

homecomings, etc.¹

Installation, Performance, Salon

Returning to homecomings²

Friday 10 October 2014, from 6pm

Symposium

homecomings, etc.³

Friday 10 October – Saturday 11 October 2014

Returning to a place marked by returns, within the context of such revolutions, all is brought into motion.

Last fall's group exhibition homecomings⁴ expands with a symposium this autumn, hosted at Aedes Network Campus Berlin, and will be followed by a second group exhibition next spring. Seeing the symposium as a space for reflection as well as generation, the current actions investigate this bridge-like terrain.

We should long ago have got into the habit of moving about, of moving about freely, without it being too much trouble. But we haven't done so, we've stayed where we were; things have stayed as they were. We haven't asked ourselves why it was there and not somewhere else, why it was like this and not otherwise.⁵

Øystein Aasan's new installation *GATES / IN (NOT) SO MANY WORDS* (2014) is an invited response opening up a gesture previously made by Tatiana Echeverri Fernandez, in which the artworks from homecomings (2013) were (re)introduced, through the technique of Systemic Constellations, into the same exhibition space they occupied a year before.⁶ Observing how the artworks reacted when asked "why it was there and not somewhere else, why it was like this and not otherwise?" Aasan returns to the former exhibition as a point of departure, or arrival, setting into motion visitors, homecomings, etc.

Tatiana Echeverri Fernandez in turn sets quotation into jarred movement with fragments from Jean-Luc Nancy's *Corpus* and the preceding performance. Taking on the trifold definition of her title, *Intercalation*—the insertion of a molecule into DNA, an ion into a layered solid such as graphite, or a technique used to insert one narrative inside another, implying simultaneity—is performed by Michael Burditt Norton, traversing the present space and within Aasan's sculptural installation. Everything, including past, present, and future are intertwined and in relationship to each other.

In the peak of the venue's architecture, **Marco Thiella & Chiara Zanella's** *Coming Home* (2014) is discovered as a reprieve in a quested return. Set within a space proposed as one of clarity and rationality in Gaston Bachelard's *The Poetics of Space* (1957), that which we know so well rises to the rafters of consciousness as an archetype. Having swayed under the weight of countless suppers, the pressures of conversation, of being worked upon, a form casting shadows reflects traced and anticipated action. The visual artists originally from Venice have been hosting one of Berlin's first supper clubs, "Metti una sera a cena" (after a 1969 film "One Night at Dinner" by Giuseppe Patroni Griffi), since 2010. They open their home, their table, for dinner guests, serving their traditional cuisine with a contemporary twist amidst their artistic practices. Reviving a 16th century recipe from their home region, Veneto, "Pasta e Fagioli" paired here with squid ink bread, the artists mark the arrival of fall as a moment for harvesting ideas, concepts, coming together, opening discussion, and in this, *Coming Home*.

Kicking off the symposium on September 21st 2014, a conversation between **Libia Castro & Ólafur Ólafsson** and curator **Florian Wüst** unfolded on the topic of "Site-Relation" in the light of their permanent neon installation *Dein Land existiert nicht* (2013). The work, created for homecomings, is the first iteration of the neon in German from within their ongoing project *Your Country Doesn't Exist* (2003-). As the opening conversation for the reflective and yet projective symposium, Wüst spoke with the artists about their practice's confrontation with site, expanding this notion to include broader networks of relations, manifest in their work in both subtle and constitutive ways. How might methodology and means be navigated where histories layer and futures project?

¹ An exhibition series bridged by a symposium, curated by Cassandra Edlefsen Lasch and Annabelle von Girsewald

² BOX Freiraum. Courtyard, Boxhagener Straße 93, 10245 Berlin

³ Aedes Network Campus Berlin. Christinenstraße 18–19, 10119 Berlin

⁴ homecomings took place 19 September–27 October 2013, in BOX Freiraum. Courtyard, Boxhagener Straße 93, 10245 Berlin

The project is inspired by Hreinn Friðfinnsson's *House Project* (1974-) and Georges Perec's *Espèces d'espaces* (1974)

The initial group exhibition featured benandsebastian, Anton Burdakov, Libia Castro & Ólafur Ólafsson, Tatiana Echeverri Fernandez, Eric Ellingsen, Jean-Pascal Flavien, Hreinn Friðfinnsson, Elín Hansdóttir, Florian Neufeldt, Sophia Pompéry

⁵ Georges Perec, *Espèces d'espaces* (Species of Space, 1974)

⁶ This gesture took place 10 August 2014 and was led by Systemic Constellations facilitator Andrea Hofmann