade) graduated from the Faculty of Architecture, University of Belgrade, Serbia. She was one of the initiators and coordinator of Projekt X, an independent art association based in Belgrade, whose activities culminated in 1996 with an international multidisciplinary event, involving more than 300 participants. In 1998 Ana moved to the Netherlands and enrolled to the Berlage Institute Rotterdam where in 2000 she received her Masters in Architecture on the issue of the unplanned urban transformation of the city of Belgrade. Parallel to the work within STEALTH Ana is a guest lecturer at the Faculty of Architecture, TU Delft.

Mario Campanella (Rio de Janeiro) - aeronautic engineer, received his Masters in Science in artificial intelligence at the Instituto Militar de Engenharia, Brazil. He worked as an expert on several generative spatial modeling projects, a/o with architect Arnold Walz on Gaudi Digital and MaxWan on a tool that generates prototypes of urban layout. Further he worked for KCAP architects on development of an urban simulation model that serves as support for a design.

Marc Neelen (Heerlen) graduated in 1997 from the Faculty of Architecture at the Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands. While studying Marc has been a co-editor of

Omslag – an architectural magazine. Parallel to the work within STEALTH Marc is focusing on new design techniques and the influence of information technology on the practice of architecture and urban design in projects with a/o V2_Lab, ArchiNed and the Smart Architecture network.

The School of Pan-American Unrest

Pablo Helguera is a visual artist living and working in New York. His work usually acquires unusual formats, ranging from experimental symposiums, phonograph recordings, exhibition acoustiguides, or nomadic museums. Helguera usually departs from historic research or from interests surrounding the very nature of art, the viewer's perception of it, and the role that art making and culture in general plays in politics and society. He has worked as an educator in US museums, most recently being head of public programmes at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum (1998-2005).

Helguera has presented his work at MOMA, New York (*Performance: Parallel Lives*, 2003) and at the Royal College of Art in London (*Los del Este*, 2004, Monique Beudert Curatorial Program). He has also shown his work in various biennials such as the 8th Havana Biennial, San Juan's Poly-graphic Triennial (2004) and PERFORMA 05, New York's first performance art biennial.

The School of Panamerican Unrest is an artist-led, non-profit public art project that seeks to generate connections between the different regions of the Americas through discussions, performances, screenings, and short-term and long-term collaborations between organizations and individuals. Its main component is a nomadic forum or think-tank that will cross the hemisphere by land, from Anchorage, Alaska, to Ushuaia, Argentina. This hybrid project includes a collapsible and movable architectural structure in the form of a schoolhouse, as well as a video collection component. Once the journey is completed, the documentation of it will be brought together in the form of a publication, a documentary and a travelling exhibition.

Werk Ltd

Cecilia Andersson is director of Werk, a flexible support structure and curatorial agency based in Liverpool and Stockholm. With emphasis on work carried out in the public realm, we organise, produce and promote contemporary art projects. Based on the activities carried out by Werk, this workshop will include a map, a walk, a meal, some drawings and discussions.