Betreff: Harun Farocki Institut - Newsletter March 2017

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Datum: 06.03.17, 21:11

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Harun Farocki Institut Newsletter March 2017

Dear friends,

just over a year ago, in February 2016, we made an appearance at the Berlinale for the first time with a short archive video montage and a leaflet featuring Harun's graffiti "Etwas wird sichtbar." This year we had a somewhat higher profile and on February 16 took part in the conference "Think Film No. 05" from "Forum Expanded."

The inspiring day in silent green with real and virtual archives of different types provided the occasion for us to digitalize one of the first finds from our archive (thanks to the Kornmanufaktur) and to screen it with English subtitles from Jan Ralske. "Ronny und Harun spielen Theater" (Ronny and Harun play theatre) is a 6 minute documentation of a short performance by Farocki and the actor Ronny Tanner, staged in the foyer of the Delphi Cinema in February 1982. The two of them played a brief scene from "Etwas wird sichtbar" (Before your eyes – Vietnam), promoting the start of the film in the cinemas.

We assumed that Farocki's action was a response to the film's rejection by the "International Forum of Young Film." Only now have we established, to our surprise, that the film was not rejected and was shown in the Forum. Consequently, "Ronny und Harun spielen Theater" was less a protest action than an inventive piece of guerrilla marketing for a film which formed part of the official Berlinale program.

A textbook example of archive forensics: Discover something, research its background, search for clues, form hypotheses, draw conclusions – and then revise these conclusions in the light of other, newer findings. As you see.

In the following you will find information on current events and recommendations:

1. Öffentliche Sichtung: ROCINANTE

On March 17, 2017, at 7:30 pm, we invite you, together with the Arsenal, to a further installment of "Öffentlichen Sichtung" (Public Screening) at the Arsenal Cinema 2. The HaFl has chosen "Rocinante" (GB, 1986) from Ann and Eduardo Guedes (with the recently deceased John Hurt, Maureen Douglass, Ian Dury, Carol Gillies, amongst others) – a mythological road movie, squatter and hacker story. We don't know the film, but are interested to see how the connection between documentary and fictional praxis – a problem that Harun Farocki saw himself confronted with in the 1970s and 1980s – is dealt with here.

Rocinante Ann and Eduardo Guedes

GB 1986, 35 mm, English with subtitles, 93 min Arsenal, Cinema 2, 7:30 pm

2. HaFI Residency:

Time goes quickly: Kevin B. Lee's three month residency already finishes at the end of March. He speaks about the last ten years as a producer of video essays, about today's Berlin, about his perspective on Harun Farocki's films, texts and procedures in the Residency Blog.

We also draw your attention to two articles in the German language feuilleton published on the occasion of Kevin's HaFI residency:

Philipp Bovermann, <u>"Video-Essayisten. Das sind die Superstars der Filmkritik"</u>, Süddeutsche Zeitung (Munich), January 7, 2017

Andreas Busche, <u>"Medienkritik mit Transformers. Der Video-Essayist Kevin B.Lee"</u>, Der Tagespiegel (Berlin), February 6, 2017

The coverage has provoked responses, see article here (Patrick Holzapfel) and there (Dobrila Kontić).

3. Facebook:

Since the end of January the HaFI has also been present on Facebook, where the Institut is presented by Rosa Mercedes as a <u>fan page</u>. Rosa is Farocki's alter ego and "nom de guerre." She appears in the credits of a number of Farocki's films under "film editing" and occasionally interviewed the film maker.

4. Recommendations:

(1) **Exhibition: "Harun Farocki: Counter-Music"**, Haus der Kunst, Munich; curated by Okwui Enwezor and Antje Ehmann with Damian Lentini

March 10 to May 28, 2017 (opening: March 9, 2017)

As the <u>first major exhibition in Munich</u> since Farocki's death in 2014, the exhibition examines Farocki's ongoing analysis of the changing modes of wage labor, production and consumption.

(2) "Erkennen und Verfolgen." An event series on the work and teachings of Harun Farocki, conceived by Sabeth Buchmann and Constanze Ruhm, in cooperation with Jens Kastner and the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna

Lecture series at the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna

07/03/2017 Introduction: Jens Kastner

14/03/2017 Children's films / children film. Sabeth Buchmann and Constanze Ruhm talk to Antje Ehmann about Harun Farocki's Sesame Street films and how one can inspire and imitate television, as well as attitudes to work.

