

knowledge is never neutral

Co-research : subjectivities & conditions of culture as labour

A project in three parts

This project (in three parts) is organised by **The Strickland Distribution** as part of its **knowledge is never neutral** programme with **Transmission Gallery**.

The project revolves around cultural and knowledge workers concerned with understanding more about our working conditions and practices. The proposal is that we might do so through a project of three complementary parts: a reading/discussion group; a co-research inquiry; a workshop on the inquiry's findings.

We start from the basis that cultural production – such as visual art, performance, sound – is itself a form of knowledge production.

If knowledge *is* never neutral, any form of knowledge production and distribution deserves our critical exploration; so as to understand its relation to how economic and social values are assigned, and to understand our own conditions of *doing*, not least in relation to one another.

As a collective self-inquiry into *culture as labour*, the co-research project will begin with a series of discussions based on a short succession of readings. These readings introduce and the discussions explore the themes of research and learning in settings outside of academia or formal arts education. We will then explore the relevance such approaches might have for contemporary approaches to inquiry; exploring tools and practices to enable us to become co-researchers who then develop a three-month self-inquiry into our own positions and practices as cultural workers. We will then share our research in a public workshop.

Part 1. A series of discussions based on readings, starting 16 October 2012

Each discussion is based on the prior reading of a text.

16 October 2012

Common notions: research outside institutions

23 October 2012

Workers' inquiry and co-research as historical traditions for a contemporary practice?

6 November 2012

The researcher as subject and object in focus with forms of self-inquiry

13 November 2012

Co-research into arts and culture as labour in the UK

Time: 5.30-7.30pm

Place: Transmission Gallery, 28 King Street, Glasgow G1 5QP

Readings and further info available at: tinyurl.com/d3qvl25

Space may be limited, please RSVP: contact@strickdistro.org

Part 2. Co-research inquiry

27 November to end of February 2013

Part 3. Public workshop

9 March 2013

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**The Strickland Distribution,
September 2012 – June 2013
with/at Transmission Gallery**

knowledge is never neutral is a series of projects organised by The Strickland Distribution taking place from September 2012 to June 2013 within and outside the gallery space. Taken together, these projects set out to explore the circumstances that surround cultural and knowledge production. We look to situate this production within a wider set of social and historical relations, and to reflect on our practices across these relations. We invite you to join us in these processes.

Creating spaces for participatory dialogue – for listening and being listened to – the projects include a public walk, co-research inquiry, facilitated workshops, film screenings, reading and discussion groups, publication launches and the ongoing documentation and reconsideration of outcomes deriving from these projects.

The Strickland Distribution is an artist-run group supporting the development of independent research in art-related and non-institutional practices. Art-related includes research forms that directly implement artistic practice as a means of research method. Non-institutional includes forms of grass-roots histories, social inquiries and projects developed outside of academic frameworks and by groups and individuals normally excluded from such environments. The Strickland Distribution operates in the public sphere, seeking to stimulate and contribute to public education, discourse and debate around the topics and themes addressed through its projects.

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