

PROGRAMME

NIDA DOCTORAL SCHOOL 2015 SMOKE AND MIRRORS – STAGED ARGUMENTS AND THE LEGITIMATION OF ARTISTIC RESEARCH

**MONDAY,
OCTOBER 19**

“METHODODOLOGICAL ABUNDANCE: STAGING METHODS IN FRONT OF A COMMITTEE” by Vytautas Michelkevičius

Synopsis

During his lecture Michelkevičius will trigger self-reflection about methods and methodologies used by artists. Artistic research is still treated as "smoke and mirrors" in many disciplines and it is only up to us to show our stance on the field and its relation to other domains of inquiry and art practice.

About the author

Dr. Vytautas Michelkevičius is an associate professor in Vilnius Academy of Arts (methodologies for postgraduate studies and photography and media art) as well as curator and researcher. His new book on artistic research is forthcoming in 2016. He defended PhD in critical media studies in 2010 at Vilnius University but since 2005 he is teaching mainly art students.

9-10 am	Breakfast
10-10:45 am	Lecture
10:45-12:00 am	Discussion
12:00-12:45 pm	Presentation of individual task
1-2.30 pm	Lunch
2.30-5.30 pm	Workshop / Individual tutorials
6-7 pm	Skype with Timothy Ingold

**TUESDAY,
OCTOBER 20**

“AUTOFIKTION” by Ingo Niermann

Synopsis

Lecture deals with the subject matter called "autofiktion". As soon as we write about our own future, we invariably make a bet: Which of these things can we achieve, which can we prevent? Fiction does not imitate life, but life imitates fiction. Some stories are too good not to be true.

About the author

Ingo Niermann is a writer and the editor of the speculative book series Solution and The Future of Art. Recent books include Concentration (ed., 2015), David Lieske: I Tried to Make This Work (2015), Solution 247-261: Love (ed., 2013), Choose Drill (2011), The Future of Art: A Manual (2011, with Erik Niedling), Solution 186–195: Dubai Democracy (2010), among others. His work has been featured at dOCUMENTA(13), La Biennale di Venezia, MACBA, MoMA, mumok, and ZKM.

9-10 am	Breakfast
10:00-10:45 am	Lecture
10:45-12:00 am	Discussion
12:00-1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30-2:30 pm	Discussion and methodology presentation
3-5 pm	Workshop
6-7 pm	Presentation, discussion and feedback on the results of the workshop
8-9 pm	Dinner

**WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 21**

“MATERIALIZED PHILOSOPHY: STAGED ARGUMENTS, TRANSTEXTUALITY AND MATERIAL HERMENEUTICS IN ART AND DESIGN” by Julijonas Urbonas

Synopsis

What would happen to philosophy if it's turn to things hypertrophied, and philosophical thought models turned to things? How would a philosopher-engineer, philosopher-cook, or philosopher-artist look like? What effect it would have on human condition and material environment? By discussing these questions, we will speculate upon the idea of thingly philosophy, namely, its methodology. The latter will involve various methods, thought models, and approaches borrowed from science fiction, speculative design, futurology and Julijonas Urbonas's own practice. Special attention will be devoted to non-linguistic approaches and their artistic manifestations.

About the author

Julijonas Urbonas is an artist, designer, researcher, engineer, writer, Vice-Rector for Art at the Vilnius Academy of Arts in Vilnius, and PhD student in Design Interactions at the Royal College of Art, London.

9-10 am	Breakfast
10:00-10:45 am	Lecture
10:45-12:00 am	Discussion
12:00-1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30-2:30 pm	Discussion and methodology presentation
3-5 pm	Workshop
6-8 pm	Presentation, discussion and feedback on the results of the workshop
8-9 pm	Dinner

NIDA



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**THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 22**

“USERS AND USERSHIP OF ART: CHALLENGING EXPERT CULTURE” by Stephen Wright

Synopsis

Usership has emerged over the past two decades as an increasingly central category of political and cultural subjectivity. Though by no means new — we have been making use of tools and words and things odd and sundry since time immemorial — this usological turn has given usership renewed significance in an era of user-generated knowledge, content and value, often unbeknownst to the community of users themselves, challenging at least three conceptual institutions of contemporary ideology: spectatorship, expert culture and ownership. From the perspective of expert culture, users are not only opportunistic (opportunivores, as it were) but invariably misusers. This begs the question as to an emancipated mode of opportunity-determined action and a certain epistemic “privilege” based on use. And what about art’s use value at a time when an increasing number of practitioners are gearing their practices less toward spectatorship than toward genuine usership?

About the author

Stephen Wright is a Paris-based art writer and teaches the practice of theory at the European School of Visual Arts. His current research seeks to understand the ongoing usological turn in art and society in terms of contemporary escapological theory and practice.

9-10 am	Breakfast
10:30-11:30 am	Workshop #1. Usership: challenging the epistemocracy
11:30-1 pm	Lunch
1- 2:30 pm	Workshop #2. “Usership: Intercerebral Collaboration”
3-4:30 pm	Workshop #3. “Usership: deactivating art’s aesthetic function, activating its heuristic function”
4:30-6 pm	Break with an optional skype session with Timothy Ingold about the the text “Dreaming of dragons: on the imagination of real life”
6-7 pm	Presentation, discussion and feedback on the results of the workshop with Stephen Wright
8-9 pm	Dinner

**FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 23**

“THE CEREMONY OF THE VOICE” by Piersandra di Matteo

Synopsis

This lecture focuses on the topology of speech, a spacing of resonance and a renvoi between bodies, beginning with the notion of curatorial activities as imaginative systems based on human interactions and the physical possibilities of bodies.

About the author

Piersandra Di Matteo is a performing arts theorist, dramaturge, curator and a researcher based at the Department of Visual, Performing, and Media Arts of the University of Bologna. Since 2008, she has been working as dramaturge with Romeo Castellucci. Recently, she has won the UBU Prize for “Best curatorial-organisational project 2014” for the multi-format project “e la volpe disse al corvo”.

9-10 am	Breakfast
10:00-10:45 am	Lecture
10:45-12:00 am	Discussion
12:00-1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30-2:30 pm	Workshop #1. The workshop series exploring the nature of voice and its ineradicable materiality, echoing in relational space.
3-4:30 pm	Workshop #2.
4:30-6 pm	Break “Warming up” programme on the occasion of the opening the second building of the Nida Art Colony
6-6:30 pm	Olivia Erlanger performance – lecture.
6:30-7 pm	Linda Stupart performance – lecture.
7-7:30 pm	Joanna Fiduccia performance – lecture.
7-8 pm	Performative dinner “What’s in the Box?”.
8-11 pm	Dinner and drinks

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 24-25**

Departures and farewells



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