

PORI SCREENINGS: OLIVER RESSLER (Austria)

Pori Art Museum is screening Austrian artist Oliver Ressler's films during the autumn. Oliver Ressler (b. 1970) is taking part in the Pori Art Museum's exhibition *Why do you resist?* –resistance in contemporary art. He has visited Finland once before in the spring of 2010. This is the first time that Oliver Ressler's films will be screened in Finland. In his works, Oliver Ressler has been concerned with themes like globalisation and counter movements to globalisation, questions on democracy, social and economic alternatives, racism and migration. Many of Ressler's films are realized as collaborations with different groups and political activists. Oliver Ressler lives and works in Vienna.

27.10.2010 at 6.30 pm

ARTIST TALK

OLIVER RESSLER: WHAT IS DEMOCRACY?

Austrian artist Oliver Ressler will be talking about his artistic work and showing excerpts of his films.

29.10.2010 at 3 pm

A film by

OLIVER RESSLER: WHAT IS DEMOCRACY? (118 min., English subtitles, 2009)

The project asked "What is democracy?" to numerous activists and political analysts in 15 cities around the world, in Amsterdam, Berkeley, Berlin, Bern, Budapest, Copenhagen, Moscow, New York, Rostock, San Francisco, Sydney, Taipei, Tel Aviv, Thessaloniki and Warsaw. The interviews have been recorded on video since January 2007. Even though all interviewees were asked the same question, the result was a multiplicity of different perspectives and viewpoints from people living in states that are usually labeled "democracies". In this sense, the film presents a multi-layered discourse on democracy, which expresses a broad field of opinions that go beyond the borders of nation-states and continents.

06.11.2010 at 3 pm

A film by

ZANNY BEGG & OLIVER RESSLER: WHAT WOULD IT MEAN TO WIN? (40 min., English version, 2008)

"What Would It Mean To Win?" was filmed on the blockades at the G8 summit in Heiligendamm, Germany in June 2007. In their first collaborative film Zanny Begg and Oliver Ressler focus on the current state of the counter-globalisation movement in a project, which grows out of both artists' preoccupation with globalisation and its discontents. The film, which combines documentary footage, interviews, and animation sequences, is structured around three questions pertinent to the movement: Who are we? What is our power? What would it mean to win?

13.11.2010 at 3 pm

A film by

DARIO AZZELLINI & OLIVER RESSLER: COMUNA UNDER CONSTRUCTION

(94 min., original version in Spanish, English subtitles, 2010)

The assemblies are a central element of the film *Comuna Under Construction*. The film starts in the well-organized Consejo Comunal Emiliano Hernández located in one of the shantytowns of Caracas, Venezuela. It then follows plans for forming Comunas and a communal town in rural Barinas and ends in Petare, a gigantic shantytown in the agglomeration of Caracas where there are 29 Consejos Comunales intending to build the Comuna of Maca. In more than 30.000 Consejos Comunales the Venezuelan inhabitants decide on their concerns collectively via assemblies. Several Consejos Comunales can form a Comuna and finally a communal town. Progress as well as setbacks mark the difficult process of people actually taking the power of deciding on their own lives and environment by themselves.

Free admission

Additional information: exhibition curator Pia Hovi-Assad, tel. +358-(0)44-7011089

pia.hovi-assad@pori.fi