The Autonomy Project

The word â€œAutonomyâ€ sounds outdated. In an artistic field, this term finds itself unfortunately wedged between two possibilities: the romantic notion of the isolated Artist, developing works in a studio, unaffected by the socio-political beyond his walls; or the cold reality that to operate within those same socio-political arenas an artist and the mediators involved in a creative action are only there to facilitate public agenda(s) or to smooth social process. These two positions are not mutually exclusive. The current state of contemporary art practice in the Netherlands and other Western European countries is multicultural, globalised, professionalised. And it is within this multi-faceted geographic and cultural context that the Autonomy Project seeks to facilitate a number of events over the coming years (including a public debate and formal symposium) in different locations, bringing the issue and practice of Autonomy back into debate. It began in 2010 and since then has published newspapers, run a series of seminars, held two Summer Schools (2010 and 2011). The Autonomy Symposium in October, 2011 in Eindhoven, Netherlands included speakers such a Jacques Ranciere and Peter Osborne. Please see the website for further documentation concerning these events.

The Autonomy Projectâ€™s editorial board consists of a number of partners and is coordinated by John Byrne (John Moores University Liverpool School of Art and Design), Steven ten Thije (Van Abbemuseum) and Clare Butcher (independent curator, South Africa).

Project author or developer:
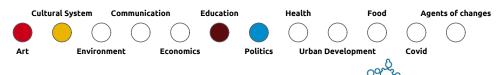**Various**

Where:
NL / The Netherlands / Eindhoven

Website:
theautonomyproject.org/

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