



"Kunst als Soziale Strategie" (Art as Social Strategy), 1977, Bonn Kunstverein. Podium discussion between German government ministers and APG artists. UK artists make proposal to ministers to adopt artists in their governmental departments as done in the UK.

APG / O+I (Organisation and Imagination)

Event at Tate Britain, March 23, 2005

In the late 1960s and 70s, Artist Placement Group (APG) set the stage for artists to produce radical political and social interventions in the UK and abroad. It began a process of re-positioning artists beyond their traditional contexts. To celebrate the acquisition and housing of APG's records by the Tate Archive, artists, government, and the private sector have been invited to explore its legacy.

The above photograph from the APG archive illustrates a line-up of APG artists and German ministers in Bonn in 1977, and has been used as a format for the forthcoming event at Tate Britain. This occasion will again create a platform for artists to address, together with representatives from organisations of all kinds (including Government), the role, position, and responsibility of the artist working outside art contexts. This day-long event will examine the ways artists have engaged with, and socially transformed institutional structures, and will challenge governments to address these roles and their relevance today.

Practitioners from across the fields of culture and from the public and private sectors will be taking part. The relevance of this body of work to current cultural policy concerns will be debated and demonstrated in a round-table discussion which will tackle issues of policy-making and institutional participation aiming to generate new approaches and actions.

A display of APG's historical precedents, examples of major industrial and government placements, negotiation processes, rationales and methods of procedure, as well as audio-visual material will be exhibited. A selection of this material, now housed in the Tate Archive (TGA 20042), and documentation of the event will be on Tate's website.

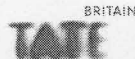
The goal of this historic occasion is a formal challenge to organisations and governments to address the creative and economic potential of repositioning the artist 'within' their organisations, and on a par with any other specialist engaged by them.

The challenge is that governments and organisations INVITE ARTISTS IN THE NEW ROLE to address areas of concern within their departments along lines implemented by APG. In effect what O+I have in their sights is a programme of new associations reflecting APG's 1971 Art and Economics exhibition at the Hayward Gallery which followed a period of industrial placements.

Amongst those invited are Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Tessa Jowell MP; Tony Benn; Nicholas Serota, Stephen Deuchar; APG artists Barbara Steveni, John Latham, Ian Breakwell, Stuart Brisley, David Hall, David Toop, and Rolf and Ros Sachsse from Germany; historian Nicholas Tresilian; practitioners from the current generation, Lise Autogena, public works (Kathrin Böhm and Andreas Lang), Tim Brennan, Barnaby Drabble, Jay Koh, Platform, Neal White; and others.

The exchange, the challenge, and the discourse are wide open. The eventual outcome will depend on how participants and audience convert the arising issues into action.

“Context is half the work.”



Tate Britain, Millbank, London SW1P 4RG, +44 (0)20 7887 8000
O+I, 68 Anstey Road, London SE15 4JY, +44 (0)20 7732 7400

Programme

Clore Foyer / Clore Auditorium / Duffield Room

From 10.00 View exhibits, archive material, audio-visual displays, installations and continuous film programme, e.g. *An Introduction to the Peterlee Project 2004-* and Department of Health Reminiscence Aid Placement film by Bill Furlong.

Chair – Clive Phillpot

1.30-1.40 Welcome by **Stephen Deuchar** (Director, Tate Britain).

1.40-2.00 **Barbara Steveni** (Director, O+I).

2.00-2.45 **Nicholas Tresilian**
Historical overview of APG's seminal placements, practice and context, bringing it forward to today's interests and culture. Introduction to Bonn Line-Up of 1977, how this relates to the day's occasion and the proposition to be made.

2.45-3.30 **Nicholas Serota** (Director, Tate Gallery) welcomes **Secretary of State for Culture, Tessa Jowell**.

Tony Benn (video 5-10 mins)

3.30-4.00 Tea Break

John Latham (video – *The Shift*)

4.00-6.00 **Round Table Discussion, chair – Barnaby Drabble.**
O+I's response to Tessa Jowell's statement and artists' proposals, leading to a debate on the role and participation of the artist in social, political and economic fields, the challenge of ArtistPlacements and Incidental Person Art.

Invited speakers include:

Hans-Ulrich Obrist – involvement with APG/O+I's practice and the APG archive.

Dennis Stevenson – Chancellor, University of the Arts; Peterlee placement.

Private and public sector representatives from APG's initial placements: **Peter Byrom**, (ICI) **Peter Walding** (DoE), Scottish Office representative **John McTernan** (LBS).

APG placement artists including **David Toop**, **David Hall**.

Practitioners whose work relates to APG today, including **Sarah Andrew**, **Lise Autogena**, public works (**Kathrin Böhm** and **Andreas Lang**), **Tim Brennan** (*An Introduction to the Peterlee Project 2004-*), **Jay Koh** (IMIFA), **Jane Trowell** (Platform), **Neal White**.

Andrew Marr (as Respondent – to draw together political, cultural and economic implications) tbc.

Pre-recorded on film: **Ian Breakwell**, **Stuart Brisley**, **Hugh Davies**, **Bill Furlong**, **Chris Patey** (British Steel, now Corus).

6.00-8.00 Drinks.

apg archive

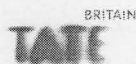
Art and Social Intervention: the Incidental Person

O+I and Tate Archive Collection have pleasure in inviting you to examine the history of APG and to animate its legacy.

Wednesday March 23rd, 2005, 1.30 to 6pm at Tate Britain, Clore Wing. The Clore Entrance will be open from 10am to view exhibits. Drinks reception from 6 to 8pm.

“Developed economies world-wide encounter difficulties in accommodating the independence of artists. From the late 60s through to the 80s, APG worked within major UK industrial concerns and government departments, where the artist carried a new role and function.”

Tickets £15 (£10 concessions) from (+44) (0)20 7887 8888 or via the Tate website: www.tate.org.uk.britain/eventseducation/symposia/default.htm. Tickets include refreshments.



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