

Public Faculty No. 7 : 'Europe's landlocked island'

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Curating ZHdK @curating123
 What questions, comments and answers arise when you run a public faculty on the streets of #zurich? Look at #pf7 @jeanneworks
 June 4, 2013

Curating ZHdK @curating123
 «Who do you turn to, to complain about a racist system when you cannot turn to the system for help?» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

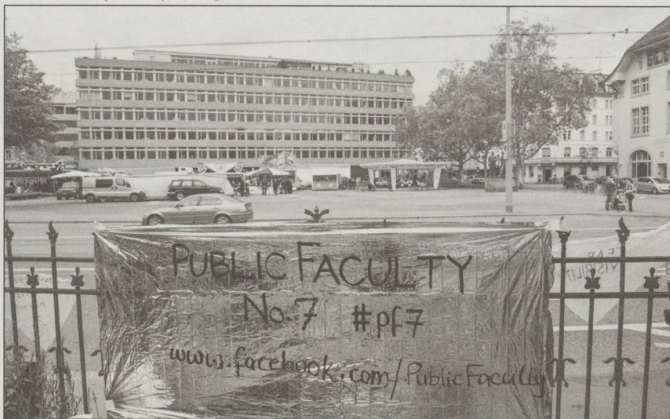
Curating ZHdK @curating123
 «As a legal Austrian resident, I have the right to circulate around Europe without being harassed just for the color of my skin.» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

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 «Security in Switzerland is based on trust in institutions, a trust based on facts not feelings.» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

Curating ZHdK @curating123
 «ich bin Obdachlos und habe Angst draussen zu schlafen und es gibt niemand der mich beschützt» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

Curating ZHdK @curating123
 «@menuedata: @curating123 I pay but I don't agree with the price - in many ways...!» #pf7
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 «Das macht mir Angst, es macht mich paranoid überall Kameras und Polizei.» #pf7
 June 4, 2013



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 «ja ich finde es fast schon übertrieben hier mit der Sicherheit.» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

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 «It bothers me that people here dismiss my PhD and assume that I just run a Chinese restaurant based on how I look.» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

Curating ZHdK @curating123
 «Do increased security measures make you feel more anxious and therefore less secure?» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

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 «Ich fürchte dass es bald keine Freiräume mehr gibt hier in der Stadt.» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

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 «Wovor haben Sie Angst?» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

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 «Can your mindset be changed?» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

Curating ZHdK @curating123
 «We should provide more visas to people from countries whose wealth we hold in our banks.» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

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 «What borders your imagination?» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

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 «Does your comfort disengage you?» #pf7
 June 4, 2013



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 «Can we protect ourselves without becoming overly guarded?» #pf7
 June 4, 2013

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 «I'm afraid to drown in the middle class.» #pf7
 June 3, 2013

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 «Schweizer Grenzen sind gemacht aus Gierde.» #pf7
 June 3, 2013



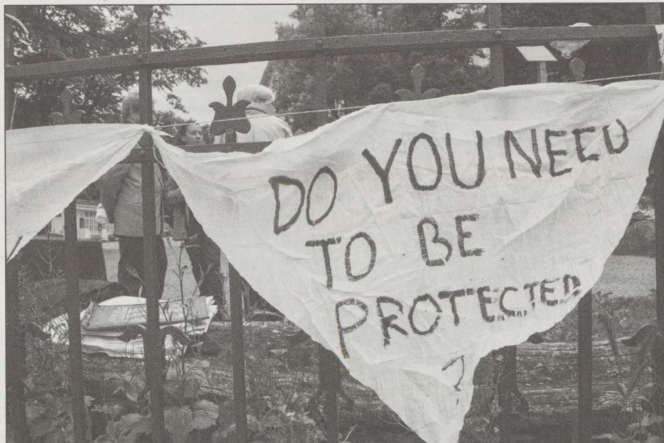
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«Ich habe Angst vor dem Verlust, der Dunkelheit
und dem Tod.» #pf7
June 3, 2013



Curating ZHdK @curating123
«Ich habe Angst vor der Frechheit und dem
Geiz.» #pf7
June 3, 2013

Curating ZHdK @curating123
«Are you trained to be neutral?» #pf7
pic.twitter.com/4S7x8sbywc
June 3, 2013

Curating ZHdK @curating123
«Ich habe ein bisschen Angst dass ich älter
werde und dass ich allein bin.» #pf7
June 3, 2013



