

A GENERAL ASSEMBLY EXPLORING THE DISCOURSE OF ART

COURSE OVERVIEW:

The semester is divided into three sections each 3-4 classes in length. Each section is dedicated to one form of publication through which art discourse takes place. I have designated the following categories by which we will distinguish these different forms from one another: the scholarly TOME, the EXHIBITION of art, and the PERIODICAL. Each is defined as follows:

- **THE TOME** : A scholarly book primarily authored by a single individual. These books can be written by an academic or an artist. There is usually a single thesis or common theme addressed throughout the book.
- **THE EXHIBITION** : Anything published in conjunction with an art exhibition – book/wall didactic/press-release/printed artwork for distribution. These pieces can be written by curators, artists, gallerists, academics, gallery assistants and museum interns.
- **THE PERIODICAL** : A publication that is distributed at regular intervals, ie magazines, newspapers, journals etc.. These texts are written by persons from a range of backgrounds: critics, academics, writers, artists, theorists, editors etc. Commonly the articles are reviews of exhibitions, critiques and promotions of artist's works, or other happenings in the art industry.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: A GENERAL ASSEMBLY (MODEL UN)

The structure of the class participation is designed after the model UN. Each student in the class acts as the delegate representing – instead of a country - a theme that is commonly found in the discourse of art (ie – aesthetics, language, labor etc). We will determine which theme each student will represent through individual meetings with me that will take place on the first day of class.

For each theme there is a set reading list. The delegates are responsible to present their readings to the rest of the class – one presentation per session (3 total). These should include visual material (slides, books etc) as well as detailed explanations on the content of their readings along with independently researched background information on the author, the publication and the artists/artworks discussed in the text.

READING LISTS The reading lists are listed below – one page per delegate

ABJECT

- Session I – The TOME
 - Julia KRISTEVA – approaching abjection
 - From her book “powers of horror”
 - Georges BATAILLE – sanctity eroticism and solitude
 - From his book eroticism: death and sensuality
 - NEWMAN – abject in photo
 - From collection of essays “thinking art: beyond aesthetics”
- Session II – THE EXHIBITION
 - Abject Art – two essays from exhibition
 - Exhibition catalogue Abject art: Repulsion and Desire in American Art
 - Yves Alain BOIS – formless
 - Exhibition catalogue : Formless: a Users Guide
- Session III – THE PERIODICAL
 - Joan HUGO – review of formless
 - Frieze magazine
 - Ken JOHNSON – review of dark spring
 - nytimes
 - Luce IRAGARAY – a natal lacuna
 - published in women’s art magazine 12
 - Holland COTTER- review of abject at whitney museum
 - ny times 1993
 - Georges BATAILLE – critical dictionary excerpt
 - Originally published in the journal documents paris 1929

AESTHETICS

- **Session I – The TOME**
 - Immanuel KANT – aesthetic judgment/dialectic aesthetic judgment
 - extracts from critique of judgement
 - Theodor ADORNO – aesthetic theory
 - Extracts from his book aesthetic theory
 - Clement GREENBERG – esthetics
 - Extracts from his book: homemade esthetics
- **Session II – THE EXHIBITION**
 - Helen MOLESWORTH – painting with ambivalence
 - from the exhibition catalogue for WACK
 - Jack BURNHAM – system esthetics
 - from the exhibition catalogue for OPEN SYSTEMS
 - Roger B STEIN – artifact as ideology
 - from the exhibition catalogue IN PURSUIT OF BEAUTY
- **Session III – THE PERIODICAL**
 - Alain BADIOU – 15 thesis on contemporary art
 - excerpt from article in Lacanian Ink
 - Joseph KOSUTH – art after philosophy
 - Originally published in studio international vol 178 nos 915-917 1969
 - Robert MOTHERWELL – beyond the aesthetics
 - Originally published in design47, no 8 - 1946
 - Clement GREENBERG – abstract and representational
 - Originally published in art digest November 1956

AUTHORSHIP

- Session I – The TOME
 - Michel FOUCAULT – what is an author
 - 15 pages
 - Roland BARTHES – death of the author
 - 4 pages
 - Marcel DUCHAMP – the creative act
- Session II – THE EXHIBITION
 - Marcel HUMMELINK - CoBRA – what was it
 - 8 pages from the catalogue CoBRA: the color of freedom
 - David JOSELIT – artist readymade
 - 10 pages from catalogue SOCIETE ANONYME
 - BMPT – statement
 - 1 page – flyer from exhibition
 - GROUP MATERIAL – caution
 - Tim ROLLINS – a proposal for learning to get things off our chests
 - 4 pages from monograph SHOW & TELL
 - Time ROLLINS – what was to be done
 - 3 pages from monograph SHOW & TELL
 - Doug ASHFORD – a person is an artwork
 - 3 pages from monograph SHOW & TELL
 - Press release – When Artists Say We
 - 3 pages from exhibition at artists space
- Session III – THE PERIODICAL
 - Ken JOHNSON – when artists say we
 - 3 pages Nytimes review
 - Filippo MARINETTI – futurist manifesto
 - 3 pages originally published in Le Figaro feb 20 1909
 - Guy DEBORD Selected writings
 - 15 pages from the SITUATIONIST INTERNATIONAL
 - Interview with CLAIRE FONTAINE
 - 4 pages from interview in art papers
 - Tom LAWSON – critical art ensemble
 - Interview in REAL LIFE magazine

