

Symposium Merzbau 2006: «Merzbau as Installative Event-Sculpture»

program details:

09:00

Entry

10:00

Welcome: Adrian Notz.

10:10

Key Speeches:

Juri Steiner: «Cabaret Voltaire als Merzbau»

Adrian Notz: «Merzbau als Installative Event-Skulptur»

11:00

Telephone Interview of Hans Ulrich Obrist with
Thomas Demand.

11:30

Angelika Nollert: «Performative Installation»

Nollert formed the term «Performative Installation» in a
five-part series of exhibitions in Germany and Austria.

It is above all the performative strategies which give
installations their specific appearances. «Performative
Installation» is defined as syntheses between event and
artwork, presence and representation, immateriality
and materiality. The fleeting instant serves here as a
simultaneously generated and constitutive element
of the installation. It will be interesting to see which
aspects of the «Performative Installation» can be adapted
to the Merzbau and vice versa.

12:00

Questions about the performative installation.

12:30

Thomas Hirschhorn: «Musée Précaire Albinet».

Thomas Hirschhorn will speak about the art project
«Musée Précaire Albinet» which is not controllable
and constantly escaping control. It must continuously be
rebuilt and reconceived in the mind of the artist and
in the mind of Public Space. A focus lies thereby on an
artists' work in Public Space, the artists' agreement with
Public Space.

13:00

Questions about «Musée Précaire Albinet»

13:30

Lunch Break

14:30

Philip Ursprung: «From the Environment to the
Happening: Allan Kaprow»

The presentation will focus on the shift from the
environments to the happenings in the work of
Allan Kaprow around 1960. The transition from
an atmospheric spatiality to a dynamic action,
which implies a broader audience, can be seen as a
reenactment of some of the issues of the Merzbau.

15:00

Questions about environments and happenings.

15:30

Peter Fend: «Merzbau as a Newsroom»

dada supreme



cabaret voltaire

dada — zürich

In the spirit of the Merzbau, a chamber from which to
observe the goings-on of the world, a chamber with an
ever-changing assembly of images and thought-pieces
(Denkstuecke) all around, one can construct a space in
which the flood of mass-media images and messages,
along with sources of precise fact, can be screened
and sifted to allow for an independent grasp of the
truth. This space can nowadays be called a NEWS
ROOM, a citizen's version of a journalist's newsroom
or a government's situation room. It is still a Merzbau,
an instrument by which individuals and groups can
organize a functional worldview.

16:00

Questions about NEWS ROOM.

16:30

Marc M. Angélil: «The Predicament of the *Formless*»

«A dictionary begins when it no longer gives the
meaning of words, but their tasks. Thus formless is
not only an adjective having a given meaning, but a
term that serves to bring things down in the world,
generally requiring that each thing have its form. What
it designates has no rights in any sense and gets itself
squashed everywhere, like a spider or an earthworm.»

Georges Bataille

17:00 Questions about the *Formless*.

17:15 Special: Ian Hunter and Celia Lerner:

The Elterwater Merz Barn and its reconstruction.

17:30

Marcel Meili: Conclusion

Architect Marcel Meili will follow and observe the
symposium as an outsider and will attempt to draw a
conclusion of the day.

18:00

End

Relating to the symposium Hans Ulrich Obrist will
interview the Swiss sculptor Hans Josephsohn in his
atelier about his work and his relation to the Merzbau.