

OLIVER RESSLER

SCREENING + Q&A

The Bull Laid Bear, 2012, directed by Zanny Begg & Oliver Ressler, 24 minutes

Socialism Failed, Capitalism is Bankrupt. What comes Next?, directed by Oliver Ressler, 19 minutes

Tuesday, January 24 @ 7pm

ARTIST'S TALK

Wednesday, January 25 @ 7pm

We are the ones we have been waiting for

Co-sponsored by Goethe Zentrum / German Cultural Center Atlanta

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Over the past decade, Oliver Ressler has developed a body of work related to the alter-globalization movement. In 2001, he produced a film on the kettling of demonstrators by the police at a demonstration against the World Economic Forum in Salzburg, Austria. The following year, he collaborated with Dario Azzellini on a film on the Disobbedienti, a direct-action Italian radical extraparliamentary group that grew out of the Tute Bianche and formed after the events surrounding the G8 conference in Genoa in 2001. In 2008, he released *What Would It Mean To Win?*, which was co-directed by Zanny Begg and documented the June 2007 G8 summit in Heiligendamm, Germany. Ressler was also involved in the self-organized collaborative art project HOLY DAMN IT, which produced 50,000 posters to mobilize against the G8 summit in Heiligendamm.

Besides these direct artistic interventions in political movements, Ressler has been working on *Alternative Economics, Alternative Societies*. Started in 2003, this major ongoing exhibition project currently presents sixteen concepts and models for alternative economies and societies, premised on a rejection of the capitalist system.

His eight-channel video installation *What Is Democracy?*, 2009, presents the views of activists in eighteen cities across the world on the deep political crisis of the Western democratic model, proposing approaches to a more democratic system.

In his talk *We are the ones we have been waiting for*, Ressler will present these projects and put them up for discussion in relation to the latest social movements.

Born in Austria in 1970, artist/filmmaker Oliver Ressler lives and works in Vienna. His theme-specific installations, public projects, and films address issues such as economics, democracy, racism, forms of resistance, and social alternatives. His work has been featured in over two hundred group exhibitions (MASS MoCA, North Adams, MA; Itaú Cultural Institute, Sao Paulo; National Museum of Contemporary Art, Athens; Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, Netherlands; and biennials in Prague, Seville, Moscow, Taipei, and Lyon), in addition to solo exhibitions at the Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA; Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center, Istanbul; Museum of Contemporary Art, Belgrade; Kunstraum der Universität Lüneburg, Lüneburg, Germany; Centro Cultural Conde Duque, Madrid; Alexandria

Contemporary Arts Forum, Alexandria, Egypt; and the Bunkier Sztuki Contemporary Art Gallery, Kraków. For the Taipei Biennale 2008, Ressler curated *A World Where Many Worlds Fit*, an exhibition on the counter-globalization movement. The show *It's the Political Economy, Stupid*, curated with Gregory Sholette, opens at the Austrian Cultural Forum in New York City on January 24, 2012

For more information about Oliver Ressler and his work:

Oliver Ressler's website
<http://www.ressler.at>

Wikipedia
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oliver_Ressler

Read

“What Is Democracy?": Interview with Niels Van Tomme," *Foreign Policy in Focus*, April 2010
http://www.fpif.org/articles/what_is_democracy

New media center_kuda.org's interview with Oliver Ressler about the exhibition *Alternative Economics, Alternative Societies* in Novi Sad, Serbia, August 2006: "Interview with Oliver Ressler: Appeal for Non-Hierarchical, Self-Determined, Social and Economic Alternatives"
<http://www.kuda.org/en/interview-oliver-ressler-appeal-non-hierarchical-self-determined-social-and-economic-alternatives>

Elizabeth Steger's review of *Alternative (Economies + Societies)* in *TRANSFORM*, European Institute for Progressive Cultural Policies, July 2008
<http://transform.eipcp.net/correspondence/1198603993>

Watch

Oliver Ressler's presentation at the Creative Time Summit, 2010 (8 minutes)
<http://creativetime.org/programs/archive/2010/summit/WP/2010/10/10/oliver-ressler/>

Oliver Ressler interview for the exhibition *WERK NU*, 2009, at Z33 House for Contemporary Art, Hasselt, Belgium (9 minutes)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMgCGANjC8U>

Oliver Ressler: *Protesting Capitalist Globalism*, 2006, at Kültur Büro Barcelona (KBB) (2 minutes)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SzMy5ZH78H8&feature=related>