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«Security cameras don't make me feel secure.
On the contrary, I think they make people more
afraid.» #pf7
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«Normalerweise handeln wir nicht» #pf7
June 2, 2013

Curating ZHdK @curating123
«I feel comfortable everywhere, but I don't feel
at home anywhere.» #pf7
June 2, 2013

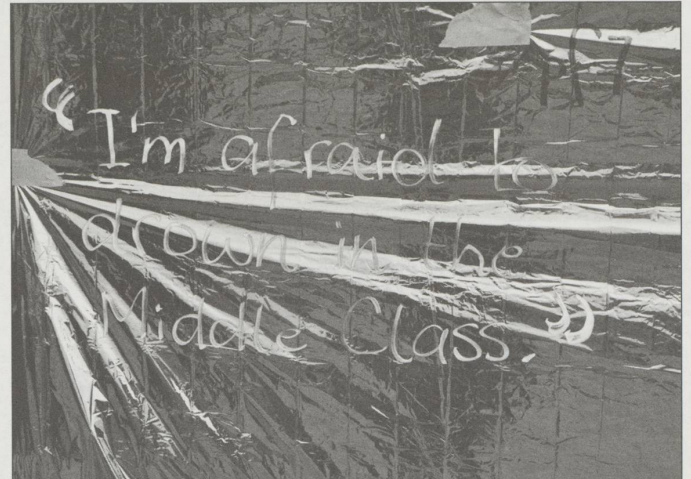
Curating ZHdK @curating123
«We should protect ourselves from our innate
desire to accumulate.» #pf7
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Curating ZHdK @curating123
«Ich habe Angst vor der Angstmacherei.» #pf7
June 2, 2013

Curating ZHdK @curating123
«Wie kann ich meinen Standpunkt zum
Handeln bringen?» #pf7
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«Does your comfort disengage you?»
@jeanneworks #pf7
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«I feel secure, but I'm also aware that that could
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«You really have to do your best to engage me on
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«Junge Leute müssen über rassistische
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#pf7
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«Swiss people need to be protected from the
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June 2, 2013

Curating ZHdK @curating123
 «I don't want Switzerland to end up like its
 surrounding neighbors.» #pf7
 June 2, 2013



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 «Heaven is neoliberal equilibrium» #pf7
 June 1, 2013

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 «People should be protected from over-
 protective regulation.» #pf7
 June 1, 2013

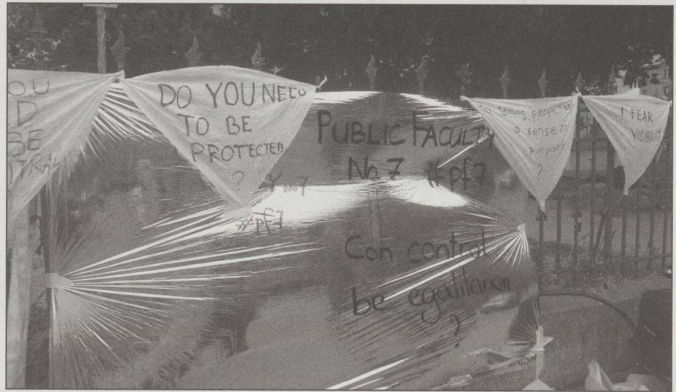
Curating ZHdK @curating123
 «Who will protect us from the police?» #pf7
 June 1, 2013

Curating ZHdK @curating123
 «To protect a country from the imposition of
 cultural ideals from other powerful nations.»
 #pf7
 June 1, 2013

Curating ZHdK @curating123
 «Ich möchte von der Polizei geschützt werden
 ich wurde vor Kreis 4 verjagt.» #pf7
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Curating ZHdK @curating123
 «Die Amerikaner versuchen uns ihr Denken
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Curating ZHdK @curating123
 «People should be protected from debts.» #pf7
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 @jeannetworks today is on Helvetiaplatz along
 Ankerstrasse under building.
 June 1, 2013



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 The #pf7 live feed for Public Faculty No. 7 with
 @jeannetworks is now up and running at the
 ZHdK Diploma Exhibit.
pic.twitter.com/saeOadM1sf
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 «Überall kontrolliert die Polizei die Leute, ich
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 «Can control be egalitarian?» #pf7
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 «I fear that society will get more unbalanced,
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From 1st to 4th of June 2013, the Postgraduate Programme in Curating ZHdK, in cooperation with Jeanne van Heeswijk, presented the 7th instalment of the Public Faculty series in Zurich. In this edition the project came to «Europe's Landlocked Island»¹ of Switzerland to question the idea of borders, as well as requisites for the enforcement of this idea, such as security, solidarity and compliance.