BIOGRAPHY

- Session I – The TOME
 - Sigmund FREUD – creative writers and daydreaming & Leonardo da vinci and the memory of his childhood
- Session II – THE EXHIBITION
 - press release for Danica Phelps exhibit 2003
 - Dave HICKEY – Barbara bloom
 - From the exhibition catalogue – Barbara Bloom
 - Mike KELLEY – excerpts
 - From the exhibition catalogue – the educational complex and onwards
 - Watch Art 21 – season 3 “memory”
- Session III – THE PERIODICAL
 - Leigh LEDARE
 - Frieze magazine
 - Anna CHAVE – minimalism and biography
 - Originally published in the art bulletin 82
 - Richard PRINCE – fugitive artist
 - Originally published in modern painters
 - Sophie CALLE – interview
 - Originally published in the guardian
 - Adrian PIPER – open letter to Donald Kuspit
 - Originally published in real life magazine

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IDENTITY

- Session I – The TOME
 - Gayatri SPIVAK – who owns alterity
 - Originally published in Remaking history: DIA art foundation discussions in contemporary culture no 4
 - Richard DYER – the matter of whiteness
 - In his book White
 - David WOJNAROWICZ – being queer in America
 - From his book Close to the Knives: a memoir of disintegration
- Session II – THE EXHIBITION
 - Ann REYNOLDS – towards a feminist public
 - Adolf HITLER – speech inaugurating the “great exhibition of german art”
 - Originally published in die kunst im dritten reich
 - William POPE L – bocio
 - republished in artist monograph
 - Kara WALKER – wall text
 - From the exhibition Kara Walker: Narratives of a Negress
 - Mark REINHARDT- the art of racial profiling
 - From Kara Walker: Narratives of a Negress
- Session III – THE PERIODICAL
 - Shirin NESHAT – interview with Arthur DANTO
 - BOMB magazine
 - Judith BUTLER – performative acts and gender constitution
 - Originally published in theatre journal 40
 - Hollan COTTER – worlds apart
 - Nytimes review of whitney biennial
 - Assorted reviews of WACK exhibition
 - Various magazines and newspapers – listed on the text
 - Edward SAID – opponents audiences constituencies...
 - First published in critical inquiry: volume 9
 - Adrian PIPER – the triple negation of colored women artists...
 - Essay from High performance no 4

LIFE AS PRACTICE

- Session I – The TOME
 - Charles BAUDELAIRE – the painter of modern life
 - Michel DECERTEAU – book excerpt
 - from the practice of everyday life
 - Andy WARHOL – book excerpt
 - From Warhol diaries
- Session II – THE EXHIBITION
 - Johanna BURTON – lee Lozano “the new honesty”
 - From the exhibition catalogue for solitaire
 - Martha ROSLER – an art against the mythology of everyday life
 - Pamphlet for distribution at exhibition new American filmmakers: Martha Rosler at Whitney Museum 1977
 - Groeg GROSZ – my life
 - Andrea ZITTELL – critical space
 - From the artist monograph – andrea zittel critical space
- Session III – THE PERIODICAL
 - Nan GOLDIN – review in frieze
 - Allan KAPROW – the artist as a man of the world
 - From essays on the blurring of art and life
 - Laura MULVEY and Mary KELLEY – in conversation
 - Originally published in afterimage no.8
 - Review of andrea zittel
 - David gleeson for frieze magazine 2002
 - Joseph BEUYS – interview
 - Originally published in artforum 1969
 - Lorenzo MEYER - Daniela ROSSELL – ricas y famosas
 - Originally published in Reforma 2002

LANGUAGE & LINGUISTICS

- Session I – The TOME
 - Ferdinand de SAUSSURE – book excerpt
 - From the book course in general linguistics
 - WJT MITCHELL – words and images
 - From the book critical terms for art history
- Session II – THE EXHIBITION
 - Lawrence WIENER – Gregor Stemmrch – “material, language..”
 - From the exhibition catalogue “as far as the eye can see”
 - Frances STARK – scared to death
 - From the exhibition painting at the edge of the world
 - Robert SMITHSON – press release
 - David LAMELAS – publication
 - Exhibition at nigel greenwood, London 1970
 - Rhea ANASTAS – witness to her art
 - From the catalogue witness to her art
- Session III – THE PERIODICAL
 - Kim LEVIN – reviews and press release
 - Assorted publications 2006
 - Vanessa PLACE – “I am not content” Review of Wiener/Walker
 - Review in artlies online publication
 - ART& LANGUAGE – status and priority
 - Originally published in studio international 1970
 - Ian WILSON and Robert BARRY – conversations
 - Interview recorded in 1970
 - Jenny HOLZER – Lustmord
 - Originally published in the studdeutsche zeitung magazin – 1993 – essay from the exhibition catalogue witness to her art

