

Problematizing reality – Encounters between art, cinema and philosophy

Press-release | 14.02.2019



Jean-Gabriel Périot, *Une jeunesse allemande*, 2015. © Local Films

PROGRAMME 6

28.02.2019 | 18h30

Goethe-Institut, Auditorium, Campo Mártires da Pátria 37, 1169-016 Lisbon, Portugal

Une jeunesse allemande (A German Youth, 2015, 93 Min.) by Jean-Gabriel Périot

Discussion: Alain Brossat, Jean-Gabriel Périot

Artworks, especially those that comprise documentary material, can offer a particularly challenging appeal to our thoughts about reality. While their indexical link to the reality they address grants images and sounds a specific credibility, the position of the artist, her aesthetic, thematic and political choices and self-reflexive stance, may generate a critical assessment of the very constitution of reality. At such a point, art meets philosophy. In order to reflect on the relationship between the factual world and its subjective appropriation, questioning hegemonic claims to objectivity and problematising the inherent contradictions of society are inherently philosophical issues. **Problematizing reality – Encounters between art, cinema and philosophy** is a series of projections and discussions, in a partnership between IFILNOVA (CineLab) / FCSH / UNL, Goethe-Institut and Maumaus / Lumiar Cité and in collaboration with Apordoc / Doc's Kingdom. These encounters between artists and researchers of international renown focus on the very moments where art, cinema and philosophy enter into a productive dialogue.

The sixth edition of this series of conversations-screenings will feature the philosopher **Alain Brossat** and the French filmmaker **Jean-Gabriel Périot**, who will discuss Périot's film **Une**

jeunesse allemande (A German Youth, 2015) after the film's showing. Through a complex montage of diverse audiovisual material – including experimental student films from the Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie Berlin (German Film and Television Academy), excerpts from television shows and newsreels, and extracts from prominent films from the 1960s and 1970s – *A German Youth* seeks to retrace the politicisation of the younger generations in West Germany at that time. This politicisation ultimately led to the formation of the Baader-Meinhof group and its armed resistance, and its connection to the production of specific images and the politics of representation. Footage of left-wing protests against the enduring fascist structures in capitalist Post-Nazi Germany is interwoven with statements by intellectuals and artists. These are, in turn, set off against footage showing the ideological bias of the media and the reactions of the authorities, invariably demanding an increased repression by the state. The ensuing constellation not only enables a dialectical approach to the tense political climate of the time, but also invites a critical reflection on the political use of images and the instrumentalisation of notions such as terrorism, democracy, public sphere and resistance.

Alain Brossat (1946) lives and works in Paris. He is Professor in the Department of Philosophy at the Université Paris VIII. His work spans the fields of topography of terror, deportation and internment in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, terrorist regimes and missing people, aesthetics and politics of cinema, and focuses on authors such as Michel Foucault, Gilles Deleuze, Hannah Arendt, Walter Benjamin, Norbert Elias, Pierre Clastres, Zygmunt Bauman, Jacques Rancière, Alain Badiou and Giorgio Agamben. His most recent publications include: *Ce que peut le cinéma – conversation* (with Jean-Gabriel Périot, 2018); *Interroger l'actualité avec Michel Foucault, Téhéran 1978 / Paris 2015* (with Alain Naze, 2018); *Le plébéien enragé. Une contre-histoire de la modernité de Rousseau à Losey* (2013); *Autochtone imaginaire, étranger imaginé : Retour sur la xénophobie ambiante* (2012); *Biopolitics, ethics and subjectivation* (edited with Yuan-Hong Chu, Rada Ivekovic and Joyce C.H. Liu, 2011).

Jean-Gabriel Périot (1974) lives and works in Paris. He directed several short movies and developed his own, distinct editing style with archival material. Oscillating between documentary, animation and experimental film, most of his work deals with violence and history. His short films, including *Dies Irae* (2005), *Eût-elle été criminelle... (Even If She Had Been A Criminal..., 2006)*, *Nijuman no norei* (2007) and *The Devil* (2012), have been shown at numerous festivals and honoured with many prizes. His first documentary feature film, *Une jeunesse allemande*, opened the Panorama section of the Berlinale 2015, and having received many awards, was released in France, Germany and Switzerland. *Natsu no hikari* (Summer Lights, 2016), his first fiction feature film, premiered at the San Sebastian film festival 2016 and was subsequently shown at festivals before its release in French cinemas in 2017.

Session duration: 150 Min. | M/12 | Entry is free and limited to the number of seats available.

For further information, please contact:

Tel: +351 21 352 11 55 | info@problematisingreality.com | www.problematisingreality.com
www.facebook.com/ProblematisingReality

Partnership:



MAUMAUS

Collaboration:



Support:

