

PLAS PRINCETON LIVE ART SESSIONS

October 12, 13, 14, 2017



Theater, Performativity and Art in Transition

At a time when the definition of art is shifting and the boundaries between mediums get blurred, Live Art Sessions opens a space for reflection and dialogue on the nature and scope of the performing arts among artists, students, scholars, and the public at large.

Live Art Sessions offers a series of live performative pieces by artists in transition, whose experimental works locate themselves in-between different artistic and cultural practices, juxtaposing and combining the literary with the theatrical, the cinematic with the curatorial, the technological with embodied spectatorship, and reading with processional walking.

The focus of the four selected pieces, and the scholarly events linked to them, is the act of reading as a performative practice that requires specific forms of participatory spectatorship. What is a reader? Can reading be a collective experience? What happens if I walk when I read? What is the role of sound in reading? Is reading a form of art? How do we read archives? The guiding figure for this collective exploration is the work of the late Argentine writer and Princeton professor Ricardo Piglia, who wrote profusely about reading as an artistic, literary, epistemological, and political action.

Curatorial Team

Vivi Tellas - **Edgardo Dieleke** - **Gabriela Nouzeilles**

Organized by the Program of Latin American Studies

FULL PROGRAM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

12:00PM-1:20PM

“Theater, Performativity, and Art in Transition” with the participation of theater director Vivi Tellas, invited artists and faculty. In English and Spanish.

216 Aaron Burr Hall, Program in Latin American Studies

Lunch provided

2:00PM-4:00PM

The Quiet Volume by Ant Hampton and Tim Etchells.

Firestone Library (Trustees Reading Room)

Guests will be required to check-in at registration desk, and provide ID for access.

The Quiet Volume is a whispered, self-generated and 'automatic' performance for two at a time, exploiting the particular tension common to any library worldwide; a combination of silence and concentration within which different peoples' experiences of reading unfold.

Two audience members / participants sit side-by-side. Taking cues from words both written and whispered they find themselves burrowing an unlikely path through a pile of books. The piece exposes the strange magic at the heart of the reading experience, allowing aspects of it we think of as deeply internal to lean out into the surrounding space, and to leak from one reader's sphere into another's. Running time 60'.

More: <http://www.anthampton.com/tqv.html>

4:30PM-5:15PM

The Whisperers by Vivi Tellas. A tribute to Argentine writer and Princeton professor Ricardo Piglia. (Walking and reading on Princeton campus. Starting point: Firestone Library)

A collective performance on the act of reading as a public intervention and a form of secular prayer. A group of 30-50 students, faculty members, and spontaneous participants walk through campus while reading in a quiet voice. Each participant reads from his/her copy of a particular book by writer Ricardo Piglia or from a literary work written by one of his preferred authors, including Latin American writers such as Jorge Luis Borges, Roberto Arlt, and Juan Carlos Onetti, and American authors such as Ernest Hemingway and William Faulkner. Selection of books curated by Princeton professors, scholars, and friends.

6:00PM-7:00PM

Escritores norteamericanos (American Writers) by Ricardo Piglia. Book presentation with editors Julieta Mortati and Edgardo Dieleke, in conversation with professors Arcadio Díaz Quiñones and Pedro Meira Monteiro.

216 Aaron Burr Hall, Program in Latin American Studies

In collaboration with the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

Escritores norteamericanos is the last book Ricardo Piglia published before he passed away in January, 2017, with the indie Argentine publishing house Tenemos las Maquinas. The book includes a selection of short portraits of renowned and 'minor' American writers, written by Piglia in the late sixties, as well as a classic essay on crime fiction. Read from today, the collection of short texts provides a reflection on the boundaries between fiction and the essay form, as well as on the political power of writing as an act of reading.

More: <http://www.tenemoslasmaquinas.com.ar/catalogo/escritores-norteamericanos>

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

11:00AM-5:00PM

The Quiet Volume by Ant Hampton and Tim Etchells.

Firestone Library, Trustees Reading Room

Guests will be required to check-in at registration desk, and provide ID for access.

12:00PM-1:20PM

Live Session with Guest Artists. A conversation on transitional projects with Julio Grinblatt, Albertina Carri, Dani Zelko and Vivi Tellas.

