



RADICAL AESTHETICS – RADICAL ART

Just Do(ing) It: Artist-led and self-organised cultural activity as resistance to Capitalism.

Saturday 14th MAY 2011 11am – 6pm
at S1 Artspace, 120 Trafalgar Street SHEFFIELD S1 4JT

Building on previous *RadicalAesthetics-RadicalArt (RaRa)* events that have focused on the theoretical and socio-political landscape of a ‘radical (art) praxis’, this event in an artists-led space in **SHEFFIELD** continues the exploration of strategies, tactics and work being carried out ‘on the ground’ by artists and cultural activists towards a better world.

Speakers include:

- **John Holloway** (Professor of Sociology, Instituto de Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades, Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, Mexico, and Leverhulme Visiting Professor, School of Geography, University of Leeds. Author of *Change the World without taking Power* (new ed. Pluto, London, 2010) and *Crack Capitalism* (Pluto, London, 2010).
- **Leeds Creative Timebank** (Alternative economy initiative <http://www.leedscreativetimebank.co.uk/>)
- **Rebecca Gordon-Nesbitt** (Sheffield-born writer and investigative researcher).
- **Milena Placentile** (Winnipeg based curator, writer, researcher)

with *special video contribution* from **Gregory Sholette** (US-based artist/writer on informal art practice, author of *Dark Matter, Art and Politics in the Age of Enterprise Culture*, 2011)

How might we begin to understand artist-led or self-organised art activity in this light? What examples of DIY, informal or purposefully marginal art practices exist which aim to imagine, create, or operate within new spheres for cultural activity? How do such practices resist and/or maintain a critical relationship with the dominant order and state capitalism? How does the empty but increasingly inescapable rhetoric of Cameron's 'Big Society' effect or alter the stakes of such practice? What role do practices of subversion operating 'within and against' the system play in this struggle?

This one-day event – initiated by **Andy Abbott** (Black Dogs and University of Leeds), in collaboration with **Jane Tormey/Gillian Whiteley** (Loughborough University) and **S1 Artspace Studios** (www.S1artspace.org) - aims to provide a space for discussion, critical reflection and evaluation of such questions and tactics through the example of current practice and writers on the subject.

Cost : £5 and £3 (students and concessions) Lunch/refreshments provided by **S1 Artspace Studios** (for a small donation in support of the studios)

ADVANCE BOOKING is ESSENTIAL – to book a place please email Emma Nadin - E.L.Nadin@lboro.ac.uk

RaRa is a Politicized Practice Research Group project. See <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/departments/sota/research/groups/politicised/rara.html>

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