A GOVERNMENT OF TIMES

Symposium-performance in HALLE 14 will be imagining alternative regime of historicity for the future.

(Leipzig, Mai 13th, 2016) As discursive highlight of the exhibition »Capitalist Melancholia« the french collective le peuple qui manque organizes the symposium-performance »A Government of Times«. International philosophers, historians as well as writers are invited to discuss alternatives to the acceleration of life in Capitalism.

Speaker:

No one doubts that an order of time exists — or rather, that orders of time exist which vary with time and place. Historian François Hartog explored crucial moments of change in society’s »regimes of historicity« or its ways of relating to the past, present, and future. According to Hartog, contemporary Western societies have entered from 1989 a new »regime of historicity« (régimes d'historicité, a synonym for temporal order) in which the present has become omnipresent. Hartog calls this regime of historicity »presentism« and defines it as an invasion of the present into the realms of the past and future. The present is therefore experienced as an acceleration of our social lives and finally as enclosure where the perspective of the future is no longer reassuring, since it is perceived not as a promise, but as a threat. We would call also this tyranny of the present through a social acceleration - to accelerate to be at a standstill - melancholia. How can we set time back in motion, to liberate us from the presentism to which we seem compelled in Europe particularly? On opposite side, a new wave of contemporary accelerationism as social emancipation recently emerged, as a way to put time back in motion. The only way out of capitalism would be to take it further, to follow its lines of flight or de-territorialization to the absolute end, to speed-up beyond the limits of production and so to rupture the limit of capital itself. But, as Benjamin Noys added it, speed is, still, a problem. Our lives are too fast, we are subject to the accelerating demand that we innovate more, work more, enjoy more, produce more, and consume more. Hartmut Rosa declares that today we face a ‘totalitarian’ form of social acceleration.

The symposium-performance A Government of Times curated by le peuple qui manque is imagining a multi-temporal and nonpresentist contemporaneity and finally, tend toward a new politics of time, and, even more, a possibility to govern the times differently : to imagine a »differential government of times«.

Funded by:
FACTS

Symposium-Performance
A Government of Times

Speaker:

Curators: le peuple qui manque | a people is missing (Aliocha Imhoff & Kantuta Quirós)
Scenography: Antonia Kamp

Date: Saturday, 28.5.2016
Hour: 1:30 - 7 pm
Place: HALLE 14 – Centre for Contemporary Art, Spinnereistraße 7, 04179 Leipzig
Attendance fee: 4 €, ermäßigt 2 €, (visit to the exhibition is included)
Conference language: English

About the curators le peuple qui manque | a people is missing:
Le peuple qui manque is an art curatorial platform based in Paris, France. It was created by Kantuta Quiros and Aliocha Imhoff in 2005, and operates at the intersection of contemporary art and research. Le peuple qui manque is also producing and distributing artists’ films.

Further Information: www.lepeuplequimanque.org

About the exhibition »Capitalist Melancholia« (30.4. - 7.8. 2016):
Artists: Gregory Barsamian, Stefan Brüggemann, Anetta Mona Chisa & Lucia Tkacova, CHTO, Jeannette Ehlers, Famed, Rumiko Hagiwara, David Maisel, Álvaro Martínez Alonso, Guido van der Werve

Our present age has become so individually and collectively, spiritually, materially, and ecologically exhausted that this has led to a particular kind of 21st century melancholy. In such a frenzied standstill, progress is incoceivable. The exhibition invites us to pause for a moment and ask ourselves about a future that presents itself as a universe of possibilities.


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Le peuple qui manque, Beyond the Magiciens Effect, symposium-performance, 2015, Fondation Gulbenkian, © Helena Hattmannsdorfer