After Autonomy Toward a Decolonial Aesthetics and the Question of Minor Relationalities

Siraj Ahmed (CUNY Graduate Center, New York)
Maria Chehonadskih (Queen Mary University, London)
Encarnación Gutiérrez-Rodríguez (Goethe
University, Frankfurt/M.)
Laura Harris (Tisch School of the Arts, New York)
Anja Sunhyun Michaelsen (Humboldt University, Berlin)
Amber Musser (CUNY Graduate Center, New York)

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https://accumulation-race-aesthetics.org/

We cordially invite you to join the conference After Autonomy. Toward a Decolonial Aesthetics and the Question of Minor Relationalities. This conference is devoted to the reconsideration and reinvention of the social and political potentials of aesthetic practices that resist racial capitalism's manifold structures of power. We are well aware of the ambivalent — if not downright violent or belligerent — role that the discourse of Western aesthetics played in the constitution and justification of colonial-capitalist nation—states and their dynamics of subjectivation, whose core values are based on possessive universalisms as well as racial, class, and gender hierarchies.

Nevertheless, we believe that any philosophical reflection that aspires to formulate radical alternatives to racial capitalism and colonial modernity needs to be based upon a reconsideration of the an/aesthetic, the un/sensible, and the im/perceptible. In focusing on these concepts, we not only wish to explore the oppressive grammar of Western aesthetics that excluded myriads of aesthetic practitioners and deemed their practices as unaesthetic or insensible.

We also suggest reinventing aesthetic relationality as a broader and thoroughly political issue, which in turn demands

a reframing of the concept of politics by including nonautonomous, disseminated, or fugitive practices, the excess of affects and percepts, the invention of minoritarian archives, and the world's multiple temporalities and spatialities.

The aim of our conference is to discuss articulations of a minor aesthetic that draws on poststructuralist Marxisms and affect theories as well as queer feminist, decolonial, and Black radicalisms, and connects them in ever singular constellations that defy totalizing closures or universalizations from above.

No registration necessary. Organized by Katja Diefenbach, Çiğdem Inan, Ruth Sonderegger, and Pablo Valdivia Orozco. Research Project "Perception, Jurisdiction, and Valorization in Colonial Modernity — On the Nexus of Accumulation, Race, and Aesthetics"