

POLITICS OF DISSONANCE



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Via del Pallone 4, 90133 Palermo PA

Dates: 6-9 July, 1400-0200

Quartair, Artists at risk, Social Sensibility R&DD

Brexit, Trump, a realignment of power from East to West, a new proposal for globalisation led by China, the return of political extremism to mainstream European politics—these are all elements of discord, of a dissonant reckoning between the world we once envisaged, full of certainty, and a world that is becoming and which we cannot yet name.

Conceived by curator Mike Watson (theorist, critic for Art Review, Artforum and Hyperallergic and curator of events at the 55th and 56th Biennale di Venezia) Politics of Dissonance is a festival of sound, noise, political video, and VJ performances to be hosted in collaboration with Quartair, Social Sensibility and Perpetuum Mobile / Artists at Risk on 6th-9th July 2018. The event aims to bring together independent spaces and practitioners from across the world to collaborate in a performative investigation into the discord that defines our times. Drawing on dissonance both as a musical term and as a term used to describe social rupture or unease *Politics of Dissonance* invites sound and noise artists and musical practitioners as well as VJs and video makers to engage in performances or to create installations that focus on the role of dissonance in giving form to our times.

Within a world that had become unfathomable in social terms, the art world is called upon to provide a sense of meaning, harmony or balance. However, it remains complicit with the forces of finance capital that have blurred the political boundaries and laid waste to formerly stable political oppositions. As a festival, *Politics of Dissonance*, aims to address the limits of artistic discourse in our times. Partners *Artists at Risk* will elaborate on their work aiding persecuted artists in at risk territories, whilst *Social Sensibility* will invite workers from the Bernard Controls factory plants in China and France to continue ongoing research on the relation between

workers and creative production. Quartair will continue their activity as an artist run space dedicated to social inquiry through installation, performance and multimedia.

Politics of Dissonance is an official collateral event of Manifesta 12.

Artists:

Antoine Adguze, Natasja Alers, Simone Bertugno, Harold de Bree, Rob Bothof, Baran Çağınli, Stefano Canto, Chto Delat, Amos Cappuccio, Sounkarou Dembélé, Blandine De La Taille, Ramy Essam, Nico Feragnoli, Snövit Hedstierna, Shingo Inao, Fatoş İrven, Nikos Kokolakis, Giuseppe Lana, Yael Levy, Cristiano Luciani (aka Chris X), Dominique Manu, Richard Nathaniel, Nikolay Oleynikov (Chto Delat) with Radio Pravda, Erkan Özgen, Fenn, Robert Pettena, Esther Planas, Alessandro Rolandi, Shitcluster, Dembele Sounkarou, Antti Tenetz, Rena & Vladan, Oliver Ressler, Mike Rijniere, Tito Valery, Zhang Wei, WeiChengCheng, WuShuqing, Issa Touma, Thom Vink, Hamid Zeggane, Tianji Zhao.

Organisers

Mike Watson is a theorist, critic and curator based in Italy who is principally focused on the relation between art, new media and politics.

Emanuele Riccomi: curator based in Rome, principally interested in the relation between society, art and politics.

Perpetuum Mobile / Artists at Risk Artists: writers, curators, critics and scholars are targets of politically motivated threats and persecution in great parts of the world. **Perpetuum Mobile (PM)** initiated **Artists at Risk (AR)** as a platform and network to support these art practitioners in times of need.

Quartair is a platform for creation, education, exhibitions and artistic debate. Quartair initiates and supports projects and exchanges with artists or artistrunspaces in Holland and abroad.

Social Sensibility The Social Sensibility R&D Department is a socially engaged experimental research unit that studies relational dynamics mediated by art practice within a working environment. It was created by Alessandro Rolandi in collaboration with Bernard Controls Industrial company in 2011.

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