

Why do I do what I do?

MENTOR

Beatrice Catanzaro

DATES

5-9th October (deadline for application submission **05.09.2015**)

LANGUAGE

English

PARTICIPATION FEE

€ 570 (including accomodation and half-board)

TOPICS / TAGS

temporality, participatory practices, engaged art, inter-subjectivity, responsibility

MODULE OUTLINE

Did anyone ever ask you “why do you do what you do?” Have you ever tried to understand the deep forces that drive you to engage with your practice? Could you actually separate your practice from your life? This module aims to unfold the participants’ understanding of her/his practice and to look at her/his own work with a reflective and caring attitude, rather than an overly critical one.

We will explore notions of empathy, active listening and imaginative processes as tools for a truly engaging participatory practice, where the artist is never an external observer but a subject equally involved in the process.

We will then address inter-subjectivity as constructed narrative and the quintessential humankind’s imaginative capacity.

Collectively we will draw a constellation of attitudes, conditions and skills that might help us define a survival kit for participatory art practice.

SCHEDULE

During the week, every now and then, we will stretch our legs and backs and take some deep breaths to reconnect with our inner self...

October 5th

morning

Guided tour to Cittadellarte, including the Pistoletto, Arte Povera collections and temporary exhibitions (curated by Luca Furlan)

afternoon

Workshop presentation and group presentation

Participatory Art Practice: Bait al Karama and A needle in the binding (Nablus, Palestine)

October 6th

morning

Reflective thinking vs critical thinking: participants' presentation

afternoon

Unfolding engagement - some key factors

Empathy: a transformative potential

What is empathy and why it is essential to social coexistence

Mirror neurons and the development of empathic capacity

Warm empathy vs cold empathy - a personal story

October 7th

morning

At art school, did anyone ask you why you do what you do?

We will go for a morning stroll and reflect on this essential question: what are MY deep pulses for doing (or wanting to do) what I do?

The walk will be followed by group reflections and the possibility of individual tutorials

afternoon

Process vs project: the limits of a context-based approach

Reading of *The loneliness of the project* (Boris Groys)

Reflective thinking vs critical thinking: participants' presentation

October 8th

morning

Inter-subjectivity: the imaginative capacity of humankind and the building of consensus through narratives

Reading of *A brief History of Humankind* (Dr. Yuval Noah Harari)

Reflective thinking vs critical thinking: participants' presentation

afternoon

Video screening and discussion: "The century of the self – episode 1" (Adam Curtis)

October 9th

morning

Collective breakfast

all day

Glossary for participatory practices: we will attempt to draw an open ended constellation of notions/attitudes/skills essential to the practice

evening

Dinner party

REFERENCES

A brief History of Humankind by **Dr. Yuval Noah Harari**

<https://www.coursera.org/instructor/~284>

<http://www.ny-magazine.org/PDF/Issue%201.1.%20Boris%20Groys.pdf>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vilayanur_S._Ramachandran

Guns Germs and Steel by Jared Diamond

MENTOR

BIOGRAPHY AND STATEMENT

Beatrice Catanzaro's current practice focuses on activating public participation and situations of mutual learning. She has been practicing throughout Europe, the Middle East and India. Her work has been exhibited internationally at (selection) MART Museum of Rovereto, Fundação Gulbenkian in Lisbon and the Espai d'Art Contemporani de Castelló (EACC) in Spain. In 2010, she moved to Palestine, where she currently teaches at the International Art Academy of Palestine (Ramallah) and initiated the participatory art project *Bait al Karama* in Nablus.

She is currently PhD research candidate at the Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK.

PROJECTS (selection)

www.baitalkarama.org