Workshop

DE-CONSTITUTING WHOLES:

Haunting, Eclipse, Plasticity

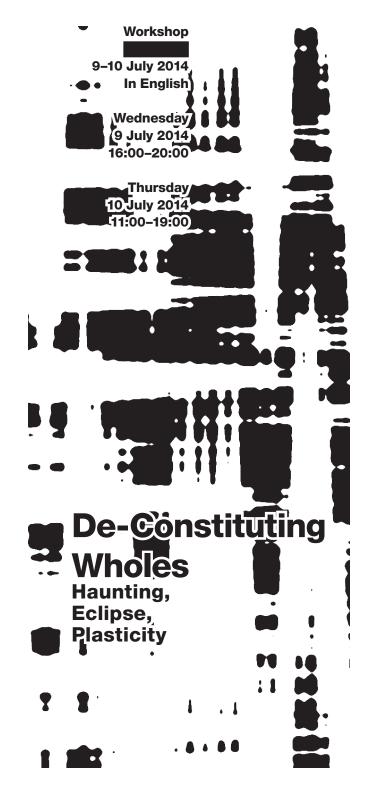
The yearlong multidisciplinary ICI Project 'Constituting Wholes' explored the critical potential of remobilizing the notion of the whole. In which ways are wholes constituted and how do wholes constitute, determine, and control their parts? Does the constitution of wholes necessarily involve an exclusion – not only of some parts and of other conceivable wholes but also of some aspects of its constituting elements? When wholes are said to be more than the sum of their parts, this 'more' contains both a promise and a threat. The workshop proposes that such promising, threatening excess should also be thought in terms of de-constitution; and its three panels investigate different modes of negativity under the headings 'Haunting', 'Eclipse', and 'Plasticity'.

Talks by

EIRINI AVRAMOPOLOU
DANIEL C. BARBER
MARCUS COELEN
ALICE GAVIN
PETA HINTON
NAHAL NAFICY
JAMILA MASCAT
ROBERT MEUNIER
STEFANO OSNAGHI
RUTH PRESER
FILIPPO TRENTIN
ARND WEDEMEYER



ICI Berlin Institute for Cultural Inquiry Christinenstr. 18/19, Haus 8 D -10119 Berlin Tel: +49 30 473 72 91 10 www.ici-berlin.org U-Bhf Senefelder Platz (U2)



WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 2014 16:00-20:00

Part 1: **HAUNTING**Moderation: **Nahal Naficy**

Haunting is a method for exploring how objects, processes and affects make themselves known in other than obvious terms. By pointing to forms of historicity, violence, and dispossession, haunting disrupts the naturalness of evidence and the transparency of 'things', knowledge, or experience. Space and time cannot remain intact when the tactility of everyday life is mediated by the labor of the negative. Indeed, thinking through hauntings haunts you back. It suggests an aporetic immanence that obfuscates any capacity for a totality, or whole. Informed by psychoanalytic, feminist, queer and post-colonial perspectives, this panel seeks to trouble the unforeseeable, the unknown, the absent and the invisible in methods, archives, and systems of justice, desire, and death.

16:30 Peta Hinton

Haunted Ontologies:

Feminist Ethics as an

Im/possible In/justice to Come

17:00 Eirini Avramopoulou

On Dispossession:

Letting Death Speak of Desire

17:30 Coffee break

18:00 Filippo Trentin

Atlas:

Informe, or the (Un)transposability of

Forms and Identities

18:30 Ruth Preser

Berlin my Love:

Haunting and the City

19:00 Discussion part 1

THURSDAY 10 JULY 2014 11:00-19:00

Part 2: ECLIPSE
Moderation: Filippo Trentin

Eclipse is an event without history, an event that nullifies the visibility supplied by a narrative. If day and night mark the turnings and passages of the world, the world rightly told, then eclipse is the event of this "everyday" world's wrongness. Seeking to think not about eclipse but according to eclipse — not "in light of" but "in eclipse of" — this panel explores the methodology of thinking within the wrongness of the world, a wrongness for which even the word "eclipse" may be wrong.

11:00 Marcus Coelen

Eclipse of Phantasm

11:30 Daniel C. Barber

Knowledge Never Enlightened:

Anti-Black Epistemicide and the Creation of the Future

12:00 Coffee break

12:30 Alice Gavin

"From Those Flames... No Light":

On Handsworth Songs and Paradise Lost

13:00 Nahal Naficy

Revolution Is in the Air, to Hell with Revolution:

On Air Pollution in Teheran

13:30 Discussion part 2

14:00 Lunch break

Part 3: PLASTICITY
Moderation: Daniel C. Barber

The notion of plasticity challenges the idea that wholes are constituted through subsumption and that such wholes ought to be resisted according to a logic of exemption or excess. Plasticity names the transformative nature of immanent processes of the giving and receiving of forms, thus allows to consider the question of wholes beyond the dichotomies of components and composites or object and context. Yet the concept often conjures expectations of individual adaptation in a neo-liberal order and thus calls for a critical assessment. Exploring the potentials and pitfalls of the concept in diverse fields, the panel will ask whether it is possible to proceed not from the "constituting" of wholes but their de-constitution in morphosis.

15:30 Jamila Mascat

Plastic Totalities between Kant and Hegel

16:00 Stefano Osnaghi

Probability and the Bounds of Sense

16:30 Coffee break

17:00 Robert Meunier

The Plasticity of Concepts of Plasticity

in Biology

17:30 Arnd Wedemeyer

Pumping Honey:

Joseph Beuys at the documenta 6

18:00 Discussion part 3 and whole workshop