Switzerland has a history of strong borders and an established tradition of civil defence to enforce it. But what does that mean now, in the 21st century, when borders have become virtual as well as physical? What is it that needs to be protected? People? Assets? Institutions? And against what does that need to be protected? War? Global crises? Science? The Internet? Have existing measures of civil defence become merely symbolic, only an image for a vague feeling of security? In this age of civil airplanes running the risk of ending up as terrorist weapons, what are we willing to give up for our protection? Liquids? Swiss-Army knives? Shoes? Underwear? What about civil liberty? Privacy? Minarets? How far are we willing to comply? Is protection ultimately a self-inflicted trap? What about the other venerated Swiss traditions of neutrali-

ty and diplomacy? Should they be not more relevant than ever before? Is there no belief in the strength of a community? Is protection not built on solidarity?

During four days, students of the Postgraduate Programme in Curating ZHdK and Jeanne van Heeswijk were at Helvetiaplatz engaging passers-by in informal conversations on these issues. This learning from a place through a process of exchange of knowledge and cohabitation forms the basis of the Public Faculty series. Dialogues were condensed either in tweets – which constitute the text accompanying the images on the previous pages – or in short sentences which were written down on the spot on strips of white cloth and golden foil sheets that are both part of the Swiss Civil Protection equipment.

The Public Faculty took place between Helvetiaplatz and the Kanzleiareal in Zurich where many segments of the public are to be found. Public demonstrations in Zurich originate there and, according to the city-tourism website, it is «Zürich's multicultural quarter». Interestingly, the area also happens to sit on top of one of the main bunkers of the city.

1 Cf. Bewes, Diccon: 'Swiss Watching: Inside Europe's Landlocked Island', Nicholas Brealey Publishing, 2010.

This is the 7th installment of Jeanne van Heeswijk's Public Faculty series. The idea of the Public Faculty derived from her on-going interest in learning about the meaning of publicness and its relation to active citizenship in our global cities. Previous Public Faculties have taken place in Skopje, Macedonia (No.1, October 2008); Rotterdam, the Netherlands (No.2, September 2010); Vranje, Serbia (No.3, March 2012); London, UK (No.4, July 2012); Copenhagen, Denmark (No.5, August 2012); and Gent, Belgium (No.6, March 2013).

Jeanne van Heeswijk

In her practice, Jeanne van Heeswijk (1965, Schijndel, the Netherlands) creates contexts for interaction in public spaces. Her projects distinguish themselves through a strong social involvement. Van Heeswijk stimulates and develops cultural production and creates new public (meeting-)spaces or remodels existing ones. To achieve this she often works closely with artists, designers, architects, software developers, shopkeepers, governments and citizens. She regularly lectures on topics such as urban renewal, participation and cultural production. Her most recent Projects include 2Up2Down/homebaked, Anfield, Liverpool 2010-ongoing; Wastelanders, Brussels, 2012; Freehouse, Afrikaanderwijk, Rotterdam 2008-present. She was awarded the 2011 Leonore Annenberg Prize for Art and Social Change and the 2012 Curry Stone Design Prize for Social Design Pioneers.

Postgraduate Programme in Curating, ZHdK

The Postgraduate Programme in Curating at Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) is a discursive platform focusing on key areas of contemporary exhibition making. With instruction modules, group activities, seminars and lectures held by an international selection of guest lecturers, the course creates a model situation in which students can gain practical experience of curating and learn to think critically about the issues involved. (www.curating.org)

Credits

A project by: Jeanne van Heeswijk
Invited by: Postgraduate Programme in Curating ZHdK, as part of New Social Sculptures curated by Dorothee Richter
Coordinated by: Silvia Simoncelli
Produced by: Anna Trzaska, Anne Koskiluoma, Annemarie Brand, Ashraf Osman, Charlotte Barnes, Chloé Nicolet-dit-Félix, Gulru Vardar, Marlies Jost, Monika Molnár, Nkule Mabaso, Tanja Trampe, Tom Schneider
Digital media and communication: Ashraf Osman
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