21/03/2017 Volker Pantenburg: The Depiction of Work Relations. ERZÄHLEN (About Narration) (1975)

28/03/2017 Michael Baute: 1969-1984: Formats and forms of "film criticism" (on television)

04/04/2017 Tom Holert: "Agitation as education": Political films and theories of learning in Harun Farocki and Hartmut Bitomsky (ca. 1970)

25/04/2017 [speaker and title to be announced]

02/05/2017 Filipa César: Montage, magic, and other encounters

09/05/2017 Christa Blümlinger: The art of teaching the visible

16/05/2017 Thomas Heise: Thinking about Harun

23/05/2017 Maren Grimm: "What can be learnt from it?" Studying Film at Art Schools

30/05/2017 Christine Lang: Boundary as experience. Play and narration in Harun Farocki

13/06/2017 Diedrich Diederichsen: Harun Farocki as a writer: journalism, critique, film politics

20/06/2017 Sezgin Boynik: Heurism of images: Learning through cinematic devices

Program series at the mumok, Vienna

29/03/2017, 7 pm, mumok cinema: Michael Baute 31/05/2017, 7 pm, mumok cinema: Christine Lang 14/06/2017, 7 pm, mumok cinema: Thomas Elsaesser 21/06/2017, 7 pm, mumok cinema: Sezgin Boynik

(3) Essay Film Festival London

Thinking Cinema on Television: Westdeutscher Rundfunk (WDR), ca. 1975

Three sessions of the Essay Film Festival, curated and presented by Volker Pantenburg, will showcase a small selection of four WDR productions from the mid-seventies, three of them broadcast in October, November and December 1975. Looking at these WDR productions allows a glimpse at a network of individuals, alliances (like the close link between WDR and the journal FILMKRITIK) and intellectual labour, all of which contributed to creating these examples of "Thinking Cinema on Television" and provide a historic background for the contemporary production of video essays.

Werner Dütsch, one of the crucial commissioning editors of the WDR film department since the 1970s will be there to present and discuss some of the programs.

Kevin B. Lee, currently Resident of the Farocki Institut, will also attend the festival and present examples from his and others' video essay production (in a different program).

Program 1:

Filmemigration aus Nazi-Deutschland - Teil 1 (Film Emigration from Nazi Germany - Part 1) by Günter Peter Straschek and **Fritz Lang** by Werner Dütsch

Program 2:

Aufsätze (Essays) and Von Griechenland (From Greece) by Peter Nestler; Telekritik: Über zwei Filme von Peter Nestler ("Telekritik": About two films by Peter Nestler) by Rainer Gansera

Program 3:

Erzählen (About Narration) by Harun Farocki and Ingemo Engström

5. New publications:

Monika Bayer-Wermuth: "Harun Farocki: Arbeit", Munich: Silke Schreiber 2016.

<u>"Essays on the Essay Film"</u>, edited by Nora M. Alter and Timothy Corrigan, New York: Columbia University Press, 2017.

Sergi Álvarez Riosalido: "Harun Farocki and the Archive. What Images Show, what Images Conceal", in: Found Footage Magazine #3 (March 2017), pp. 70-76.

We look forward to seeing you at one or the other events.

Tom Holert, Doreen Mende, Volker Pantenburg and Elsa de Seynes

PS: Listed below are works by Harun Farocki currently on view in **solo** or **group exhibitions** (selection):

Until March 13: "Workers Leaving their Workplace" (together with Antje Ehmann) and "The Silver and the Cross" in: "Ficciones y territorios. Arte para pensar la nueva razón del mundo" (curator: Cristina Cámara Bello) Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain www.museoreinasofia.es

Until March 26: "Deep Play" in: "Harun Farocki. 'Deep Play" (curator: Hélène Annerreau-Barnay), Grand Café and LIFE, Centre d'Art Contemporain, Saint-Nazaire, France www.grandcafe-saintnazaire.fr/en/

Until March 31: "I Thought I was Seeing Convicts" in: "Evidentiary Realism" (curator: Paolo Crio), NOME

Gallery, Berlin and Fridman Gallery, New York www.nomeproject.com, www.fridmangallery.com

Until April 16: "The Silver and the Cross" in: "Afterwork", ILHAM, (curators: Freya Chou, Cosmin Costinas), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia www.ilhamgallery.com/exhibitions/afterwork/

Until April 17: "Labour in a Single Shot" (with Antje Ehmann) in: "Work in Motion. The video camera's eye on social and economic behavior", (curator: Urs Stahel), Fondazione Mast, Bologna, Italy www.mast.org/home

Until April 17: "Parallel I - IV" in: "Räume schaffen" (curator: Sabine Breitwieser), Museum der Moderne - Rupertinum, Salzburg, Austria <u>www.museumdermoderne.at</u>

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