GRADUATE SEMINAR // SPRING 2018

SELF-MYTHOLOGIES AND TIMELINES

This semester in Graduate Seminar I have three questions for you:

1) Why are you here?
2) Upon whose shoulders do you stand?
3) What’s next?

This is another way to ask you to consider your past, present, and future - to consider how a practice exists in time. Our work this semester is centered on the stories we were told and the stories we tell. The “art world” and “art school” are both built on shaky foundations - ideas that can be easily warped to support or hide specific narratives. Stories about work and people and time periods that are “important.” Or not. Or are at least expensive. Or not (money is also a story we tell to ourselves).

But there is a history - and from this history we select our influences and develop a reasoning of what we make and manifest. A story that we tell ourselves and others that supports the production of some thing that carries the weight and title of “Art”. This supporting story is constantly growing, constantly becoming. A complex web of connections that join individual art works to cultural trends to personal life events to new material interests to learned processes.

Warren Ellis, a writer, recently described Myth as a “carrier wave for information.” If you want an idea to last beyond you, embed it in a narrative. What are the stories you are telling through your studio work? What are you putting out into the world? What ideas will outlast you?
 STRUCTURE: This class will have a simple structure and schedule.

1) We meet every Wednesday evening at 4:30 pm in room 1005. There are 15 weeks in the semester and 6 graduate students.
2) There will be two studio visits a week. This cycle will repeat 3 times. Everyone will have 3 studio visits. Each studio visit will last for one hour.
3) There will be assigned readings and content to consider. While we will be holding focused discussions based on the readings during the first 40 minutes of class, we can also use our readings to frame our studio visits.
4) At the end of this session will be our Graduate Critique. During Graduate Critique you will present your work to the faculty and any visiting artists and/or curators. This will be a day long meeting.
5) We will be planning a group exhibition at the end of the class, which will be comprised of the work you produce during the semester. We will develop ideas of the exhibition and find a venue based on your ideas.

READINGS:
1. No Time to Spare by Ursula K. Le Guin
2. Lost Properties by Chris Kraus
3. The Beating of Our Hearts by Dodie Bellamy
5. We Wanted a Revolution: Black Radical Women 1965 - 85 edited by Catherine Morris and Rujeko Hockley
6. Joseph Beuys
7. TBD by Class.

ASSIGNMENTS:
1. Artist Family Tree
2. Group Exhibition
3. Grad Critique

SCHEDULE:

WEEK 1 // INTRO
1/24 Introduction to class.

WEEK 2 // WHY ARE YOU HERE?
1/31 STUDIO VISIT 1:
STUDIO VISIT 2:
READING DISCUSSION: Dodie Bellamy and Ursula K. Le Guin
● 2/3 Navigation Press at the Cosmos Club

WEEK 3 // WHY ARE YOU HERE?
2/7 FIELD TRIP: Transformer Gallery and Hamiltonian Gallery
CHRISTOPHER IN NEW YORK

WEEK 4 // WHY ARE YOU HERE?
2/14  STUDIO VISIT 3:
STUDIO VISIT 4:
READING DISCUSSION: Chris Kraus

WEEK 5 // WHY ARE YOU HERE?
2/21  STUDIO VISIT 5:
STUDIO VISIT 6:
READING DISCUSSION: Art School: Propositions for the 21st Century

- Jake Nussbaum visiting the shop for risograph bookmaking/zine project
- 2/24 NYC Art Bus

WEEK 6 // UPON WHOSE SHOULDERS DO YOU STAND?
2/28  STUDIO VISIT 1:
STUDIO VISIT 2:
READING DISCUSSION: We Wanted a Revolution

- Pyramid Atlantic Art Book Fair

WEEK 7 // UPON WHOSE SHOULDERS DO YOU STAND?
3/7   STUDIO VISIT 3:
STUDIO VISIT 4:
READING DISCUSSION: We Wanted a Revolution

WEEK 8 // SPRING BREAK // UPON WHOSE SHOULDERS DO YOU STAND?

- SPRING/BREAK IN NYC

WEEK 9 // UPON WHOSE SHOULDERS DO YOU STAND?
3/21  STUDIO VISIT 5:
STUDIO VISIT 6:
READING DISCUSSION: Joseph Beuys

- 3/24 NYC ART BUS
- 3/25 GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

WEEK 10 // WHAT NEXT?
3/28  STUDIO VISIT 1:
STUDIO VISIT 2:
READING DISCUSSION: Joseph Beuys

- CURRENT ART BOOK FAIR IN RICHMOND
WEEK 11 // WHAT NEXT?
4/4  STUDIO VISIT 3:
     STUDIO VISIT 4:
     READING DISCUSSION: TBD / Art Movement

WEEK 12 // WHAT NEXT?
4/11 STUDIO VISIT 5:
      STUDIO VISIT 6:
      READING DISCUSSION: TBD / Art Movement

• 4/14 NYC ART BUST

WEEK 13 // WHAT NEXT?
4/18 EXHIBITION AND GRAD CRITIQUE PLANNING

• 4/21 OFF THE WALL

WEEK 14 // WHAT NEXT?
4/25 EXHIBITION AND GRAD CRITIQUE PLANNING
     LIBRARY VISIT AT SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

WEEK 15 // FINAL WEEK OF CLASSES // WHAT NEXT?
5/2 EXHIBITION AND GRAD CRITIQUE PLANNING

GRADUATE CRITIQUE:

EXAM WEEK:

BOOK/PRINT/ZINE FAIRS:
1) Paper Cuts / LIVE // Washington Project for the Arts // February through May
2) Pyramid Atlantic Art Book Fair // Hyattsville, MD // March 2 - 3
3) Current Art Book Fair // Richmond, VA // March 31st
4) Baltimore Publication and Multiples Fair // Baltimore, MD // TBA
5) Philly Art Book Fair // TBA