

Abstract:

Populism vs Democracy and Social Media. and other Disasters
Mischa Kuball and Gregor Lersch

In this conversation, Mischa Kuball and Gregor Lersch analyze the contemporary artistic and curatorial definitions of public space, democracy, and art. Recently, these three definitions have taken center stage in history and have undergone a substantial change from the interpretations and attributions they had in the 1970s.

The current conversation will serve as a platform to discuss, via the project series public proposition and the exhibition res.o.nant by Mischa Kuball, the aesthetic and curatorial implications of addressing these topics within an extended socio-cultural context.

The conversation will focus on the relationship between historical sites and their context, using, as one example among others, the Jewish Museum in Berlin and Lersch's curatorial approach to issues that extend the role of the museum beyond traditional definitions and borders.

Anticipation and interaction in the context of art performances and time-based interventions are the aesthetic tools that the artist employs in order to engage with democratic frameworks and new media. The works of art and projects spring from site-specific analyses of the locus in which they take place. Within their aesthetic structures, they incorporate social, political, or communal specificities and challenge the audience by being fleeting and temporary interventions that rely on the potential of an altered perception of seemingly familiar / suddenly unfamiliar urban and social contexts. These projects ask their viewers to reconsider the modalities of their engagement with democracy, populism, and new media.

CVs:

Mischa Kuball, conceptual artist, has been working in the public and institutional sphere since 1977. Since 2007 Mischa Kuball has been a Professor for public art at the Academy of Media Arts, Cologne, and associate professor for media art at Hochschule für Gestaltung/ZKM, Karlsruhe. Since 2015 he has been a member of the North Rhine-Westphalian Academy of Sciences, Humanities and the Arts, Duesseldorf. In 2016 he was honoured with the German Light Award.

Gregor H. Lersch is head of temporary exhibitions and curator of at the Jewish Museum Berlin. Recently he curated presentations by Mischa Kuball, James Turrell and Eran Shakine. Beforehand he was Lecturer at the Chair of Art and Art Theory at European University Viadrina Frankfurt/O. From 2005 on he coordinated and co-curated exhibitions like "Side by Side. Poland-Germany. A century of Art and History" and "The New Hebrews - A century of art from Israel." both at Martin-Gropius-Bau.

Statement:

As an artistic project in the Jewish Museum Berlin „resonant" represents a challenge for curatorial practice, museum-related tasks and identity as well as a radical artistic

intervention.

Mischa Kuball und Gregor Lersch freuen sich auf Ihre Rückmeldung.

Mit besten Grüßen,

Claudia Friedrich

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