OBJECT & MATERIALS

- Session I – The TOME
 - Jacques LACAN – of the gaze as object petit A
 - Book excerpts
 - Jean BAUDRILLARD – book excerpts
 - From the system of objects
- Session II – THE EXHIBITION
 - Eva DIAZ – glossary
 - From the exhibition catalogue for unmonumental
 - Laura HOPTMAN – unmonumental
 - From the exhibition catalogue for unmonumental
 - Jean-Francois LYOTARD – les immateriaux
 - Essay from exhibition les immateriaux
- Session III – THE PERIODICAL
 - Andrea FRASER – allan mccollum
 - Originally published for exhibition brochure at the institute of contemporary art :Investigations 1986
 - Donald JUDD – specific objects
 - Originally published in arts yearbook 8 1965
 - ART & LANGUAGE – letter to lucy lippard
 - Lucy LIPPARD and John CHANDLER – the dematerialization of art
 - Originally published in Art international 1968
 - Michael FRIED – art and objecthood
 - Originally published in artforum 1967
 - Aaron HOOVER – art meets science
 - Originally published in explore, research at the university of florida

ORIGINALITY / APPROPRIATION

- Session I – The TOME
 - Walter BENJAMIN- art in the age of mechanical reproduction
 - Originally published in *Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung* 1936
 - Robert NELSON – appropriation
 - From the book “critical terms for art history”
 - Seth PRICE – dispersion
 - Self published essay
- Session II – THE EXHIBITION
 - Douglas EKLUND – the jump
 - From the exhibition pictures generation
 - Andrea FRASER – “art must hang”
 - From the catalogue for the exhibition “exhibition”
 - Isabelle GRAW – “I love kippenberger”
 - From the catalogue for the exhibition “exhibition”
 - Press release for Rachel Harrison exhibit “if I did it” at greene neftali
- Session III – THE PERIODICAL
 - Rosalind KRAUSS –the originality of the avant garde a postmodernist repetition
 - October magazine 1981
 - Douglas CRIMP – “the photographic activity of postmodernism”
 - From October 13 1980

PERCEPTUAL PHENOMENA

- Session I – The TOME
 - Maurice MERLEAU PONTY – cezannes doubt & what is phenomenology
 - From the merleau ponty reader
 - Robert IRWIN – book excerpts
 - Excerpts from the book being and circumstances
 - Simone FORTI – handbook in motion
 - Book excerpts
- Session II – THE EXHIBITION
 - Adam PUTNAM – press release
 - Kate LEVANT – press release
 - Yvonne RAINIER – the mind is a muscle
 - James TURRELL – interview
 - From exhibition catalog spirit and light
 - James TURRELL - work descriptions
 - From exhibition catalogue infinite light
 - Bruce NAUMAN – dance piece
 - Originally published in artforum 1970
- Session III – THE PERIODICAL
 - David JOSELIT - Review of into the light
 - Artforum 2002
 - HIJIKATA on butoh
 - TDR 1988
 - Bruce NAUMAN – interview
 - First published in Arts magazine 49, 1975
 - Lawrence ALLOWAY – notes on op art
 - Olaffur ELIASSON – review in BOMB magazine

POWER RELATIONS

- Session I – The TOME
 - Michel FOUCAULT – las meninas
 - From the order of things
 - Jean BAUDRILLARD – on seduction
 - From on seduction
 - Michel FOUCAULT – neitsche geneology history
 - From his book truth and power
- Session II – THE EXHIBITION
 - Nicholas BOURRIAUD – traffic
 - From the exhibition catalogue theanyspacewhatever
 - Nicholas BOURRIAUD – relational aesthetics
 - From his book relational aesthetics
 - Jill MAGID – epilogue & becoming tarden
 - From the exhibition
- Session III – THE PERIODICAL
 - Claire BISHOP – antagonism and relational aesthetics
 - Originally published in October
 - Liam GILLICK – response to bishop essay
 - Originally published in October magazine
 - Jill MAGID – review of the book under glass
 - wall street journal
 - TRAFFIC – review in
 - frieze magazine

SACRED & SPIRITUAL

- Session I – The TOME
 - Wassily KANDINSKY – book excerpts
 - From his book art and spirituality
 - Agnes MARTIN – writings
 - Excerpts from her book Agnes Martin: writings
 - TAYLOR – program and theoaesthetics
 - From his book disfiguring, art architecture, religion
- Session II – THE EXHIBITION
 - Donald KUSPIT – concerning the spiritual in contemporary art
 - From the exhibition the spiritual in art: abstract painting
 - Marina ABROMOVIC – interview
 - From the exhibition catalogue marina abromovic
 - John CAGE & Vija CELMINS
 - Excerpts from the catalogue for BUDDHA SMILE
- Session III – THE PERIODICAL
 - Barnett NEWMAN – the sublime is now
 - Originally published in tigers eye 1948
 - Jean-Francois LYOTARD – the sublime and the avante garde
 - Originally published in artforum
 - Robert ROSENBLUM – the abstract sublime
 - Originally published in artnews 1961
 - Arthur DANTO – sitting with marina
 - Ny times online 2010
 - Esperanza ROSALES
 - Review of search for the spirit Frieze magazine 2009