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Seminar
Variables of Art

In 1994, Thomas Wulffen coined the term "Operating System Art", which is oriented on computer-terminological and systematic deliberations. He invites the understanding of contemporary art as a system that developed specific structures, understands special processes and obeys certain rules. Almost 20 years earlier with his series of essays on the White Cube, Brian O'Doherty composed a difference-theoretical and already systemically applied functional analysis, which turned the context into content ("context becomes content"). In 1964 Arthur C. Danto published his regarded and respected formulations on the "Artworld": "an atmosphere of art theory, a knowledge of the history of art".

In the seminar, these institutional-analytical approaches should associate artistic works of the first and second generation of the Institutional Critique in the 70s and 90s, with historical forerunners of an art world research as well as with most recent demands for more culturally- and politically-oriented institutional critique. In doing so, special attention must be given to Okwui Enwezor's embedding of contemporary art in socio-cultural and political-historical dimensions in his Black Box analysis from 2002.

The goal of the seminar is to search for identifiable rules of the game in the art system and to abstract constituents of the art system as a social system with recourse to system-oriented, empiricized and pragmatized offers of perception and description as well as to examine their powers to define, in order to for us to approach those decision-making processes, which temporarily establish what is recognised as relevant and what is not.

Further Information:
<http://bkb.eyes2k.net/S2LMU2012.html>