



Positions in Contemporary Art from the 1970s to the Present

Course information

Credits:

3 ECTS or 5 ECTS (when writing a final essay. Guidelines for the essay will be delivered at the beginning of the course)

Assignments:

For each chapter an assignment will be given that should be completed in time. The assignments will be available on the e-learning environment at the opening of the chapter. The assignment is not optional; it is an elementary demonstration of your keeping pace with the course progress. Students will be asked to provide short and coherent, personal & creative responses to a certain number of questions. The assignments will be assessed regularly, with written feedback from the instructor.

Instructor:

Barbara Sonvilla bsonvill@uiah.fi
Course assistants Esa Salmio and Martti Raevaara

Language of instruction:

English

Notes:

Limit 15 students.

This course is primarily open to foreign students at UIAH and students of Art Education.

The course structure is mainly web based, utilizing an e-Learning environment. In addition to that 3-5 contact teaching, including exhibition tours in a Finnish art museums/galleries days are scheduled. The detailed program shall be specified and arranged shortly after the course has started.

Start and End Dates:

The course starts **29.1.2007** and ends on **25.5.2007**

Enrolment details:

Registration deadline: **15.1.2007**

By email to Barbara Sonvilla bsonvill@uiah.fi

OR to the list located outside the room xxxx, 6th floor, School of Art Education (name, email address)

Course description

The 1970s and 1980s saw an expansion in all the visual arts, an atmosphere of experimentation and artists became fascinated with new technologies; new forms of expression; and the dismantling of genres, categories and boundaries.

This course explores the multi-faceted world of a global contemporary art, incorporating a wide definition of the visual arts during the last decades. Special attention will be given to time based art forms, such as video art, multi-media installations and concept art.

We will examine selected “chapters” of its complex recent history, and we will discuss the artists’ strategic responses to shifting cultural and historical circumstances by providing you with some in-depth analysis of particular works of art.

We will also use the concepts introduced by new media to look at the past decades in new ways. Looking at how new media art refashions earlier media forms, we will try to consider the place of new media in contemporary society, as well as the place of the artist’s Self within.

Aims & Learning Outcomes

....assisting you to engage in critical discussions

The lectures will take place in an elearning environment, presenting information in multisensual ways. Focusing on a diverse range of artistic media, the course will provide you with illustrative and significant examples to enable investigation and analysis of specific issues and art works. This module will pay particular attention to the history and theory of concept art and artists engaging themselves with social and political realities.

Students should, on completion of the subject, have an understanding of key issues in contemporary art, and be able to locate specific artistic and critical practices within a social, historical and theoretical context of postmodernism/postcapitalism.

This course aims to help you developing a closer engagement with and understanding of the contemporary art world. It also aims to develop your understanding of the artists’ positions and concepts, by subsequently inviting you to learn to critique art projects constructively.

In addition to the course, and intended to be a vital component within in, guided exhibition tours and museum visits will be scheduled.

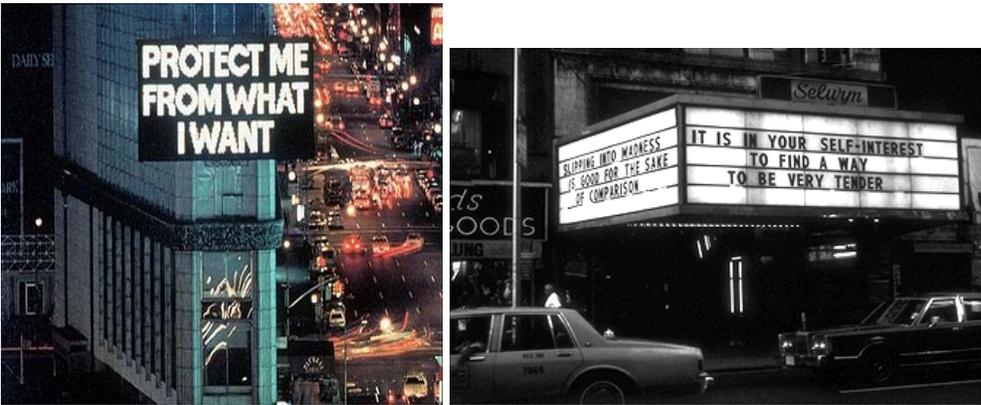
Lecture topics:

