

Universalmuseum Joanneum Press

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Human Condition Empathy and Emancipation in Precarious Times

framework program

Breakfast with Hannah Arendt - Lecture by Sophie Loidolt before the opening

Empathy and Emancipation in Precarious Times: The understanding heart and expanded judgment

June 12, 10am, Space04

Info: +43-316/8017-9200

Entrance and breakfast free!

Is there a connection between empathy and emancipation? Or, putting it another way, can our power of empathy help us in the process of social and political self-liberation? What does emancipation mean in fact in a world dominated by systematic injustices? And hasn't the exalted idea of the Enlightenment given way to general emancipation fatigue and consumption-oriented indifference in our own privileged place in the world? It is worth rethinking and reconsidering these concepts. As her "human condition" furnished us with one of the basic thematic inspirations for this exhibition, Hannah Arendt can give us food for thought here as well. And as always, she thinks against the grain...

Sophie Loidolt is an assistant lecturer at the Institute for Philosophy of the University of Vienna.

Document Cinéma vérité

Between Anthropology and Surrealism: Jean Rouch & Luis Buñuel

June 22, 7pm, Space04

Info: +43-316/8017-9200

Free Entrance!

A film screening dedicated to the masters of ethnographic cinema, anthropologist Jean Rouch (1917-2004) among others. Combining fiction and non-fiction techniques and often integrating a sort of documentary surrealism, Rouch's practices blur the traditional distinctions between subject and observer as well as those between fiction and documentary film. His controversial *Les Maîtres fous* (1956, 28 min) investigates the ceremony of a religious sect, the Hauka. This milestone in cultural anthropology shows how a possession ritual helps people to deal with the shock of colonialism in Ghana.

The film evening is concluded by *Las Hurdes* (1933, 30 min), the only documentary by legendary Surrealist filmmaker, Luis Buñuel. This captivated study of Las Hurdes, an isolated and impoverished Spanish community, where houses have no windows and most of its inhabitants have never eaten bread, is Buñuel's reexamination of his fascination with human cruelty.