GOODBYE LONDON Radical Art + Politics in the Seventies

at the Kunstverein "Neue Gesellschaft für Bildende Kunst" Berlin, 26th of June to 15th of August 2010 Goodbye London is about the Political Culture of the 1970's in the British Capital, and is based on personal and collective memory. The many crises that rocked London in the '70s, beginning with the bombs and political assassinations of the IRA, through recession, mass layoffs, unemployment and strikes in the car industry caused by the oil crisis, to the National Emergency in 1973, the growth of Neo-Fascism and the birth of Neo-Liberalism are some key areas, around which developed a vital and radical, a necessary and inevitable counter-culture, whose cornerstone was the squatting movement.

Thanks to city planning and real estate speculation at the time, there was an unimaginable amount of empty property in London; entire neighborhoods were deserted. And while the Berlin squatter's movement occupied roughly one hundred and eighty buildings, there were, in comparison, thirty thousand in London. For years, the communities grew together, a "culturalisation of politics on the street", critical of prevailing ideologies and developing new approaches to address the increasing commercialization of people's lives, for example around food much earlier than in Germany. All in all the English New Left acted more pragmatic and therefore successfull as their German counterparts who where driven mostly by ideology.

New workshops, performance spaces and studios were created in the squatted industrial units and warehouses. These included The London Film Coop, The London Musicians' Collective, The Women's Art Place and The Film Poster Collective, who engaged with the industrial action of the time, were active in Women's and Gay Liberation and had a position on the crisis in Northern Ireland.

The movement generated an important impetus to develop radical urban planning. Later a series of celebrated artists - including David Medalla, Sally Potter and Derek Jarman began their work in squatted spaces.

The exhibition aims to demonstrate the potential that can arise from a crisis, it wants to highlight the possibilities and limitations of radicalization and to draw attention through installations, films, photographs, posters and objects, to a London that is until now largely unknown, at least in Germany. The radicalization of the mostly young activists was inspired by the conviction that there was no turning back. The multiplicity of political visions was driven by the desire to make fundamental changes, to try new things and to think in new ways.

Space and Content:

the exhibition space is 250 m² / the content consists of Art, Documentary: Film, Poster, Photography and Sound exhibits.

















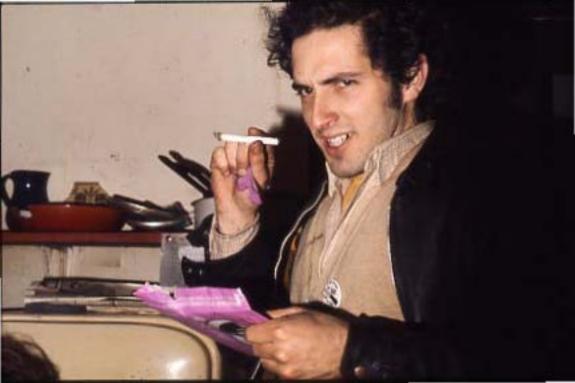


SQUAT NOW

JOIN THE SQUATTERS UNION
ON TUESDAYS 8PM
7VICTORIA RD. BRIGHTON
TEL. 27878









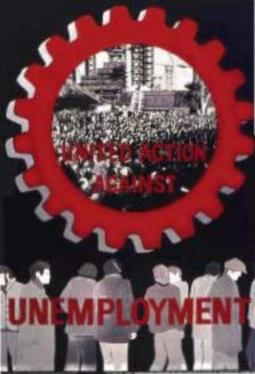








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HEATONNSON/TENP/2

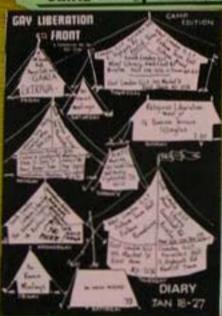
I beard about your organization. I would like to join. But as the case is, I don't know where State College is. Could you send me some pamphlets or flyers about the gay movement and there (sic) members? My with nobody to love. I'm probably committing a sin in God's eyes, but I'm gay, and that's it. There is nothing I can do. Because I'm a homosexual that. So that's why I need your help. I don't want my parents to know about this. Thank you.

We die.

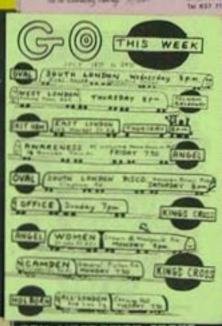




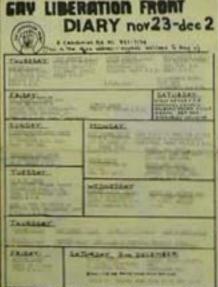


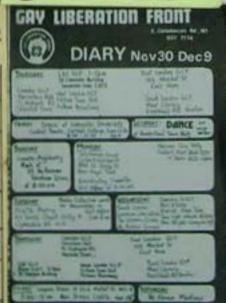


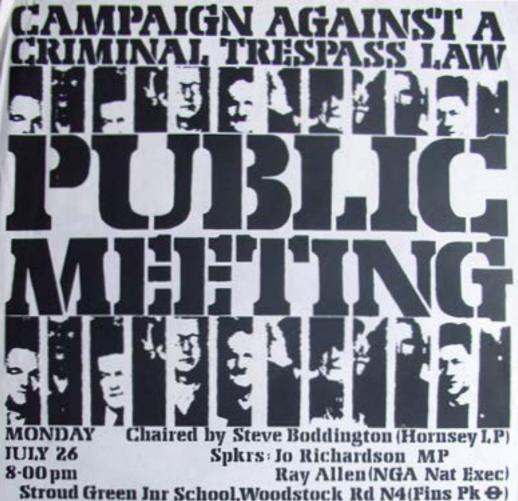












Stroud Green Inr School, Woodstock Rd N4(Fins Pk +) Organised by Hornsey Labour Party & CACTL (2893877)



1972 - In control behind the gates. 1977 Behind prison bars









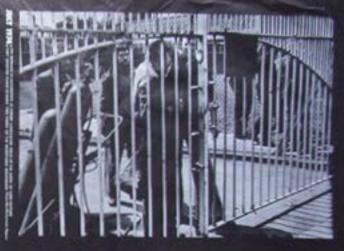


WHO GAINS FROM A CRIMINAL TRESPASS LAW?

WORKERS
CAN SAVE THEIR JOBS
BY OCCUPYING

A CRIMINAL TRESPASS LAW WOULD PUT THEM IN JAIL!

STOP THE CRIMINAL TRESPASS LAW













List of Artists

Stuart Brisley
Victor Burgin
Margaret Harrison
Derek Jarman
Mary Kelly
Peter Kennard
David Medalla
Sally Potter
Jon Savage

curated by:

Boris von Brauchitsch Peter Cross Astrid Proll Jule Reuter Thomas Röske

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Nick Wates + GBL Archive





SQUATTERS

Nick Wates / GBL Archive























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URBAN PLANNING









Jon Savage / GBL Archive

GRUNWICK STRIKE





Alamy









