

BIOGRAPHICAL ENTRIES FREE / SLOW UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW

Heath Bunting was born a Buddhist in Wood Green, London, UK and he is able to make himself laugh. He is a co-founder of both net.art and sport-art movements and is banned for life from entering the USA for his anti-GM work. His self-taught and authentically independent work is direct and uncomplicated and has never been awarded a prize or been bought or sold. He is both Britain's most important practicing artist and the world's most famous computer artist. He aspires to be a skillful member of the public and is producing an expert system for identity mutation. [The biographical entry was taken from: <http://irational.org/cgi-bin/cv2/temp.pl>]

Katarzyna Chmielewska is a literature historian; she works at the Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences in the Literature and Contexts team. Graduate of Polish Studies and Philosophy, auditor at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences. She deals with autobiographies as a problem of subject constitution, issues of literariness in the narration on Shoah. Editor of the socio-political quarterly "Bez Dogmatu." Together with Tomasz Żukowski and Michał Kozłowski, she ran pro-seminars at the Faculty of Philosophy and Sociology of the University of Warsaw: "Art and critique," "Contemporary Marxist traces" and "Desire, passion, affection. Constitution of craving."

Critical Practice is a cluster of artists, researchers, academics and others supported by Chelsea College of Art & Design, London.

The group recognizes dramatic transformations in creative practice, transformations that are instigated by, and a reflection of, wider social, political, technological and financial changes. One of the most obvious effects of these changes is that, as artists, curators, designers and theorists, our practices, or their interpretation, or how they are theorized, historicized or organized, are no longer separate concerns, or indeed the prerogative of different disciplines. Currently, Critical Practice is concerned by the threat of the instrumentalization of the artistic field through the internalization of corporate values, methods and models. This can be seen everywhere, in funding agencies, at art schools and academies and in museums and galleries. Therefore, the group seeks to avoid the passive reproduction of art, and uncritical cultural production by exploring new models for creative practice. Critical Practice looks to engage these models in appropriate public forums, both nationally and internationally. Critical Practice collaborates on exhibitions, seminars and conferences, films, concerts and other event programs. The group also works with archives and collections, publications, broadcasts and other distributive media and funders.

Adrienne Goehler is a former Senator for Science, Research and Culture in Berlin and one of Europe's foremost cultural debaters. She studied German and Romance literature and languages in Freiburg and Psychology in Hamburg. During 1986-1989, Adrienne served as a deputy in the Hamburg Parliament as part of the women's fraction of the GAL (Grüne Alternative Liste). And after that, for 12 years, she headed the academy of fine arts (Hochschule für bildendeKünste) in Hamburg. In the years 2002-2006, she was the curator for the Hauptstadt Kulturfonds (cultural capital funds) of Berlin. She is the author of the book *Verflüssigungen: Wege und Umwege vom Sozialstaat zur Kulturgesellschaft*, which has been recently published by Campus Verlag. In her book *Adrienne Goehler* shows that the experts of change and the specialists for transitions and ambivalences work in the area of art and science. Since 2006 she has been working as a freelance curator and a publicist in Berlin.

Rebecca Gordon Nesbitt - having worked as a curator in London, Glasgow and the Nordic countries, Rebecca Gordon-Nesbitt receded from direct participation to concentrate on research into the infrastructure of the art world, its institutions and economies. Committed to the use of investigative research in exposing elites, she retains a belief in the radical potential of art.

Michał Herer is a philosopher from the Institute of Philosophy at the University of Warsaw. Author of a monograph on Gilles Deleuze (Gilles Deleuze. Structures - Machines - Creations, 2006). Herer translated from French the texts of Michael Foucault, Louis Althusser, and others. Editor of the web magazine "Orgia Mysli."

