

aneducation documenta 14

Aneducation - documenta 14 Documenta 14

This is not a book of good intentions.

It attempts to introduce a chorus of voices that speak from different positions on aneducation, the education program for Learning from Athens, documenta 14 in Athens and Kassel. Instead of objectives and overviews, target groups and outcomes, successes or failures, the program was determined by process and experience. In thinking through the body it was possible to examine how we come together and recognize knowledge not as a one-way transmission but as a form of exchange that can be circulated. Further, the aim was to listen and learn as an institution, be receptive, and acknowledge the complexities of hearing, from eavesdropping to listening to one's inner voice. The mode of 'being with' guided our program and publication, both of which seek to lay bare the opaque relationships between education, exhibition making, and their publics.

Forty-eight entries are organized alphabetically as a lexicon, each written by various members of the aneducation team and documenta 14 Chorus, as well as curators, artists, and educators who contributed to the program. The publication's many points of departure present just as many desires for other sites of learning. Cross references among the entries show the deep relationships that existed—and continue to deepen—between the methods, programs, and locations of aneducation.

aneducation aimed to complicate the politics of 'knowing' as institutional practice—namely, its genealogies and the power relations it imposes. It was not only about knowledge, but the daily embodied practices of listening, walking, gesticulating, performing, doing, reading, and being in dialogue with others. An open ecology was needed, and developed in conversation with artists, local publics, and associated organizations, drawing on many practices as processes for learning. This was realized in core questions concerning what shifts, drifts, and remains.

Many of the thoughts, practices, references, and reflections that surfaced during this endeavor are made visible in this publication. The entries raise questions around methodology, infrastructure, desire, and of education. Some terms are conceived individually with others in mind, while some are collectively generated. So who is the we? The 'we' is many individual, collected, and shared voices. Instead of failing to attempt representing the 'we', it has been important to speak from the first person singular—a complex web of subjectivities, encounters, and conversations indecipherable from the

contact@anagrambooks.com

lines that intertwine them.

Words alone cannot carry the meaning of our individual and collective experience; language has its limits, its lack, but also its power. As a semantic mode of witness, a way to deal with the collective production of sounds, gestures, voices, and encounters through words, the vocabulary issued here comprises a vehicle towards blurring linguistic and subjective hierarchies.

This is one of many introductions and perhaps no introduction at all.

-- Also available in German & Greek (same ISBN on book) --

Contributors: Aliaa Abou Khaddour, Sevç Akhundova, Subhie Alrawashdeh, Sepake Angiama, Babis Baltas, Dahlia El Broul, Clare Butcher, Barbara Ida Campaner, María Magdalena Campos-Pons, Sky (Miriam) Carranza, Raven Chacon, Weiyi Chang, Panos Charalambous, Nikhil Chopra Ciudad Abierta (Open City), Moyra Davey, Alkisti Efthymiou, Bonita Ely, Natalia Escudero López, Aboubakar Fofana, Juliane Gallo, Maximilian Gallo, Daniel García Andújar, Anne Garthe, Gauri Gill, Aylin Gönenç, Sanchayan Ghosh, Ayşe Güleç, Irena Haiduk, Keiko Higashi, Mira Hirtz, Rangoato Hlasane, Gordon Hookey, Candice Hopkins, Necmiye Iskender, Amelie Jakubek, Mona Jas, Neslihan Kabak, Sarah Maria Kaiser, Natalie Karaitiana, Andreas Ragnar Kasapis, Anton Kats, Yul Koh, Gila Kolb, Tim König, Zvonimir Kontrec, Aynur Köşeler, Annette Kulenkampff, Katalin Ladik, Gerhard Lang, Yuyen Lin-Woywod, Ibrahim Mahama, Hans Ragnar Mathisen/Keviselie, Annika Mayer, Lala Meredith-Vula, Marta Minujín, Christa Mojab, Naeem Mohaiemen, Joar Nango, Rosalind Nashashibi, Bonaventure Soh Bejeng Ndikung, Aiko Okamoto, Nikolay Oleynikov, Georgios Pappadopoulos, Elli Paxinou, Dan Peterman, Jeannette Petrik, Nathan Pohio, Alessandra Pomarico, Pope.L, Esther Poppe, Malali Rasa, Katharina Reinhold, Erik Ritzel, Dieter Roelstraete, Clara Ronsdorf, Lala Rukh, SAVVY Contemporary, Hind Salti, Khvay Samnang, Mateusz Sapija, Konstanze Schütze, Andara Shastika, Ahlam Shibli, David Smeulders, Mounira Al Solh, Philipp Spillmann, Verena Sprich, Adam Szymczyk Vincent Tao, Arda van Tiggelen, Maya Tounta, Leanne Turvey, Sadaf Vasaei, Cecilia Vicuña, Ayfer Vural, Cilian Woywod, Laurie White, Zafos Xagoraris, Arnisa Zeqo, Mary Zygouri

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