

Press Release

29 November 2017

Underground and Improvisation. Alternative Music and Art after 1968 New Akademie focus in spring 2018

Launch event: Panel discussion with music

Friday, 8 December, 7:30 pm, Akademie der Künste, Pariser Platz

Two exhibitions on the themes of underground and improvisation, held from 15 March to 6 May 2018 in the Akademie building on Hanseatenweg, will focus on the alternative music and art movements in East and West, from the student revolts of the Prague Spring to the period after the fall of the Iron Curtain in Berlin and eastern Europe. The extensive supporting programme consists of a series of concerts, film showings, panel discussions and an interdisciplinary symposium.

The exhibition “**Notes from the Underground – Alternative Art and Music in Eastern Europe 1968–1994**” commemorates a generation of artists that occupied the interface between performance art, video art and experimental music, deliberately eschewing official culture. Censorship and scarcity produced richly imaginative and frequently ironic types of work. The exhibition presents a selection of contemporary testimonies, some for the first time, including musical instruments fashioned by the artists themselves, Super 8 films, Samizdat magazines and documentary recordings of performances.

The exhibition “**Free Music Production / FMP: The Living Music**” traces the history of Free Music Production (1968–2010), the Berlin platform for the production, presentation and documentation of free music, which was founded by artists. Legendary FMP concerts and events were held at the Akademie der Künste, entering the annals of international history as one of West Berlin’s most important cultural contributions. This exhibition and concert programme returns the story to its birthplace, forging new bonds with the contemporary music scene. The music programme is curated by Louis Rastig, Sergej Newski und Markus Müller.

The programme of discussions accompanying the exhibition is presented in corporation with the Federal Agency for Civic Education/bpb.

“Notes from the Underground – Alternative Art and Music in Eastern Europe 1968 – 1994” is a programme by the Akademie der Künste, Berlin, in cooperation with Muzeum Sztuki, Łódź, curated by David Crowley and Daniel Muzyczuk with the support of Angela Lammert.

Press and Public Relations

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“Free Music Production / FMP: The Living Music” is an exhibition by Haus der Kunst, Munich, in cooperation with the Akademie der Künste, Berlin, and curated by Markus Müller. Funded by the German Federal Cultural Foundation and the Goethe Institute.

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Event details

Underground und Improvisation. Alternative Music and Art after 1968

Launch event on 8 December 2017, 7:30 pm

Akademie der Künste, Pariser Platz 4, 10117 Berlin

Activists and witnesses discuss experimental music, contemporary art and societal change. With Nele Hertling (Akademie member and Director of the Performing Arts Section, Berlin), Thomas Krüger (Head of the Federal Agency for Civic Education / bpp, Berlin), Claus Löser (filmmaker, Berlin), Bert Noglik (jazz journalist, Berlin) and Alexander Pehlemann (music journalist and director of the project “Unearthing the Music...”, Leipzig)

Moderation: Markus Müller (jazz journalist and curator, Berlin)

Music and video: Simon Steen-Anderson (joysticks, sampler and objects; Berlin Aarhus) und Søren Kjaergaard (piano, Copenhagen)

Underground und Improvisation. Alternative Music and Art after 1968

Exhibitions, concerts, discussions

15 March to 6 May 2018

Exhibition opening: Wednesday, 14 March 2018; free admission

Akademie der Künste, Hanseatenweg 10, 10557 Berlin

Programme details and **press material** will be available soon at

www.adk.de/de/presse/pressematerial.htm

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