

SOFT SOIL

III/III PRIVATE POLICE PARTNERSHIP

Online programme / Third part of the event series
27 – 29 November 2020

Registration at softsoil_ngbk@protonmail.com

Solidarities in the city under pressure

At the beginning of 2020, SOFT SOIL began with the statement »There's no such thing as a city for all (yet)«. The series of events investigated enduring power imbalances relating to urban struggles: a non-German-sounding surname leads to difficulties in the search for a flat; exorbitant rents displace those who earn less; everyday racism and racist police controls exclude; self-organised spaces are ousted – when they resist, with police violence. The ›public‹ is policed (Vanessa E. Thompson), while the spaces created for this public become ever-more exclusive.

Public-Private-Partnerships are common under neoliberalism. They come into being when publicly funded institutions create long-term contracts with the private sector. The so-called ›common good‹ must yield profit. Conversely, the private sector wins influence in urban decision-making processes.

In the third event block, the following questions are opened: Which understandings of democratic practice are currently predominant? How do the philanthropic desires and neo-colonial/neo-imperialist fantasies of a rich minority shape urban spaces? How might a gentrification-resistant and decolonial city be conceived in solidarity? Which structures do refugee women* build among themselves? When does private property have priority over coexistence in solidarity, the needs of the Kiez, and neighbourhood structures?

Friday, 27 November 2020

19:00–21:00

Wir – Gespräche zum demokratischen Alltag in Berlin [We – Conversations on democracy and everyday life in Berlin] (de*)

Reading with Eva Löbau & Asad Schwarz-Msesilamba basierend based on interviews by Sonya Schönberger with a.o. Jennifer Kamau, Josephine Apraku, Katalin Gennburg, Gülcan Nitsch, Till Egen, Christian Herwartz, Hans-Christian Ströbele, Niloufar Tajeri

Saturday, 28 November 2020

12:00–15:00

Zur Dekolonialisierung des Städtischen / On decolonising urban space (de/en)

with No Humboldt 21!, Initiative Schwarze Menschen in Deutschland ISD, Berlin Postkolonial, AFROTAK TV cyberNomads & Coalition of Cultural Workers against the Humboldt Forum

15:30–17:30

Corona Lager Reports (en)

Listening session, discussion with Break Isolation Group, International Women* Space

Sunday, 29 November 2020

13:00–15:00

Haus verkauft! Oranienstraße 25 und damit verbundene Kämpfe (de)

with a.o. AK Standort/O-straße der nGbK

SOFT SOIL is a discursive format with a mobile platform returning to the nGbK in three ›blocks‹ of events, which take place in-between exhibitions. **SOFT SOIL** describes the ambivalence of the sandy ground Berlin is built on: both the attrition of urban structures through privatisation and speculation, and the malleability of urban space through everyday practices and resistance. The format addresses colonial continuities, and questions relating to the neoliberal transformation of the city since 1990. Additionally, it critically examines the relationship between space and gender relations. Initiatives, researchers, artists and all interested are invited to enter into exchange through discussions, screenings and workshops.

nGbK project group: Jennifer Bennett, Sonja Hornung, Vicky Kiefer, siddhartha lokanandi, Sonya Schönberger

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