1. "Every person is an artist"



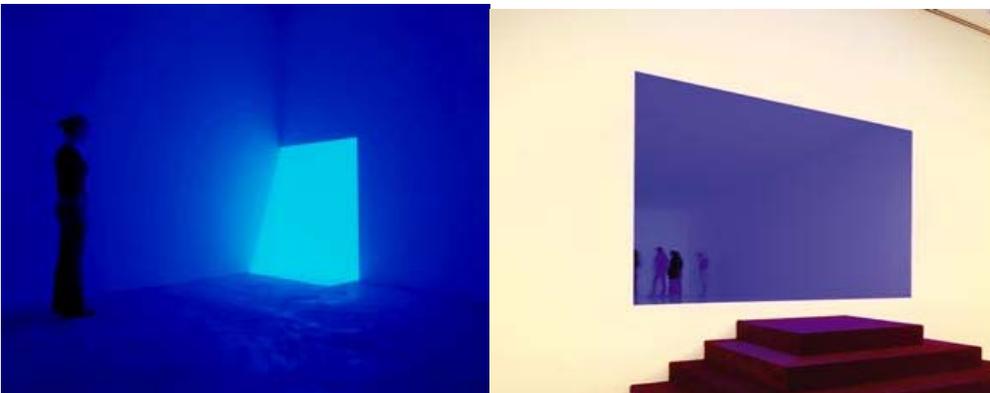
He, Beuys -Joseph Beuys and the concept of social sculpture

2. "Please change beliefs"



Truisms -Holzer's truisms in public space

3. Knowing Light



Colour - James Turrell's light spaces

4. The Painting's responsibility



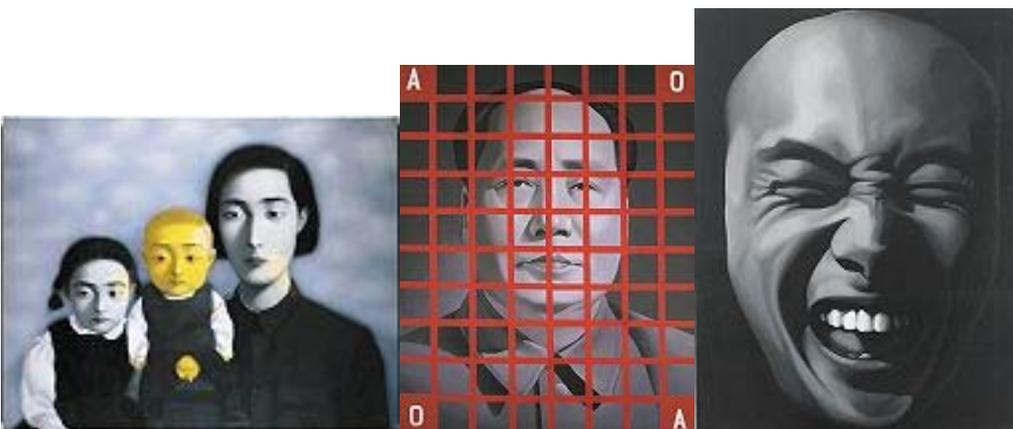
Paint - Francesco Clemente, Gerhard Richter, Neo Rauch etc.

5. Utopia, Utopia!



Polis – “I am not a political artist, I make art politically “, Thomas Hirschhorn

6. Move over Mao



China - China's avant-garde art since the 1980s

7. Road Map



Mind maps - Contemporary Art of the Near East