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Summer Study Abroad: Fine Art Studio
Course Handbook

STUDY ABROAD

Fine Art Studio



Fine Art Studio

Teaching Institution: Chelsea College of Arts

Duration of Course: 3 Weeks

Dates: 1 – 19 July 2019

Tutor: Benjamin Cohen

Studio: DG14

Course Outline

The Fine Art Studio programme at Chelsea College of Arts is designed to challenge students to develop investigative and forward-thinking approaches to their art practices, with an emphasis on the interdisciplinary dialogues between art-making and critical-thinking.

The programme is studio-based and practice-led, establishing creative links between a wide range of materials and processes, including: Drawing / Sculpture / Painting / Collage / Film / Photography / Sound / Performance/ Installation / Collaboration / Site-Specificity

Practice and contemporary theory are unified throughout the programme, enabling students to establish and extend the contexts within which they operate as a practitioner.

Aims

- Encourage you to form innovative exchanges between practical and contextual explorations, developing an art practice with creative conviction.
- Enable you to expand upon your knowledge of the interdisciplinary nature of contemporary Fine Art practice.
- To provide an open, reciprocal and autonomous environment, within which you are challenged to take risks and be rigorously ambitious.
- To expand upon your awareness and understanding of the materials, processes and concepts that underpin and propel your practice forwards.

Outcomes

- Evidence a sophisticated practical and contextual investigation; one that demonstrates a critically reflective approach to art-making and critical thinking.
- Locate and map your developing knowledge of contemporary fine art practices and debates within cultural, social, technological and historic contexts.
- Demonstrate the use of appropriate working methodologies to realise creative interchanges between distinct materials and processes.
- Establish a nuanced artistic vocabulary; one that you can use to decipher and articulate the potentialities of your developing practice.

Learning and Teaching Methods

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Contextual visits and discussions
- Private study and research
- Practical project
- Student presentation

Assessment

Assessment will take the shape of an individual Tutorial Report Form, through which you will receive direct feedback in relation to the developing nature of your art practice, with advice on where your practice may go next.

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Schedule*

*Please note the details and order of the visits are subject to change

Week one - Developing a Research-Based Practice

- Introduction to the programme and A Frame in the Façade Project, which begins with a one-day Drawing Project
- One-day Sculpture Project
- One-day Painting Project
- One-day Film and Time-Based Media / Performance Project
- Independent Study Day and Gallery Visits

Week two - Context

- Introduction to one-week project: Remapping the Fold, introductory activities and project development in the studio, supported by one-to-one tutorials
- Project development in studio and Deconstruction / Reconstruction Project at a London-based contemporary art gallery
- Project development in studio, supported by one-to-one tutorials
- Independent Study Day and Gallery Visits.

Week three - Consolidation

- Introduction to one-week project: The Space Undone, Visiting Artist Seminar Session, development of work in studio, supported by one-to-one tutorials.
- Development of work in studio, supported by one-to-one tutorials and a Group Critique
- Project development in studios, supported by one-to-one tutorials
- Completion of project, MA Fine Art and MA Curating and Collection students to work with you to curate and install your work for exhibition, group critique and celebration.
- Independent Study Day and Gallery Visits.

Materials

A selection of basic materials will be provided on the course; however, please bring the following items with you to the course:

- Digital or SLR camera (optional)
- Camera phone
- Laptop or Tablet
- USB memory stick
- Sketchbook
- pens and pencils

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Tutors

Benjamin Cohen is an artist, curator and educator living and working in London and Athens, Greece. He studied Fine Art at Chelsea College of Art and Design (2005-6), BA Fine Art Loughborough University School of Art and Design (2006-9) and MA Fine Art Central Saint Martins (2012-14).

Cohen collaborates with A-DASH: an artist-led initiative based in Athens (Greece) combining studios, a project space, exhibition space and residency program, with an emphasis on experimentation, collaboration and interdisciplinary exchange.

Bibliography

Note: The books, films and galleries recommended below are not a compulsory part of the programme. However, they are a suggestion of ways in which you may wish to further your critical engagement in the ideas, themes and working methodologies explored during the course.

Recommended Reading List:

Aiken, D. (2006) *Broken Screen*. New York: D.A.P/ Distributed Art Publishers, Inc

Berger, J. (1990) *Ways of Seeing*. London: Penguin Books

Barkin, A. (2012) *Parallel Presents: The Art of Pierre Huyghe*. Cambridge, Massachusetts and London, England: The MIT Press

Bourriaud, N. (2002) *Relational Aesthetics*. Dijon: Les presses du reel

Bourriaud, N. (2002) *Postproduction*. New York: Lukas & Sternberg

Deleuze, G. (1993) *The Fold: Leibniz and the Baroque*. London: Athlone Press

O'Doherty, B. (2000) *Inside the White cube: The Ideology of the Gallery Space*. Oakland: University of California Press

Krauss, R. (2000) *A Voyage on the North Sea: Art in the Age of the Post-Medium Condition*. London: Thames & Hudson

Kwon, M. (2002) *One Place After Another: Site-Specific Art and Locational Identity*. Cambridge, Massachusetts and London, England: The MIT Press

Myres, T.R (ed.) (2011) *Painting: Documents of Contemporary Art*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The Whitechapel Gallery/ The MIT Press

Rancière, J. (2009) *The Future of the Image*. UK: Verso

Wilson, A. (ed.) (2016) *Conceptual Art in Britain 1964 – 1979*. London: Tate Publishing

Film

Au Hasard Balthazar (1966) Directed by Robert Bresson [Film]. The Criterion Collection

Blade Runner (1982) Directed by Ridley Scott [Film]. Warner Bros

La Jetée (1963) Directed by Chris Marker [Film]. Argos Films & Optimum Releasing

Nostalgia for the Light (2010) Directed by Patricio Guzmán. [Film]. New Wave Films

Sans Soleil (1983) Directed by Chris Marker [Film]. Argos Films & Optimum Releasing

The Great Ecstasy of Woodcarver Steiner (1974) Directed by Werner Herzog [Film]. Germany

The Way Things Go (1987) Directed by Peter Fischli and David Weiss [Film]. Switzerland