

To the press

Studio for Propositional Cinema
«SCENOGRAPHY: Redundant as eyelids in
absence of light.»



30 June – 16 September 2018

Press preview: Friday, 29 June 2018, 11 a.m.

Opening: Friday, 29 June 2018, 6 p.m.

Studio for Propositional Cinema has attracted much attention in recent years due to their innovative exhibition formats and polemic poetics. Their work draws directly on the tradition of conceptual art and deals with the use of language as a means of creation, interpretation and communication. This practice frequently manifests itself in the exhibition space as text installations but also as performative moments.

Studio for Propositional Cinema often attempts to stretch the formal and temporal conditions of given cultural forms (exhibitions, publications, cinema, theater and now opera) beyond traditional consumable formats, expanding them to unfold in fragments and iterations over geographical distances and expanded time periods. Interwoven with these tactics are the voices and materials of the exhibition format itself: exhibition design and architecture, didactic mediation, publication and design, as well as the voices and realities through which the host institutions speak.

Redundant as eyelids in absence of light. is the libretto for a five-dimensional dystopian opera that is realised in various formats: as a concert in Basel, as an exhibition in St.Gallen and finally as a forthcoming publication. For the exhibition at Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen Studio for Propositional Cinema has conceived the libretto as a minimal, context-specific sculptural installation throughout and beyond the exhibition rooms. In the process the flow of spectators choreographed by Studio for Propositional Cinema articulates and activates the text, and the libretto is "played" through the architecture of the exhibition rooms.

A dystopian narrative unfolds of a world in which all forms of language and interpersonal communication have been mitigated or eliminated. Each of the six songs of the libretto represents the desperate attempts of the protagonists to relearn various forms of communication. The characters yearn for connections in a world in which expressive and dialogic forms have been suppressed to the brink of being forgotten: *The Rag-picker* strives towards the language of textiles, *The Lens-grinder* towards the production of images, *The Sound-collector* strives for sounds and *Dancer* for the language of movement; two of the protagonists try to record and disseminate these forms of language; *The Transcriptionist* and *The Pigeon-breeder*. The seventh character, *The Archivist*, has the task of collecting and cataloguing all confiscated objects relating to these activities.

Set within the legal conditions governing this narrative's reality, «SCENOGRAPHY: Redundant as eyelids in absence of light.» pictures a world perched at the logical conclusion of our own society's trajectory, proposing the exhibition format itself as a discursive form that can and must transcend the monological in order to help to resist a culture pointed towards the permanent erasure of dissidence.

Under the title «RECITAL: Redundant as eyelids in absence of light.» the libretto was performed on the organ of Basel's St.-Alban-Kirche by Swedish organist Hampus Lindwall on 13 June 2018 at 7 p.m.. The concert was part of the LISTE Performance Project and was produced in cooperation with Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen.

Studio for Propositional Cinema was founded in 2013 in Düsseldorf/DE.
Solo and group exhibitions (selection): Kestner Gesellschaft, Hannover/DE (2017); Swiss Institute New York, New York/USA (2017); Kunstverein Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf/DE (2016); Taylor Macklin, Zurich/CH (2016); Kunsthaus Bregenz, Bregenz/AT (2016); Tanya Leighton, Berlin/DE (2015); mumok, Vienna/AT (2015). Performances: LISTE Performance Project, Basel/CH (2018); Kunstsammlung NRW, Düsseldorf/DE (2017); Kunsthal Bergen, Bergen/NO (2016); Index, Stockholm/SE (2016). Further, Studio for Propositional Cinema collaborates often with other artists such as Keren Cytter, Gaylen Gerber, Irena Haiduk, Karin Schneider and Henning Fehr & Philipp Rühr.

Events and Educational Programme:

Opening

Friday, 29 June 2018, 6 p.m.

Guided Tours on Tuesday/Introductions for Teachers

Tuesday, 3 July 2018, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, 7 August 2018, 6 p.m.

Art Lunch – Guided tour followed by lunch

Thursday, 23 August 2018, 12 noon

Admission: CHF 25/members CHF 22; registration at info@k9000.ch

Museum Night

Saturday, 8 September 2018, 18 Uhr

Painting Afternoon – For children from 4 to 8 years-old

Wednesday, 12 September 2018, 2 p.m.

Admission: CHF 5; registration until the previous day at: info@k9000.ch

Art Snack – Short guided tour and a snack

Thursday, 13 September 2018, 12.30 p.m.

Admission: CHF 10/members CHF 7; no registration required

Guided Tour on Sunday

Sunday, 16 September 2018, 3 p.m.

Workshops for School Classes

From 4 July on we are offering workshops at the exhibition.

More information: www.k9000.ch (Art Education/Workshops for School Classes)

High-resolution images can be found in the press kit on our website under 'Press'. For further questions please contact Giovanni Carmine (carmine@k9000.ch) or Maren Brauner (brauner@k9000.ch).

The Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen is supported by St.Gallen City Council, Kulturförderung Kanton St.Gallen, Swisslos, Fondation Nestlé pour l'Art (Partenariat), Migros-Kulturprozent, Ernst und Olga Gubler-Hablützel Stiftung, Martel AG. The educational programme is made possible by Raiffeisen and Kulturförderung Appenzell Ausserrhoden.

Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen
Davidstrasse 40
CH-9000 St. Gallen
Tel. +41 (0)71 222 10 14
Fax +41 (0)71 222 12 76
info@k9000.ch
www.k9000.ch

Opening times:
Tues to Fri 12 – 6 p.m.
Sat & Sun 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.