

**‘Stretched’: Expanding Notions
of Artistic Practice through
Artist-led Cultures. (2015-19)**

Jason E. Bowman Fine Art Unit: Valand
Academy

Aims:

- Produce new critical knowledge on what expanded modes, models and constellations are perceived as being constitutive of artistic practice as generated in, through, for, and by the field of artist-led (artist-organisation) cultures.
- Discover new methods, via curatorship, to address the complexities and nuances of expanded notions of artistic practice within the cultures of artist-organisation.

Research Team

Principle Investigator:

Jason E. Bowman, Valand Academy.

Co-Investigators:

Professor Mick Wilson, Valand Academy.

Dr. Julie Crawshaw, Northumbria University. UK

Project Co-ordinator:

Kjell Caminha, Valand Academy.

Funding:

- Swedish Research Council: 3.85 million SEK

Additional Partnership Funding Raised:

- Kultur i Väst: 40,000 SEK
- Heritage Lottery Fund (UK): 9,000 GBP
- Glasgow Museums' Gallery of Modern Art: 20,000 GBP
- Raven Row gallery (UK): 60,000 GBP
- Arts Council England (UK): 12,000 GBP
- Henry Moore Foundation (UK): 8,000 GBP
- BALTIC Contemporary Arts: 6,000 GBP

Selected Seminars:



Exhibition/Non-exhibition: Stretched Out, A Seminar.

Stretched is a three-year long inquiry, instigated by Jason E. Bowman at the Valand Academy at the University of Gothenburg and to be co-researched by Bowman, Julie Crawshaw and Mick Wilson. Its aim is to inquire into what divergent modes and models, constellations and assemblages are perceived as constitutive of artistic practice when generated in, through, for, and by the field of artist-led cultures and how these may inform new knowledge on the curatorial and in particular models of making public the expansions of practice that artist-led cultures generate. This seminar will query this from the multifarious perspectives of other researchers and practitioners who are engaged in investigating the artist-led, instituting, the curatorial, the exhibitionary and the stretching of what may be perceived to be artistic practice beyond the sovereignty of 'art-making'.

Participants:

Valerio Del Baglivo (IT/UK), Jason E. Bowman (UK/SE), Emma Coffield (UK), Julie Crawshaw (UK), Georgina Jackson (CN), Megs Morley (IRL), Andrea Phillips (UK) and Mick Wilson (SE).

Date and time:

Saturday 27 June 2015 [10.30-18.15]

Venue:

Inaugural Research Pavilion: Experimentality
Venice Biennale Collateral Programme
Sala del Camino, Campo S. Cosmo, Giudecca 621
(Vaporetto stop: Palanca)

Vetenskapsrådet VALAND ACADEMY



Post-Colonial Artist-Organisation in African Regions?

23 September 2017, 17.00 at Research Pavilion



Post-independence art institutions in many African countries demonstrate a move from Eurocentric-colonial models to decolonial practices. What are the organisational strategies originated by artists in post-colonial Africa? Given art's ambivalent globalisation and the wish to institute 'alternative' models (self-organisation) outside market-determined and state-sanctioned models, what can we learn from self-organised African contexts?

A *Stretched* research seminar. Convened by Kjell Caminha and Mick Wilson.

AMARILDO AJASSE, ÉLISE ATANGANA and STEPHANIE BAPTIST

Research Pavilion
Sala del Camino, Campo S. Cosmo
Giudecca, 621 Venice, Italy

Q. How does self-organisation platform a future in Västra Götaland?

ACTION: **Co-Organise!**

3 October 2016, 09.30-19.00 at Skogen

Artists, politicians, bureaucrats, researchers, institutional representatives and art's self-organisers will gather to debate and develop initiatives, tactics and strategies and ways to work together to improve and expand on the conditions for art and self-organisation.

We will consider:

**Why? What? When? How?
Who? Where? How much?**

This event follows from one organised by Valand Academy students at Göteborgs Konsthall in May 2016*. That event responded to articles in Göteborgs Posten questioning the viability of Gothenburg as 'an art city' and the publication of a report on Self-Organisation commissioned from Henrik Sputnes by Kultur i Väst. It was attended by 60 people: artists, politicians, bureaucrats, researchers, institutional representatives and art's self-organisers. We asked then:

Q. How does self-organisation platform a future in Västra Götaland?

In brief we said: increase visibility, awareness and capacity; improve conditions and relations; respect existing endeavour; generate socialities and criticality locally and transnationally by:

A. Informing policy, strategy and funding; Initiating new projects, critical and social models; Extending local, regional, national and transnational networks; Chronicling histories and promoting current activity; Influencing educational curricula and courses.

Action: Co-Organise! responds by providing a second event, building on the first, to bring people together again from different constituencies. It will include the potential to:

PROVOKE! Open mic for opinions and strategies.
PRIORITISE! Vote what to focus on.
PURPOSE! Debate and develop future actions.

Andreas Engman (SE), Megs Morley/Para Institution (IE), Andrea Phillips (SE), Sarah Munro (UK) and Henrik Sputnes (SE) will provide provocations and be moderators.

You can also self-elect on the day to be a provocateur and/or moderator.

