IGNORANCE
The Power of Non-Knowledge

Art & Evidence Conference Series 2016

Location: Kunstquartier Bethanien, Studio 1, Mariannenplatz 2, 10997 Berlin.
Schedule: September 30 (16.00-21.15); October 1 (17.00-20.45), 2016. In English language.
Admission: 5 Euro / day.
Details: http://www.disruptionlab.org/ignorance

The 9th event of the Disruption Network Lab, directed by Tatiana Bazzichelli, co-curated by Daniela Silvestrin.
In cooperation with Kunstraum Kreuzberg /Bethanien. In collaboration with the Resistance Studies Network (www.resistancestudies.org) and the Resistance Study Initiative – RSI, University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA (www.umass.edu/resistancestudies) and SPEKTRUM (http://spektrumberlin.de). Media partners: ExBerliner, Furtherfield.

Speakers:
Matthias Gross (sociologist and science studies scholar, DE), Joanna Kempner (Sociologist, US), Jamie Allen (artist and researcher, CA/CH), Teresa Dillon (researcher, artist and educator, IE/DE), Karen Douglas (social psychologist, UK), Martin F. Robbins (researcher and science writer, UK), Hannah Jane Parkinson (digital culture journalist and writer, UK), Ippolita group (activists and writers, IT), Vladan Joler (SHARE Foundation director, chair of the New Media Department, University of Novi Sad, RS), Jan Willem Wieland (Assistant professor, Department of Philosophy, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam).

Screening of “Merchants of Doubt” (2014, 1h36min, OV), documentary directed by Robert Kenner, based on the book “Merchants of Doubt” by historians of science Naomi Oreskes and Erik M. Conway.

The second event of the “Art & Evidence” series by Disruption Network Lab 2016 investigates the political, social and ethical dimensions of ignorance, manifested as different forms of what has been termed “non-knowledge”. It will shed light on how, why and when knowledge does not come to be, disappears or is suppressed, the possible advantages and disadvantages related to the creation or maintenance of ignorance and doubt, and how the underlying strategies and dynamics can be unveiled and unmade.

Especially in the context of the current political scenario that we are witnessing, the study and closer look at strategies behind the deliberate creation and spreading of ignorance has gained more importance than ever if we want to understand the reasons for the growing success of populist campaigns. At the same time, the creation of doubts, suppression or selected publication of facts, and nourishing of controversies is building a constant background to the debates related to the discussions about climate change, carcinogenic products, conduct and publication of scientific research results and the role and influence of the media in it.

A program of keynote lectures, panel discussions and a film screening will present artists, scientists, researchers and journalists who will discuss mechanisms and reasons behind knowledge that does not come to be or is suppressed. Discussions will center around the political, strategic and social uses of creating ignorance in social and everyday life through the manipulation and suppression of facts, the creation of doubt and uncertainty, biased reporting of the media, or even forbidden knowledge that is too controversial, sensitive or taboo to be studied.

You can access detailed information about the program and the participants of our upcoming event here. Press releases, information about earlier events as well as logos you can find on our press page. Press images can be downloaded here and be used free of charge in connection with editorial coverage of the event; the rights holder must be named in the credits.

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