

The Theme

Performance, Lies and Videotape: Beyond Documentation

Performative practices have a complicated relationship towards videotaping: On one hand video seems to destroy the live-event and replace it with a surrogate, stealing attention from the real thing and selling it to a world that has less and less time for live-events while busy recording. On the other hand, video is the only medium that conveys time-based arts and there is also a cooperative relationship: It bypasses written notation and captures a copy of the event for repeated viewing.

But whose reality is being portrayed in the recording? How does the act of recording itself implicitly alter events? How is it possible to acknowledge the perspective of those being filmed? Today we experience an exponential increase of recording devices uploading and streaming video, even automatically (or involuntarily) and live, to the Internet, to YouTube. Nearly everyone has a video camera in his or her pocket today. Is there a danger of "over-documentation", of total surveillance or documenting as the market-compatible substitute of aesthetic experience?

The colloquium asks how we can use video, documentation or annotation tools with the aim of generating artistic creativity AND new knowledge in the performing arts. How do we use strategies of enriching and analytically reducing the – potentially unlimited – data? How do we analyze them in ways that create new perspectives, new connections, new insights? And what are the purposes?

This goes beyond documentation, beyond collecting, into a sphere of creative reflection through translating and transcoding performative practices into different media and back to the artistic process.

The Frame

The colloquium takes place in the frame of the RESEARCH ACADEMY 2017, an international platform based at Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) in partnership with the Institute for Theater Studies (ITW) at University of Berne. The RESEARCH ACADEMY aims to develop artistic practices and foster research through the strong interaction between fellows, faculty members, the artistic community, and the general public. It seeks to explore artistic strategies of contemporary performance practices in order to ask how they speak back to the cultural and economic environment, the political landscape and social values.

12 participants out of different fields in the performing arts and film are working intensively during eight days with the expert faculty from dance, video, and theory:

Dr. Scott deLahunta is currently a full-time Senior Research Fellow with Deakin Motion.Lab, Deakin University (AUS) and Visiting Academic at the Centre for Dance Research, Coventry University (UK). With Florian Jenett, he is Co-Director of Motion Bank @ Hochschule Mainz University of Applied Sciences.

Andrea Keiz is an educated biologist and teacher for dance improvisation, and is working with video as a tool related to movement. She has been doing documentation of dance as well as live video work in performance and artistic video work. Besides filming, she is also editing, advising students in documentation and offering workshops in video//dance and perception.

The Colloquium

The colloquium gives insight in the working process of the RESEARCH ACADEMY 2017 as well as in the beginning of a newly set up research project at ZHdK, the RESEARCH VIDEO PROJECT, directed by Gunter Lösel and Martin Zimper. The aim is to open up the lab-situations of the two research projects to the public, and to show some interim findings of the preceding working days. These showings in the field of documenting and publishing performing arts will be enriched by an input of the Swiss Dance Archive focusing on the problematic of Archiving as well as by expanded reflections about going beyond documentation by Scott deLahunta, Co-director of Motion Bank, and faculty member of the RESEARCH ACADEMY.

The colloquium places value on practice-related theory and addresses all practitioners in dance, theater, performance and film/video.

Venue

Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK)
Department of Performing Arts and Film
Theater der Künste, Probebühne 1,
Gessnerallee 11
CH-8001 Zurich

Research Academy Faculty

Dr. Scott deLahunta
Andrea Keiz

Participants Research Academy 2017

Andrea Abbatangelo, Verónica Garzón, Ayara Hernández Holz, Su Jin Kim, Marjana Krajac, Irene Müller, Ronja Siljander, Katelyn Stiles, Mary Szydłowska, Katja Vaghi, Anna-Carolin Weber, So Young Yang

Research Video Project

Dr. Gunter Lösel, Institute for the Performing Arts and Film (ZHdK)
Dr. Martin Zimper, Cast / Audiovisual Media (ZHdK)

Speaker

Dr. Scott deLahunta, Motion Bank
Katrin Oettli, Swiss Dance Archive

Organisers

Institute for the Performing Arts and Film (IPF), Zurich University of the Arts in cooperation with the Institute for Theater Studies (ITW), University of Berne.

Contact

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Research Academy 2017

The Programm

Thursday, 20th of July

17:30-17:40	Welcome
17:40-18:10	Documenting: Presentation Research Academy
18:10-18:30	Archiving: Input by Katrin Oettli, Swiss Dance Archive
18:30-18:50	Publishing: Research Video Project
18:50-19:10	Beyond Documentation: Response by Scott deLahunta
19:10-19:30	Discussion

The Colloquium is open to the public.

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Z hdk

Zürich University of the Arts
Institute for the Performing Arts and Film

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Public colloquium
Thursday, 20th of July 2017

Institute for the Performing Arts and Film
Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK)