

CREATIVE PRACTICES BEYOND BORDERS: ARTS INTERACTION, SONIC DIASPORA, PERFORMATIVITY EXCHANGE

AIMS:

CREATIVE PRACTICES BEYOND BORDERS, based at the Centre for Cultural Studies, Goldsmiths, brought together researchers from India, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and London to work with the themes of borders, activism and the arts. The network developed around a series of week-long workshops and facilitated stimulating research in an alternative space on the border of the academic and the creative.

WORKSHOPS:

SONIC BORDER (LONDON, 11.2008) explored ways in which sound crosses the border differently, provoking a re-think of the border's location - not just in ports, but between us all, in conversations, in ideas, in relations - all further problematised by sound.

THEATRE BORDER (BERLIN, 04.2009) focused on the performative, tactile and ritualistic force of the border as staged, leading to a rethinking of connection, touch, proximity and co-responsibility. Sessions became peripatetic in response to the coming 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, which in turn gave prominence to the themes of memory, border and national bifurcation and reunification.

BORDER DOCUMENTS (COPENHAGEN, 11.2009) considered the border as it unfolds in screen-based media and examined the telematic border, CCTV and screenings of the immigration check. With two European film premieres in the line-up, we explored how the documentary form can carry a politic, an ethics or an epistemology and how documentary film and border activism lend themselves to the cinematic.

BEYOND BORDERS NETWORK

BORDER INFECTION (LONDON, 03.2010) investigated the metaphors of contagion and virus, the border's porosity and susceptibility to infestations and/or prophylactic attempts at security. We continued the practice of peripatetic walks with a maritime and music-themed exploration of Deptford. An accompanying art exhibition curated by LDN/BRU, featured artists from the Network.

BORDER REVERB (GOTHENBURG, 06.2010) joins with the Clandestino Festival to consider, reflexively, what we have learned and unlearned (un-texted) from the Beyond Text opportunity. The agenda includes the after effects of immigration and asylum policy, border and visa regulation, security surveillance and activist, artistic and musical engagement with border politics worldwide. An art video screening featuring artists from the network will accompany the talks.

SPEAKERS: Papers presented by over 30 network participants including: Eyal Weizman, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Rangan Chakraborty, Abhijit Roy, Hito Steyerl, Angela Mitropoulos, Vivek Bald, Neil Transpoutine, Les Back, David Graeber, Mathias Danbolt, Bhaskar Mukhopadhyay, Joan Kelly, Julian Henriques, John Hutnyk.

LINKS WITH NON-ACADEMICS: Förvaret/Detention theatre, CPH:DOX film festival, Clandestino festival, Migrant Media, LDN/BRU curatorial collective, poet Johannes Anyuru, Xtalk Project, filmmaker Ananya Chatterjee, Music in Detention project, MUSAfer films, qwx-show-ur-lingua, Goethe Institute, Moustache Collectif, Noise of the Past.

OUTCOMES & IMPACTS: a border photostream, two European film premieres, a theatre production, two gallery events, a border reader, peripatetic workshop format, a music festival and a book publication in planning.

<http://hutnyk.wordpress.com/beyond-borders/>



BEYOND TEXT

