

Going to the town's market with a pig

Tags

conviviality

confessional art

#discursive turn

#discursive exhibition

Making sense of the experience of reading in order to propose a reading path, a reading walk, combines our perceptual engagement with an imaginative process. I am inviting the reader to navigate a particular road: is it one of the roads that Ana Vujanović mentions through sharing Ivan Illich's story from Mexico of a farmer who can no longer go to the town's market with his pig, even though he pays taxes for the roads? Yet the roads in this story only serve the owners of various monopolies. In her text on conviviality (1), Ana is exploring the tension between manipulative institutionalization which results in alienation of human practices, and our deep need for (social) institutions which cannot be disconnected from social relationships. How can these relationships be formed via always already curated autobiographical narratives in an attempt to 'put our bodies through things' but not by fetishizing those experiences which are coming from marginalized positions? - this is the question that Ana Fazekaš is asking in her entry on confessional art (2). Ana attempts to rethink (feminist) narcissism, an undoubtedly derogatory term, ethically universally devalued in contemporary culture, and sees it (or rather its non-pathological version) instead as a fragmentary and in-progress attempt at structuring experience at identity intersections. A discursive exhibition/art work (3) as a result of 'discursive turn' in contemporary art can be one way of hosting this experience structuring. Ivana Vaseva brings me back to that short reading path that I started, where the question is how to engage the audience precisely in reading and listening as an experimental practice that is at the same time its own artwork, rather than a side program to the presentation of artefacts.

Compost Entries:


1. "Conviviality: Persons, Tools, Collectives" by Ana Vujanovic
2. "Questions on Curating the Confessional / Rethinking Feminist Narcissism" by Ana Fazekaš
3. "Discursive exhibition" by Ivana Vaseva

Other sources:

Performance Research (2019), vol. 24, issue 2: "On Mountains", ed. by Jonathan Pitches & David Shearing
Ellis, Carolyn (2003). *The Ethnographic I: A Methodological Novel About Autoethnography*. Lanham: Altamira Press.

Compagnon, Antoine (2004). *Literature, Theory, and Common Sense*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

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curating
in  context



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