216 Aaron Burr Hall, Program in Latin American Studies

Lunch provided

3:00PM-5:00PM

Uses of Photography VII: photographs by Julio Grinblatt.

Princeton University Art Museum

A pile of photos and white gloves on a table. The artist Julio Grinblatt is standing or sitting behind the table. The photographs are portraits of more than eighty Argentine artists and the Buenos Aires art scene of the last thirty years. There are around 900 photographs. They are all small gelatin silver prints, enclosed in polypropylene sleeves. The order of the photographs changes with the interventions of invited or random active viewers. They are encouraged to handle the images as original art work provided that they wear the white gloves available on the table. Like a red nose for a clown or a white wig for a judge, wearing the gloves changes the state of mind of visitors, as they assume the role of collectors, curators, or expert art handlers. By manipulating, discussing, and rearranging the pictures, the participant help create new visual narratives and art histories.

This piece belongs to Grinblatt's ongoing project *Uses of Photography*, in which he explores the effects of technological change on image, vision, and participatory ways of seeing and knowing in different contexts.

6:00PM-7:00PM

El niño Rieznik by Vivi Tellas.

Rocky-Mathey Theatre, Rockefeller College

In Spanish with English subtitles.

A documentary portrait or biodrama of the Argentine physicist and science teacher Andrés Rieznik, a specialist in Neurosciences. Following on the steps of his father Pablo Rieznik, a famous Argentine anarchist leader and public intellectual, in his youth Andrés was an engaged political activist, but soon after high school he embraced science as the main object of his intellectual and political passions. In this biodrama, Rieznik performs himself sharing with us stories, memories, and material traces of his 'real' life through photography, music, political poems, magic tricks, and nerdy reflections on the nature of time, revealing to us the theatrical nature of memory and everyday lives.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

9:00AM-1:00PM

The Quiet Volume by Ant Hampton and Tim Etchells.

Firestone Library, Trustees Reading Room

Guests will be required to check-in at registration desk, and provide ID for access.

2:30PM

Cuaterros, Film (*Rustlers*, Argentina, 2016, 83'), by Albertina Carri.

East Pyne 010.

Screening followed by Q&A with the director.

Filmmaker Albertina Carri struggles to make a film about Isidro Velázquez, a legendary outlaw from northern Argentina who was shot dead by police in 1967. She's not the only one interested in this popular figure: her father Roberto Carri, a sociologist and political activist who disappeared during the last Argentine military dictatorship, wrote a book on Velázquez and prerevolutionary violence. Stories, family ties, political alignments, cinema: none of them offers a stable foothold for filmmaking. Trying out different formal and narrative configurations, Carri wanders through a garden of forking paths, only to arrive at a landscape of cracked earth and thorns. The film is also an exercise in archival perusal. News reels, ads, home videos, interviews, movies, abstract forms, exceed the singular screen, splitting it into one, two, five simultaneous channels. Part documentary film, part poetic experimentation, part installation, *Cuaterros* dives into the shadowy waters of memory, history, art, and justice.

More: <http://albertinacarri.com/index.php?lang=en>

5:00PM-5:45PM

Reunion by Dani Zelko.

East Pyne Court

Reunion is the result of a series of actions that involve conversation, writing, reading, and listening. Dani Zelko writes down poems that others dictate to him in random face-to-face encounters in different settings and countries. He travels light, carrying a computer and a printer in a small backpack, while searching for potential poems and stories by unpublished spontaneous authors. After completing his task as a listener and copyist, Zelko turns the poems into small books and prints them in his portable printer. The following day there is book presentation with the participation of neighbors, family, and friends of the unexpected poet. In a circle of nine people, the new writer reads his book out loud for the first time to himself and to others. In later iterations of the project, the public readings incorporate texts by former spontaneous poets. The traveling texts are read out loud by local readers/performers, who lend their body and voice to the absent authors in new circles of nine chairs. In Zelko's collaborative actions, listening, writing, printing, and reading become part of a chain of collective artistic and social performances through which new poetic communities are born and disseminated.

More: <http://cargocollective.com/danizelko/Procedimiento>

Questions: princetonliveart@gmail.com / **Directions:** [Travel to Princeton University](#)