

SUMMER UNIVERSITY 2004: BEYOND AESTHETICS

Performance, Media, and Cultural Studies

Otto-von-Guericke-University (Magdeburg)

Academic and Professional Staff:

Christopher Balme (Univ. of Mainz, D), Mita Banerjee (Univ. of Mainz, D), Maaïke Bleeker (Univ. of Amsterdam, NL), Matthew Causey (Trinity College Dublin, IRE), John Downie (Victoria Univ. of Wellington, NZ), Luc van den Dries (Univ. of Antwerpen, B), Alfred Hornung (Univ. of Mainz, D), Markus Kiefer (Univ. of Mainz, D), Tomasz Kitlinski (Univ. of Lublin, POL), Anja Klöck (Hochschule für Musik und Theater Leipzig, D), Michal Kobialka (Univ. of Minnesota/Minneapolis, USA), David Levin (Univ. of Chicago, USA), Peter Marx (Univ. of Mainz, D), Ian Maxwell (Univ. of Sydney, AUS), Josef Rauscher (Univ. of Mainz, D), Bernhard Reitz (Univ. of Mainz, D), Karl N. Renner (Univ. of Mainz, D), Freddie Rokem (Tel Aviv Univ., IL), Kati Röttger (Univ. of Mainz, D), Brigitte Schultze (Univ. of Mainz, D), Agostino Di Scipio (L'Aquila, I), Vava Stefanescu (Paris, F), John Storey (Sunderland College, UK), Małgorzata Sugiera (Jagiellonian Univ., Kraków, POL), Meike Wagner (Univ. of Mainz, D).

Date: Juli 25 - August 7, 2004.

Location: Gutenberg Univ. Mainz.

Contact / Application:

Please, use the formular on the homepage: www.performedia.uni-mainz.de/school04.html

The IPP Summer School is a centre for learning in an international context, offering courses to postgraduate and doctoral students with an aim towards encouraging interdisciplinary study. All participants attend lectures and workshops regularly and present their own projects in the field of performance and media in working groups. In addition to academic instruction there are practical workshops, debate meetings and informal excursions. The academic staff of the IPP Summer School consists of university teachers and other qualified professionals. All courses are conducted in English.

IPP Summer School students will acquire analytical tools and methods to focus on performative practices as theatre, literature, performance art and visual media. We support interdisciplinary perspectives by offering seminars according to fields of interest as »Media and Body«, »Transformation of Bodies«, »Media and Cultural Studies«, and »Crises of Mimesis«. The focus of attention will be on the social relevance of aesthetic forms and practices mirrored in methodological approaches that lead beyond textual and aesthetic analysis. IPP Summer School supports postgraduate and doctoral students in developing methodological approaches and in focussing the outline of their individual projects with an intensive course programme.

IPP Summer School offers:

- Methodological seminars by our international academic staff with 10 to 15 participants.
- Preliminary readings and term papers required. Students can choose one seminar out of four.
- Practical Workshops by qualified professionals. Students can choose one workshop out of four.
- Working groups with project presentations (30 min.) for students and group discussions by participants and academic staff. Students can attend one working group according to their subject of study.
- Plenary lectures by our international academic staff.

Fees for course programme: 70 Euro

Seminars

1) Michal Kobialka and Tomek Kitlinski: **Transforming the Body**

The body boundaries mark the anatomy of the self. Mediating the body always involves re-shaping, alteration and mutilation of its scheme – processes most vividly affecting the peripheries of the body. The seminar will examine the processes and effects of these transformations and investigate representations of the body such as the grotesque body, the ailing body and the de- and re-codings of the gendered body.

2) Małgorzata Sugiera and Freddie Rokem: **The Crises of Mimesis**

The seminar will focus on strategies of representation as used in late 19th century theatre and in contemporary performance in the context of the current debate on the crisis of mimesis. Both forms of theatre deal with these crises by means of fragmented form, the abandonment of the dramatic text, the mix of various performative styles. The seminar will discuss the problem of mimesis and provide methodological tools to investigate these performative manifestations.

3) Maaïke Bleeker and Ian Maxwell: **Mediating Bodies**

The body seems to be more than ever an important topic in contemporary performance and media research. The seminar will investigate mediating bodies under three different perspec-

tives: Corporeal literacy and the adaptation and reshaping of the body dealing with media, the body of the media and the self-reflexive strategies of fissure and the actual mediation of the body operating with cultural constructs of the body.

4) Mita Banerjee and John Storey: **Tele-Visions**

The seminar addresses the medium television from an interdisciplinary perspective by combining approaches from media and cultural studies and social sciences. Central to the discussions will be the way media content is here constructed and the discursive conventions that are employed in the case of different TV formats. The seminar will also consider the role of television as a social institution in mediating cultural and social values.

Practical Workshops

1) Vava Stefanescu: **Mediating Movement – Body and Imaging**

The workshop will explore the dramaturgy of corporal signs from the perspective of instant composition (real time composition) investigating the impact of media upon the image of the dancing body and the ways in which the use of media alters the body's image on stage. Vava Stefanescu is a Romanian dancer and choreographer, founder and executive director of MAD (*Multi-Art Dance Centre*), Bucharest. In the past decade, she had several artistic residencies in France and Germany

2) Agostino Di Scipio: **Audible Ecosystemics – Technology and Sound**

Agostino Di Scipio is a composer and researcher who has a special interest in computer sound and recently »audible ecosystemics«. He currently holds a DAAD scholarship for outstanding artists. In his workshop he will investigate the relationship of sound, space and the body. He will develop interactive sound systems with the students.

3) John Downie: **Body Heat – Performing Global Warming**

The starting point for the performance workshop is the crisis of the body envisioning heat and global warming. John Downie is an outstanding playwright, theatre and media director. He is especially interested in the relationship between biological »display« and human »performance« and in investigating these by means of performance and theatre.

4) Markus Kiefer: **Beyond the Looking Glass – Re-appropriating Media**

The media workshop will engage in reconstructing media formats and aesthetics to present distorted visions of media society and to demonstrate thus the creative power of media art. Markus Kiefer is a media artist and currently in the master class of Harald Schleicher at University of Mainz.

Lectures by Anja Klöck, Matthew Causey, David Levin and Luk van den Dries