Migrating Reality

Migrating Reality.
Reality is migrating.
GdK Berlin. Friday 4th - Sunday 6th April 2008

>top – Verein zur Förderung kultureller Praxis e.V. in Berlin and KHM – Kunsthochschule für Medien in Cologne are inviting to the conference and exhibition „Migrating Reality". The event is generously supported by the Embassy of Lithuania in Germany within the framework of the German-Baltic Year of Culture 2008 and takes place from Friday 4th to Sunday 6th of April 2008 in GdK – Galerie der Künste (Potsdamer Strasse 98, 2nd Yard, 10785 Berlin). More than thirty artists and theoreticians from Lithuania, Germany, the US and France will discuss issues related to migration and digital media and also present their works.

"Migration is a very complex phenomenon, one which may be observed in very many spheres of life. The main goal of this event is to look at the various migration processes with a fresh and contemporary point-of-view" - states the coordinator of the conference Mindaugas Gapševičius.

The event focuses on the Baltic nation of Lithuania. In the last fifteen years, more than ten percent of Lithuania's population has emigrated, among them numerous individuals engaged in the cultural sector. Others, while still living in Lithuania, are deeply engaged with the subject of migration. Selected individuals from both these groups will present their work at the conference and exhibition.

Migrating Reality deals specifically with the realities of migration and migrating realities that are independent of global structural changes and economic or cultural processes and are opening unique opportunities for creative exchange.

Electronic and digital cultures generate completely new forms of migration. In the creative arts, new phenomena related to migration and the synergies of disparate systems are emerging. Artistic products evolve from traditional forms to hybrid digital forms. Analogue products are being digitized; data spaces are trans-located from one data storage system to another; existing sounds, images, and texts are re-mixed and fused into new datasets.

The emergent processes of migration generate temporary autonomous zones where socio-political actions occur without the interference of formal control mechanisms. These zones and enclaves appear in physical space as well as in virtual space. By integrating these into available structures and temporarily interconnecting them, new trajectories and ideas are created.

Migration is reality and reality is migrating. This dialectic, appearing as a banal topic in everyday politico-economic debate, includes unarticulated issues which, by their fragmented nature have to be dealt with through creative multidisciplinary means. Only occasionally do components of the migrating global situation surface in the mass media, within individual mediums of expression, or in exhibitions as documentation and artwork. This is likely because dealing with the realities of migration in an explicitly European context means accepting the potential for conflict.

This trans-cultural German-Lithuanian event will take on the risk in highlighting certain fragments of the discourse. Participants will be invited to piece together aspects of this inexorable global mobility on the one hand and of retrograde power relations on the other.

The conference language is English. Admission is free.

Friday 04th April 2008

12:00 - 15:00 – Conference.
Moderation: Žilvinas Lilas, Wolfgang Knapp
   * Introduction to Wind Orchestra. Julijonas Urbonas.
   * Don't Put Too Much Trust in Experts. Peter Friedrich Stephan.
   * Humans Thinking Like Machines. Kristoffer Gansing.
   * 3D - Impossibility of Nothing. Žilvinas Lilas.

16:00 - 19:00 – Conference.
Moderation: Hubertus von Amelunxen, Žilvinas Lilas, Wolfgang Knapp
   * Theses. Gintautas Mažeikis.
   * Window Weather: A Nomadic Look at Reality. John Hopkins.
   * Becoming Minor: Art and the Political. Audrone Žukauskaite.
   * Trans-psychological Migration: A 'Pataphysical Zombie Approach. Brian Reffin Smith.

19:00 – Exhibition Opening.
Welcome by Mindaugas Gapševičius (project coordinator), Evaldas Igantavičius (Lithuanian Ambassador to Germany) and Žilvinas Lilas (conference coordinator).
Artists: Bernardas Bagdanavičius, Coolturistes, Mindaugas Gapševičius, Patricija Gilytė, Gediminas Kepalas, Zorka Lednarova, Alvydas Lukys, Audrius Mickevičius, Gytis Skudžinskas, Aurimas Svedas, Julijonas Urbonas.

20:00 - Open End – Evening Programme.
   * Udo Waxas. Matas Petrikas.
   * Transmediation. Andrius Rugevičius, Eimantas Pivoriūnas, Andrius Seliuta, Vaclovas Nevčesauskas.
   * An Ambient Sonic Performance. John Hopkins.

Saturday 05th April 2008

12:00 - 15:00 – Project presentations.
Moderation: Hubertus von Amelunxen, Žilvinas Lilas
   * Migrating Birds. Rasa Alksnyte.
   * Vision Mahler. Johannes Deutsch.
   * Hybrid Space. Frans Vogelaar
   * Prototype [432] Project. Bernardas Bagdanavičius
   * Sliders. Frédéric Curien, Jean-Marie Dallet, Thierry Guibert, Christian Laroche
   * Pixel Memories. Daniel Barthélémy, Gilles Bollaert.

16:00 - 19:00 – Migrating Art Academies – Conference.
Hubertus von Amelunxen, Mindaugas Gapševičius, Žilvinas Lilas, Alvydas Lukys

Sunday 06th April 2008, 14:00 - 18:00 – Exhibition

Parallel Event – b i o t o p
Exhibition & Performances
same address, 3. floor, tmp.deluxe. temporary space for art & media
03th - 14th April 2008

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