The seminar will consider two concepts that are often associated, but that have become disjoined in the post-truth era: realism and authority. We will explore the ruptures between realism, as an aesthetic trajectory, and authority, a discourse of power that governs knowledge production and dissemination. Such ruptures deliver themselves through contemporary art in ways that demonstrate its convergences with, and divergences from, new philosophical realisms. We will see how art’s departures from authority are important avenues into reconsidering the theatricality at play in the political sphere. Art challenges the authority of knowledge, especially knowledge of ‘politics’ as a specialised and dislocated sphere of cultural activity. Its realism is inherently political but the implications of such a statement are best thought through its command of real appearances.

Registration is free, but limited to the number of seats available. Please send an email with a short CV to admin@maumaus.org by 24.03.2022. Confirmation of registration will be sent by email. The seminar will be in English.