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2017

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CORNELIA SOLLFRANK: COMMONS LAB commons + digital + art + feminism

DATE

March 20, 2017

**Exhibition, Lectures, Workshops
March 30 – April 22, 2017 , Various Locations**

The exhibition COMMONS LAB is an experimental setting created by German artist Cornelia Sollfrank. The Studio XX gallery offers an open and usable structure which makes various formats for a collective research process possible. The idea of the Commons provides the central speculative tool for the investigation of the present, as well as for the creation of future scenarios.

Commons are resources created or maintained by a community for their joint use value. Commons are characterized by modes of ownership beyond the private/state dichotomy and by collective ways of dealing with the respective resources. The concept refers to common goods, but a special emphasis is put on the social relations and negotiations necessary to produce and protect them. The goods within a commons are not subject to the conditions of market exchange; they are shared goods and as such an expression of a state of being-with. Digital media products offer an especially rich field of investigation in this respect due to their propensity for abundance.

The framing questions for the research are, how new forms of organization and collaboration can bring forth a new kind of cultural works and social relations, how feminist principles can contribute to foster the transformative aspects of the commons and help to realize the vision of an inclusive, diverse and democratic form of organization, and what role art and an expanded understanding of aesthetics can play in the advancement of the commons as a political project.

The methods used for producing and sharing knowledge include interviews, conversations, lectures, dialogues, screenings and workshops. All activities aim at involving Montreal-based artists and experts.

The exhibition is part of Sollfrank's research on the production of a 'vocabulary of forms' for transformative, social encounters as a response to political pathologies. – Cornelia Sollfrank

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Montréal**

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Consultez la programmation complète sur SoGerman.ca / SiAllemand.ca et goethe.de/canada.



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EXHIBITION:

Studio XX; 4001 Berri St #201, Montreal
March 30 – April 22, 2017. Opening March 30, 2017

LECTURES:

TRIAL AND ERROR: SPECULATIVE CONCEPTS FOR AN OPEN & COLLABORATIVE SOCIETY

Artist talk with Cornelia Sollfrank plus Q+A with curator Erandy Vergara

Wednesday April 5th, 2017, 6PM

McGill University, IGSF seminar room | Location: 2nd floor, 3487 Peel St.

ART AND SPECULATIVE COMMONS

Lecture by Cornelia Sollfrank

Monday March 27th, 2017, 5PM

Concordia University / 1515 Sainte Catherine Street West, 11 floor, room EV 11.705

WORKSHOPS:

THE SURPLUS OF SHARING BOOKS: BUILDING A FEMINIST LIBRARY ONLINE

Saturday April 1 2017, from 1PM to 5PM at Studio XX

\$10 (Free for Studio XX members); Registration: ateliers@studioxx.org

UNLOCK: GENDERED EXPERIENCES OF TECHNOLOGY

Tuesday, April 4th 2017, from 6PM to 9PM at Studio XX

\$10 (free for Studio XX and Friends of Goethe-Institut members and Goethe-Institut students); Registration: ateliers@studioxx.org

Cornelia Sollfrank is an artist, researcher and university lecturer, currently living in Berlin. She studied painting at the Academy of Art in Munich and Fine Art at the University of the Arts Hamburg, and got her PhD from University of Dundee (UK). Her means of expression include writing, performance, sound, video and other Internet-based formats. Recurring subjects in her artistic and academic work about digital cultures are authorship, self-organization, gender and techno-feminism. As a pioneer of Internet art, Cornelia Sollfrank built up a reputation with two central projects: *the net.art generator* and *Female Extension*.

This event is part of **Germany @ Canada 2017**, an exciting cultural program presented by the Goethe-Institut and the German Embassy highlighting the German-Canadian friendship in honour of Canada's sesquicentennial year. Running from coast to coast and throughout the year, the program brings a dynamic sampling of German contemporary culture to Canada. Under the motto "Germany @ Canada 2017 – Partners from Immigration to Innovation", this celebration includes over 40 events - concerts, exhibitions, conferences, performances and film screenings.

Program details can be found at: SoGerman.ca and goethe.de/canada