



PRESS RELEASE

TRANSPARENCIES *THE AMBIVALENCE OF A NEW VISIBILITY* NOVEMBER 07, 2015 – JANUARY 17, 2016

With contributions by Neil Beloufa, Juliette Blightman, Ryan Gander, Calla Henkel & Max Pitegoff, David Horvitz, Metahaven, Katja Novitskova and Yuri Pattison

A collaboration project with the Kunstverein Nürnberg - Albrecht Dürer Gesellschaft

www.transparencies.de

PRESS PREVIEW:

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 05, 2015, 12 AM

Press preview with the participating artists and the curators of the exhibition Simone Neuenschwander and Thomas Thiel

OPENING:

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 06, 2015, 7 PM

ARTISTS' TALK:

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 07, 2015, 3 PM

Artists' talk with the present artists

SYMPOSIUM:

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2015, NOON–6 PM

Symposium »Transparencies« with lectures by Dr. Clare Birchall, Metahaven and Prof. Dr. em. Manfred Schneider

The globalized world seems at once transparent and opaque. While modern life is characterized by a desire for more transparency in communication, politics and business, limitless access to information has eroded personal privacy, creating an ever-present, now long-running social dilemma. Despite the generally positive promise of transparency, there have been growing doubts about its impact on the community and on our understanding of the public sphere. A tremendous sense of insecurity can be felt at the level of private messaging, for example: while we value the free exchange of information on the Internet, we simultaneously oppose a surveillance society in which personal data is controlled by algorithms. The digital age brought a fundamental shift to cultural-historical notions of transparency.

BIELEFELDER KUNSTVEREIN / IM WALDHOF / WELLE 61 / D-33602 BIELEFELD / KONTAKT@BIELEFELDER-KUNSTVEREIN.DE
 T +49(0)521.178806 / F +49(0)521.178810 / BANKVERBINDUNG SPARKASSE BIELEFELD / BLZ 48050161 / KTO 72008980
 IBAN DE61480501610072008980 / BIC SPBIDE33XXX / UST-IDNR. DE251853318 / ÖFFNUNGSZEITEN DER AUSSTELLUNG DO, FR 15–19 UHR
 SA, SO 12–19 UHR / MO–MI NACH VEREINBARUNG

»Transparencies« examines the cultural facets and atmospheres of this (non-)transparency. The two-part, joint exhibition project in Bielefeld and Nuremberg is dedicated to developments in »transparent society,« and asks how these are reflected in current work by contemporary artists. Participating artists deal with the paradigm of transparency and the ambivalence of the term in multiple, diverse ways. They examine the consequences of an algorithm- and data-collection-driven, life-world transparency and explore our changed relationship to privacy, or convey a critical approach to post-privacy society through strategies of refusal or deliberate disclosure of data. Other key points of investigation include interpersonal exchange and its possible control. Besides these effects of a progressive and media-expanded information age, the works examine the fundamental significance of presence and absence, the potential of revealing and concealing, and the handling of knowledge and ignorance within our society. The artists move between different fields in terms of subject matter, focusing on transparency as it relates to communication, politics, contemporary history, economics, sociology and (marine-)biology.

Simultaneous presentations in Bielefeld and Nuremberg reinforce the experience of transparency within the exhibition. Though all the artists have work in both places, they emphasize different thematic and spatial aspects of their work in the two venues. Both exhibition sites are linked not only in terms of content, but also through various media and artistic contributions. Information and works are deliberately withheld, for example, shown only in part or not even presented in the first place, so that the ambiguity of the exhibition's topic can be felt at each, respective institution in relation to the other. The two, corresponding presentations not only emphasize their parallelism, but also shed light on the transitions between transparency and opacity, making them palpable for the viewers.

In the run-up to the exhibition, the graphic design studio Metahaven developed its own visual identity for »Transparencies« with a family of logotypes that references and draws on corporate identities for so-called »transparent« products such as clear varnishes or companies like Volkswagen. Considerations on the topic continue in the form of a symposium, a series of exhibition talks, workshops, and a shared project website (www.transparencies.de). On the one hand, »Transparencies« attempts to locate and update the phenomenon in cultural history, yet it also enables an understanding of the (borderline) experiences of this new visibility from a contemporary perspective. The project concludes with the publication of a comprehensive catalogue featuring texts by Emmanuel Alloa, Clare Birchall, Simone Neuenschwander, Manfred Schneider and Thomas Thiel.