In Case There's a Reason: The Theatre of Mistakes.

The first survey of relations between the artworks, processes and self-organisational systems of the artist-group, The Theatre of Mistakes (1974-81).



In Case There's a Reason: The Theatre of Mistakes. **Raven Row gallery. 2017.**

- 2 publications
- 12 performances of 'Going' (1977)
- 3 performances by original members
- 36 public workshops
- 1 performance from the workshop
- 1 archival exhibition: 12 rooms
- 1 academic study day
- 4 public discussion events



***Setting the Table.* BALTIC Contemporary Arts. 2018.**

Arts and community organisers, artists who curate and representatives of artist-organisations congregate for 72 hours amidst an *exhibition-in-the-making*.

Their task: to collectively organise, adapt, rehearse and perform a version of Aristophanes' satire, *Peace* 'with' an audience.



Setting the Table included art works, tokens, products by:

Homocult

Artists International Association

Emma Leslie

Francis Cape

Oneida Community

Kultivator

Cannon Hill Puppet Company

Nadezhda Lamanova and Vera
Mukhina

Artists Rifle Platoon

Hebron Glass Workshop



Lehman Bros Evacuation Whistle in Pawned Gold. Bowman. 2018.

Setting the Table. Performance of PEACE (after Aristophanes)



queer times school prints: Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow. 2018

queer times school prints – a non-formalised artist-organisation - acquired by Glasgow Museums' collections under license to continue to the project ad-infinitum.

Artists prints commissioned for proposed dissemination to every secondary school in Glasgow.

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queer times school

queer times school prints:

- 18 public citizens' assemblies.
- 1 temporary queer school.
- 12 organisational partners and 6 academic partners.
- 10 artists prints commissioned.
- Exhibition content changes throughout.
- 1 exhibition with predicted viewership of 22,500 people.
- Extensive public programme.



queer times school print by
Kate Charlesworth

queer times school prints

queer times school ASSEMBLIES
23-27 JULY & 4 AUGUST 2018

MITCHELL LIBRARY
SPEAKERS
DR. STEPHEN GREER
PROFESSOR VICKY GUNN
PROFESSOR DAVID KINLOCH
TOM LUSK
STEVEN THOMSON
JIM WHANNELL

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
SPEAKERS
DR. STEPHEN GREER
PROFESSOR VICKY GUNN
PROFESSOR DAVID KINLOCH
TOM LUSK
STEVEN THOMSON
JIM WHANNELL

GLASGOW WOMEN'S LIBRARY
SPEAKERS
ALICE ANDREWS
LAURA BAILEY
ADAM BENMACHLOUF
DR. LAURA GUY
FIONA HAYES
SUE JOHN
JAMES MORTON
DR. ADELE PATRICK

BURGH HALL COURT
SPEAKERS
GRANT ANDERSON
GERRIE DOUGLAS-SCOTT
SUSAN DOUGLAS-SCOTT
HENRY ROGERS

GLASGOW WOMEN'S LIBRARY
SPEAKERS
CRIZ MCCORMICK
DR. PENG LEE YAP FROPE

SCOTLAND'S STREET SCHOOL MUSEUM
SPEAKERS
DR. STEPHEN GREER
PROFESSOR VICKY GUNN
PROFESSOR DAVID KINLOCH
TOM LUSK
STEVEN THOMSON
JIM WHANNELL

SHARON FERRIS — ROBERT FOX

LYDIA HONEYBONE — S...

SPEAKERS AT THE ASSEMBLIES
PRESENTED ON KEY ISSUES, CIRCUMSTANCES AND CONDITIONS AFFECTING LGBTQ+ LIVES AND HISTORIES FROM 1967 UNTIL THE PRESENT.

CONTRIBUTORS INCLUDED: ACTIVISTS, LOBBYISTS AND CAMPAIGNERS; ART AND ARTISTS; CURATORS AND ARCHIVISTS; CURATORS AND MUSEUM COLLECTORS; SCHOLARSHIPS; WRITERS AND POETS; SCIENTISTS; SCIENTISTS AND HEALTH WORKERS; MARRIAGE CELEBRANTS; SCHOOLS AND HIGHER EDUCATION EDUCATORS; AND POLITICIANS.

queer times school prints IS AN ART AND CITIZENSHIP PROJECT COMMISSIONED BY KATIE BRUCE AT THE GALLERY OF MODERN ART ON BEHALF OF GLASGOW MUSEUMS FROM JASON E BOWMAN, WHO IS AN ARTIST WITH A CURATORIAL PRACTICE. BOWMAN'S WORK IS PUNCTUATED BY MODES OF DISPERSAL, WHEREBY OTHER PEOPLE ARE INVITED TO INTERRUPT THE PRIVILEGES PROFFERED TO HIM BY THE INSTITUTIONS HE IS COMMISSIONED BY. THROUGH REINTERPRETATION REPURPOSING AND PROVIDING ALTERNATIVE UNDERSTANDINGS AND PERSPECTIVES MULTIPLE PARTICIPANTS INFLUENCE THE WHYS WHATS AND HOWS OF DECISION-MAKING.