Jakob Jakobsen is a visual artist, an activist and an organizer living and working in Copenhagen. His work is mainly collaborative and processual and it focuses on self-organization and autonomy. The central objective of his artistic practice is independent research and knowledge production. He

predominantly works in the public sphere through walks, interventions, or public campaigns; most recently has been involved in a project confronting the issues of the terror laws in Denmark. His main activities so far have been the Copenhagen Free University (2001-2007) and the Infopool network in London (2000 until now). Co-founder and the first chair of the UKK (Young Art Workers) in Denmark 2002-2003. Co-founder of tv-tv, a local activist television station in Copenhagen 2004. Initiator of Fri Klasse, an urban school project in Copenhagen, 2005-2006. Professor at the Funen Art Academy since 2006. As a visual artist, Jakobsen has contributed to exhibitions at Kunstihoone, Tallinn; Witte de With, Rotterdam; Casco, Utrecht; Wattis Institute, San Francisco; Shedhalle, Zürich; Insa Art Space, Seoul; Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore; Whitechapel Art Gallery, London; Munchen Kunstverein, Munich; Rooseum, Malmö; Tramway Gallery, Glasgow; John Hansard Gallery, Southampton; Wiener Secession, Wien; Louisiana, Humlebæk, and others.

Martin Kaltwasser was born in 1965. He is an artist. Since 1998, together with Folke Köbberling (b. 1969), he has been implementing the concept of artistic and architectural aesthetics of resistance. Their work presents the alternatives to the consumer ideology - through structural interventions, artistic statements, actions, and theories. Kaltwasser and Köbberling use streets, squares, bridges, parks and interior spaces as their areas of operation. The materials applied by them always consist of "urban resources," such as litter, trash, and donations. As a result, each work is based on communicative and social moments. Their strategies encourage emulation, distribution, and multiplication, as they can be implemented by means of very simple materials.

Tadeusz Kowalik was born in 1926 in Kajetanówka, Poland. Presently, Kowalik is the Professor of Economics & Humanities at the Institute of Economics of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Warsaw School of Social and Economic Studies. Among other things, he was a visiting professor at the York University, Toronto, Canada; in Oxford and at the New School for Social Research in New York. He cooperated with the Polish United Workers' Party. In the years 1977-1980, Kowalik was the co-founder and the lecturer of the "Flying University," which operated as a semi-legal institution. In 1980 he was the advisor of the Interfactory Strike Committee at the Gdańsk Shipyard. Kowalik co-founded the Association of Self-management (1987), the Association of "Democracy & Solidarity" (1988), the Polish Labour Foundation (1990) and the Union of Labour (1992; in the years 1992-2002, he was also the member of the party). Since 1994 Professor Kowalik has been the member of the Council of Socio-Economic Strategy and Social Council (advisory bodies to the government). One of the most known critics of Polish transformation model. Lately he has published the book *www.polskatranformacja.pl* (Publisher: MUZA SA).

Vahida Ramujkic currently investigates the processes of social and environmental transformation through the techniques of mental and physical recycling. Relying on her intuition and experience, she tries to create such conditions where good things happen just like that. You can visit her at <http://irational.org/vahida/>.

Michał Kozłowski was born in 1974. He is a philosopher. Deals with history, capitalism, modernity, power, subject, desire and related issues. Tends to be Marxist. He studied Philosophy and Law at the University of Warsaw, Philosophy at the KU Leuven and Social Sciences at the EHESS in Paris. At the latter he defended his PhD thesis on Foucault's concept of freedom. Co-creates the "Bez Dogmatu" quarterly, co-edits the Polish edition of the "Le Monde Diplomatique" monthly. Cooperates with the "Variations" magazine and REASOPO (Réseau européen d'analyse des sociétés politiques). Teaches history of modern philosophy at the Institute of Philosophy of the University of Warsaw.

Ewa Majewska is a philosopher, a feminist and a theoretician of art. She is the editor and the author of numerous books and articles dedicated to critical analysis of culture.

NetzNetz.net is a self-organized funding system for digital arts and digital culture. The process is funded by the MA 7, the Cultural Department of Vienna. It is a social platform for individuals and groups associated with net art and net culture in Vienna, Austria.