Curators: Simone Neuenschwander (Kunstverein Nürnberg - Albrecht Dürer Gesellschaft) and Thomas Thiel (Bielefelder Kunstverein)

*»TRANSPARENCIES« AT KUNSTVEREIN NÜRNBERG -
ALBRECHT DÜRER GESELLSCHAFT
NOVEMBER 21, 2015 – JANUARY 31, 2016
Opening: Friday, November 2015, 7 pm*

GENERAL PROGRAM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 07, 2015, 3 PM

Artists' talk with the present artists

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2015, NOON–6 PM

Symposium »Transparencies« with lectures by Dr. Clare Birchall, Metahaven and Prof. Dr. em. Manfred Schneider

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2015, 7 PM

Lecture and artist talk with David Horvitz

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 03, 2015, 7 PM

Exhibition talk and guided tour with padeluun (artist and Internet activist, Art d'Ameublement / Digitalcourage e.V., Bielefeld)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2016, 7 PM

Exhibition talk and guided tour with Dr. Inke Arns (Director, Hartware MedienKunstVerein, Dortmund)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2016, 2PM–6 PM

Workshop »#wie transparent will ich sein?« for teenagers (from 13 years upwards) with Cynthia Krell, please bring your own smartphone. Fee: 10 euros. Registration is requested until January 08, 2016.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2016, 5 PM

Curator's guided tour with Thomas Thiel

SYMPOSIUM »TRANSPARENCIES«

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2015

Coinciding with the exhibition, the international symposium deepens investigations into the current paradigm of transparency and the ambivalence of the term. Invited speakers from the disciplines of design, literature and cultural studies situate the phenomenon of »transparency« in cultural history, question it in relation to artistic practice and reflect on it in the charged area between individual and society. The symposium expands the two-part, mutually reinforcing »Transparencies« exhibition project at Bielefelder Kunstverein (November 7, 2015 to January 17, 2016) and at Kunstverein Nürnberg - Albrecht Dürer Gesellschaft (November 21, 2015 to January 31, 2016).

PROGRAM

NOON	Greetings and introduction by Simone Neuenschwander and Thomas Thiel »Durchsichtige Körper, gläserne Wände: Utopien der Transparenz« Prof. Dr. em. Manfred Schneider (Bochum) <i>Break</i>
2 PM	»Approaching Secrecy and Transparency through Art« Dr. Clare Birchall (London) »Black Transparency: Fantasy, Subversion, Aesthetics« Metahaven (Amsterdam) <i>Break</i>
4.30 PM	Panel discussion with Clare Birchall, Metahaven, Simone Neuenschwander, Manfred Schneider and Thomas Thiel

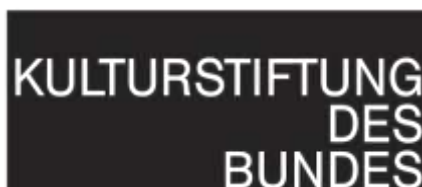
RESERVATION AND ATTENDANCE FEE

Due to limited access your reservation via email to Cynthia Krell (krell@bielefelder-kunstverein.de) or fax (+49 (0) 521.17 88 10) is requested. The attendance fee of the conference will be 12 Euro (reduced 8 Euro, Members free).

VENUE

Bielefelder Kunstverein
im Waldhof
Welle 61
33602 Bielefeld
Germany
T +49 (0) 521.17 88 06
F +49 (0) 521.17 88 10
www.bielefelder-kunstverein.de
kontakt@bielefelder-kunstverein.de

»TRANSPARENCIES« IS FUNDED BY THE GERMAN FEDERAL CULTURAL FOUNDATION



WITH KIND SUPPORT FROM

HYPO - KULTURSTIFTUNG

CORPORATE PARTNER



PUBLICATIONS

To mark the exhibition, a 36-page brochure will be published (German/English) and concludes with the publication of a comprehensive catalogue in January 2016.

GUIDED TOURS

During our exhibitions, we offer free guided tours every Sunday at 5 pm. Besides that, we can offer individual guided tours and workshops upon request.

You will find further information related to the exhibition in the press section of our website:
www.bielefelder-kunstverein.de.

PRESS CONTACT

BUREAU N, Silke Neumann
silke.neumann@bureau-n.de
T +49 (0) 30. 62 73 61 02
www.bureau-n.de

CONTACT

Bielefelder Kunstverein
Welle 61
33602 Bielefeld
Germany
T +49 (0) 521. 17 88 06
F +49 (0) 521. 17 88 10
www.bielefelder-kunstverein.de
kontakt@bielefelder-kunstverein.de

Kunstverein Nürnberg - Albrecht Dürer Gesellschaft
Kressengartenstraße 2
90402 Nürnberg
Germany
T +49 (0) 911. 24 15 62
www.kunstvereinnuernberg.de
mail@kunstvereinnuernberg.de