

Revising/Revisiting the Avant-Garde. Saturday 3 July 2009.
Visual and Material Culture Research Centre
Dorich House, Kingston University, London.

The concept of the avant-garde is arguably the most important and influential one in the history of modern art, but it is a notion often left unexamined. We are prompted to ask - which avant-garde? In the context of the recent popularity of a return to the issues of modernism within contemporary art and criticism, this conference proposes a critical re-engagement with the theory, histories and politics of the avant-garde.

The conference is intended to make original connections between a range of moments in the history of the artistic avant-garde, and to explore its relevance for contemporary cultural and social issues. It will focus, in particular, on the endurance of avant-garde approaches across the twentieth-century and their contemporary resonances.

Keynote speakers: Sylvere Lotringer, Franco Berardi, Gerald Raunig.

Program:

09.00 Registration.

09.30 Sylvere Lotringer - Keynote Speech.

10.15 Gavin Grindon - On Strike Against Society: Aesthetic and Political Autonomy in the Project of the Radical Avant-Garde.

11.00 David Cottington - Historicising the 'Historic Avant-Garde.'

11.45 Break for lunch

12.30 Gerald Raunig - Beyond Avant: Flight-Lines of a Non-Linear Revolution.

13.15 Anja Kanneiser - "Revolution is Not 'Showing' Life to People, But Making Them Live": The Aesthetic-Political Gestures of Berlin Dada and the Situationist International.

14.00 Gillian Whiteley - Provocative Praxis: Activism and the Political Avant-Garde.

14.45 Break for tea and coffee

15.00 Franco Berardi - Keynote Speech.

15.45 Lina Stergiou - Beyond the Myth of Creative Genius: Architecture and Activism.

16.30 Stephen Shukaitis - The Artistic Dérivative, or Splitting Dead Hares.

17.30 Ends.

Prices:

Day pass, including lunch and drinks: £60

Student concession: £25

Places are limited so please book ahead. To book a place please contact
G.Grindon@kingston.ac.uk

Getting There:

Dorich House Museum, 67 Kingston Vale London SW15 3RN

http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=SW15+3RN&sl=53.800651,-4.064941&ssp=13.492317,39.550781&ie=UTF8&ll=51.454007,-0.245819&spn=0.222068,0.617981&z=11

By Public Transport: 10 minutes on the No. 85 Bus from Cromwell Road Bus Station, (100 yards from Kingston Rail Station).