

Eastside Projects

Policy Show

Teresa Cisneros, Christian Nyampeta, Ciara Phillips, Rehana Zaman,
curated by Lucy Lopez and Gavin Wade

15 September - 16 December 2017

Public Preview, Friday 15 September 5-7pm

Meeting #1: Unspoken policies of the art organisation, 15 September,
2-5pm

Meeting #2: Unspoken policies of housing, 19 October, 2-5pm

Meeting #3: Unspoken policies of education, 1 December, 2-5pm

Policy Show is Eastside Projects as a ~~think-tank~~ made up of a core group of artists and curators. The core group will create three new policies at three different scales through the processes of Policy Show. Each policy will be an artwork or be informed by art thinking and art making.

Policy, though not always transparent, is a key human activity. It is a principle or course of action guiding personal, organisational, and political approaches to living. The thinktank as a body of experts drafting and informing policy on particular subjects (often social, political, economic or corporate) is an effective but contaminated device for change. Policy Show proposes a ~~think-tank~~ as a positive reconstructive force - a no-pressure-think-tank, a working group, a think group or fizz tank.

The first policy will be drafted in response to unspoken policies of the art organisation - in this case, Eastside Projects - as we move forward into a new stage of our development. Across two days the ~~think-tank~~ will consider questions such as: what would a policy of care look like? Who loads the dishwasher? How good are we at listening to each other? Should the director be baking us bread?

The two days are centred around an open afternoon session following an adapted town meeting format in which multiple publics are active participants. Each Policy Show meeting will also include invited guests to guide the policy making. At the end of each meeting the core group will draft a new policy and plan a series of actions to share, test and implement the policy.

The core group of artists highlight, question and occupy social and political conditions in their approaches to art making and art thinking. Teresa Cisneros (agency for agency) asks questions of people at art institutions in order to get them to reckon with their institutional making (she acts as a curator, administrator, arts manager, educator, or what is necessary at the time). Christian Nyampeta's research and collaboration based practice explores how we live, behave and work together, such as leading a working group to translate excerpts of key French texts from African philosophers and writers. Ciara Phillips creates social situations through an expanded form of printmaking, from workshops for kids to banner making in support of Justice for Domestic Workers (J4DW). Rehana Zaman creates video works conflating documentary and fiction, animating social dynamics, working conditions and personal histories, such as exploring the lives of women working in the Tetley Brewery, or the experiences of British Asian women against the UK government's counter terrorism legislation.

Register to attend the Policy Show meetings and receive a free copy of Eastside Projects' Policy Manual compiling our policies since 2008.

'Policy Show' is the latest in a series of group exhibitions and productions within Eastside Projects that test modes of exhibition and the construction of public spheres. The series started with 'This is the Gallery and the Gallery is Many Things' (2008), and includes 'Sculpture Show' (2009), 'Book Show' (2010), 'Painting Show' (2012), 'Trade Show' (2014), 'Display Show' (2015-16), and 'Production Show' (2016-17). Each project invites new curatorial and artistic voices to effect change upon the existing conditions of Eastside Projects and aims to impact on artist practice further afield.