Aesthetics of Crisis

A lecture/seminar with Brian Holmes

Friday, 23 January, 2-5pm

Nottingham Contemporary Meeting Room

Weekday Cross, Nottingham

http://www.nottinghamcontemporary.org/how-get-us

Presented by Centre for Philosophy and Political Economy at University of Leicester, Centre for Critical Theory at University of Nottingham and Nottingham Contemporary in conjunction with the exhibition Rights of Nature: Art, Ecology and the Americas.

Major shifts in the patterns of capital accumulation come once every forty years or so. But they cast long shadows, on aesthetics as well as technology. Since 1968 we've lived with the same imaginary of revolution. And since the neoliberal compromise of the 1980s, we've lived with the proliferating simulacra of that same revolutionary imaginary.

How will our societies confront the new set of political and ecological challenges brought on by the tremendous acceleration of the globalized economy? What will future revolutions be made of? For decades those questions were taboo. But when the financial sector suddenly froze in 2008, they began to take on an intense existential reality. The aesthetics of crisis names a vast, fractured, interlinked process of collective invention. Not only art is affected, but also people's understandings of the value of their own lives. This workshop deals with the subjective responses of human beings to the restructuring of capital.

The Centre for Philosophy and Political Economy is based in the School of Management at University of Leicester. An archive of our events can be found at: http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/management/research/units/cppe

The Centre for Critical Theory at University of Nottingham draws on established expertise across seven schools in three different faculty at The University of Nottingham, and facilitates and promotes teaching and research that maintains critical theory’s relevance for contemporary society, politics and culture. http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/cct/about/about-us.aspx

Nottingham Contemporary’s Public Events and Research Programme builds links between universities, the arts and pressing social concerns. This seminar takes place in conjunction with the public programming surrounding the exhibition Rights of Nature: Art, Ecology and the Americas. http://www.nottinghamcontemporary.org/art

Brian will take part in a conference at Nottingham Contemporary the following day.