Under the title *netznetz.net* a congregation of initiatives and individuals in the "greater electronic area" of Vienna is growing with the aim of enhancing and also visualizing connectivity between themselves and the public. At the three-day convention at the Künstlerhaus in October 2004, *netznetz.net* activists sounded out the practices, collaborations and futures of digital Vienna. The motto "bring your own devices" was a call beyond the individual

scenes to both past and future participants, and offered access to new techniques and strategies in horizontal working situations.

Marion von Osten works as an artist, an author and a curator. The main interests of her projects are the changed conditions of the production of cultural work in neo-liberal societies, technologies of the self and the governance of mobility. In her work, theoretical and artistic approaches mix and are brought together mainly through the medium of the exhibition, publications, installations and film productions, which she co-organizes with other cultural producers. Since 2006 she has held the professorship at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. In the years 1999-2006, she was the professor and researcher at the Institute for the Theory of Art and Design and the Institute for Cultural and Gender Studies, HGK Zurich; a lecturer at the Critical Studies Program of Malmö Art Academy. In the years 1996-1998, she was the curator at Shedalle Zurich.

Roman Pawłowski was born 1965. A journalist with "Gazeta Wyborcza," the biggest opinion-forming newspaper in Poland. He has been writing on theatre and culture since 1994. A graduate of the Jagiellonian University in Cracow where he studied Theory of Theatre; he had classes with such professors as Jan Błoński, Nina Kiraly, Józef Tischner and others. His concepts of the theatre were formed among Polish alternative groups of the 1970s and 1980s, such as the Movement Academy, Provisorium, or the Eighth Day Theatre. His second source was contemporary European playwriting, which he could personally watch at festivals in Edinburgh, Avignon and Berlin. In his theatre criticism he focuses on new playwriting. He has published two collections of the newest Polish drama entitled *Porno Generation and Other Distasteful Theatrical Pieces* (2003) and *Made in Poland* (2005), which were sold in a record number of copies and arose extreme reactions ranging from rapture to total rejection. Since 2008 he has been working as a lecturer and a workshop curator in Laboratory/School of Drama, the first playwriting school in Poland. A winner of the Zbigniew Raszewski Award for the best press critic. He cooperates on a permanent basis with "Notatnik Teatralny," a theatre quarterly based in Wrocław. He lives in Warsaw in the Praga district.

Joanna Pianka / NetzNetz was born in 1983. Today she lives and works in Vienna, Austria. She is studying Architecture at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna, reading history, theory and criticism. Her master's thesis deals with the democratic process in the public forum and direct democracy in city planning. She also works as a photographer, a graphic designer and an assistant for several groups connected to the Netz Netz. Since March 2008, she has served as one of the coordinators for the Netz Netz process, establishing the communication and administrative link between the organization, the digital art scene and the municipal government in Vienna.

Agata Pyzik was born in 1983 in Warsaw. Studied Philosophy, History of Art and American Studies at the Warsaw University. She's a critic and a writer on literature, art, music, film, and culture. Fascinated by modernism in all its manifestations. Writes, among others, for "Lampa," "Gazeta Wyborcza," "Obieg," and "Glissando." Sometimes translates poetry. Since 2009 she has collaborated with the Bęc Zmiana Foundation and 6 Weeks Notebook. She's currently working on her own publication with interviews to be published in 2010. Blogs in English at <http://nuitssansnuit.blogspot.com>.

Vahida Ramujkic currently investigates the processes of social and environmental transformation through the techniques of mental and physical recycling. Relying on her intuition and experience, she tries to create such conditions where good things happen just like that. You can visit her at <http://irational.org/vahida/>.

Gerald Raunig is a philosopher and a theoretician of art, associated with the European Institute for Progressive Cultural Policies in Vienna; one of the authors of the "European Cultural Policies 2015" report; he has recently published a book *Art and Revolution*.

Jan Sowa was born in 1976. A sociologist, a writer and a translator. He studied Literature, Philosophy and Psychology at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow and at the University Paris 8 in Saint-Denis. He holds a PhD degree in Sociology and is currently working as an assistant professor at the Faculty of Social Communication of the Jagiellonian University. He worked as a curator in the Center for Contemporary Art "Bunkier Sztuki" and as a journalist for the Polish Public Radio. He is also the co-founder of Korporacja Ha!art Publishing House. In his writing and theoretical work Sowa explores the border of cultural studies, social anthropology, media theory, art and politics. His articles appeared among others in "Ha!art," "Zielone Brygady," "Obieg," "Gazeta Wyborcza," "2+3D," "Obywatel," "Krytyka Polityczna" and

"Praesens." He published a collection of essays *Sezon w teatrze lalek* (2003) and a 500-page-long book on the political transformations in peripheral countries (*Ciesz się, późny wnuku*, 2008). He co-edited and co-authored several volumes on culture, politics and society. Sowa is also a funding member (along with Jakub de Barbaro and Jan Simon) of the Goldex Poldex Cooperative - an independent art-and-theory center in the Podgórze district of Cracow (<http://www.goldexpoldex.pl/>).

Peter Spillmann was born 1961. He lives in Zurich and Berlin. Spillmann is an artist, a cultural producer and a curator. He cooperated and co-created many self-organized artistic projects, such as Kunstbüro AOS, Kombirama, or Labor3000. In the years 2000-2002, he was the artistic director of Expoagricole. In 2004 he was a member of the curatorial team *Werkleitz Biennale* in Halle am Salle. He regularly takes part in international artistic projects, exhibitions, and publications.

Kuba Szreder is a graduate of the Department of Sociology of the Jagiellonian University (Cracow). He works as a curator of interdisciplinary projects, which are expanding artistic activities into the public sphere, actively engaging in the social context and contemporary politics. He experiments with various artistic practices through which socially relevant knowledge is produced and distributed. He has wide experience of curating projects in the urban context, working with the public space and reshaping spatial practices. He is the initiator and curator of the public art festival "Passengers" in Warsaw. He pursues his interests also in the field of contemporary art theory and critical cultural studies, cooperating with various art magazines, writing texts to catalogues and anthologies. He works with Korporacja Ha!art Publishing House (Cracow), which released his book *Industrial Town Futurism* (edited together with Ewa Majewska and Martin Kaltwasser), a summary of years long research and an exhibition project. The German edition was published by Revolver Verlag in 2007. In 2009 he worked as a curator of the nomadic self-educational project *Free / Slow University of Warsaw* and a counter-public art festival about disappearing from the public space. In the fall of 2009 he started his PhD research the School of Art and Design at Loughborough University.

Teresa Świąćkowska is a research worker at the Institute of Information and Book Studies of the University of Warsaw. Editor of the socio-political quarterly "Bez Dogmatu."

Tomasz Żukowski was born on the 3rd of November in 1969. Graduate of Polish Studies in Warsaw. He participated in seminars run by Maria Janion and Michał Głowiński. In 2006 he defended his PhD thesis on the images of Christ in the poetry of Aleksander Wat and Tadeusz Różewicz. Since 2001 he has been an employee of the Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences in the Literature of the 20th and 21st Century Workshop. Interested primarily in literature on war and occupation, particularly pertaining to Shoah. Co-editor and co-author of the book *Stosowność i forma. Jak opowiadać o Zagładzie?* [Propriety and form. How to talk about Shoah?] devoted to the descriptions of the Holocaust. His texts on the subject were published in "Pamiętnik Literacki," "Teksty Drugie" and joint works. Apart from that, he dealt with the problems of public discourse. Between 2002 and 2004 he coordinated a research scheme into junior high school course books in the context of the image of ethnic, religious and sexual minorities, conducted by the Open Republic Association. Involved in social and political journalism. Editor of the socio-political quarterly "Bez Dogmatu," constantly cooperates with "La Nouvelle Vague," a semi-yearly magazine devoted to Central and Eastern Europe. His texts were published in "Przegląd" and on lewica.pl website. Employee at the School of Higher Vocational Education in Cultural Studies in Ciechanów. Together with Katarzyna Chmielewska and Michał Kozłowski, he ran a seminar at the Institute of Philosophy of the University of Warsaw for the last three years. Since 2001 he has been the secretary of the Jan Józef Lipski MA Thesis Competition.