

**DIE DIELE PRESENTS**

## **FUCKING GOOD ART**

### **«SIDE-BY-SIDE»**

**ANALOGUE BLOG FROM LE LOCLE**

**(ON ANARCHIST ART, PUBLISHING & ARCHIVES)**

**1-30 APRIL 2015**

**CURATED BY TANJA TRAMPE**

Fucking Good Art is a travelling artists' magazine and an editorial project for research in-and-through art, made by Dutch artists/editors Nienke Terpsma and Rob Hamelijncx. They are interested in oral history, anthropology, documentary, modes of investigative art, counter- and sub-cultures, self-organising and DIT (do-it-together), anarchism, and models outside the art market. They have a participatory strategy.

Die Diele is one of 17 hosts of Fucking Good Art's current analogue blog writings during their research stay in Le Locle/Swiss Jura in April. Their interest focuses early anarchism, archives and printed matter, in particular the *Bulletin de la Fédération jurassienne*. The blog is titled **Side-by-Side** and contains Rob's Side and Nienke's Side and is therefore also an experiment to show that Fucking Good Art is in fact consisting of two people having two singular voices.

#### **Rob's side: 2 April, Thursday, Le Locle (first entry)**

Crossing the border between France and Switzerland you go through two holes in the Jura Mountains. High above the tunnel is the *Col des Roches* canyon, in between hangs the Swiss flag. It's like a rite de passage and reminded me of an experience we had on our traveling-residency for our Italian Issue in 2011. One day our guide was Elvino Politi, an archaeologist and director of *Gruppo Archeologico di Terra d'Otranto*. He wanted to show us how, in Apulia, for thousands of years long, series of conquests and influences have led to artistic innovation. We followed part of a pre-Christian pilgrimage route. In a small church, not bigger than a large shed, there was a ritual stone with a hole. There was nothing else in the space. The ritual for boys to become a man was to lie on the floor and crawl through the quite narrow hole, arms stretched, headfirst. Once they had performed this task they were re-born and could marry - I was scared to get stuck in the massive stone, like Winnie the Pooh in the Rabbit's hole, and crawled out backwards.

I read a rite de passage has three stages. In the first phase, you withdraw from your current status and prepare to move from one place or status to another. In the second phase you are on the threshold. You left one place or state but have not yet entered or joined the next. In the third phase you have completed the rite and assumed your "new" identity, and you re-enter society with your new you. In our case I don't know yet what we have become. If you go to the cradle of anarchism, you don't automatically become an anarchist!

#### **Nienke's Side: 2 April, Thursday, Le Locle (first entry)**

I thought it would be less scary to send this blog to only a few people we know, instead of out into the World Wide Web, but it turns out not to. It is personal now, a real social network. You'll be expecting our mail and read what we write,

you will do the effort of printing it and putting it out, and after that we can't change or correct—not like online. So I will try not to bore you or disappoint you, though I'll try not to try to be entertaining either. Give us a few days to get into it, and please react if you want to, correct, comment, add, and associate: every day there's one sheet for replies from 'other sides'/ other sites'.

We're here in search of the traces of early anarchism, and especially the publishing that came with it. We'll focus on the famous *Bulletin de La Fédération jurassienne*, one of the first international anarchist newspapers, which was published here between 1872 and 1878. We want to know more about how these issues were made and distributed and by whom, and find more about the archives they are kept in—which is almost like a second life cycle of distribution, keeping everything available. Last year when we spent some time in the wonderful CIRA\* archive, we were struck by how familiar these pamphlets and bulletins seemed—in what we can maybe call their 'material life'—to simple zine-making artists.

*\* CIRA (Centre International de Recherches sur L'Anarchisme) is a library of materials relevant to anarchist theory in all languages based in Lausanne. It was founded in 1957 in Geneva by Italian anarchist, artist, author and interpreter Pietro Ferrua and is now run by historian Marianne Enckell.*

### **Hosting Side-by-Side**

The distribution and publication of Rob's and Nienke's blog entries began on 4 April as an itinerant investigation while I was traveling in Serbia and Bosnia. In Novi Sad I was presented to Željko and Slobodan who run the alternative space Šok Zadruga (Shock Cooperative) by Sonja, who herself is a cultural scientist and curator. This artist collective acts through exhibitions, documentation and interventions by focusing on everyday processes, the border areas of art and cultural politics. Further, it acknowledges provocation as a starting point. In 1993 the collective started as a guerrilla-art group acting through critical social and art practices by following the accelerated pulse of political changes in former Yugoslavia. Today, Šok Zadruga considers its conception as cooperative, and cooperative movement as the new articulation of fellowship and is further redrawing the assigned institutional and disciplinary frames, formulating unconventional models of cooperation, replacing the periphery with centre and the basement with public space. Their current residence is located in one of those lively cobblestone passages in the town's old centre and its shop windows appeared to me as an ideal site to start with the nomadic **Side-by-Side**-mission. When I moved on, Šok Zadruga became another permanent host of the analogue blog.

The onward distribution continued in Tuzla in Bosnia, a lively multi-ethnic post-industrial town, but with nearly 70% unemployed inhabitants! From 8 to 10 April, current entries were posted and discussed on the notice board of IPIA, an international academy of computer sciences. Others I posted in the aged corridor of the general college of music and on one of many obituary boards neighbouring mosques.

From 12 to 30 April **Side-by-Side** is published at Die Diele: the current entries in the public outdoor area, the column "other sites/other sides" in the hallway's showcase. The group of 17 hosts in itself builds already a network of distributing (knowledge) and offers a direct output of the researcher's investigations on anarchism.

*The hosts of Side-by-Side are: Cabinet du Livre d'artiste (Rennes FR), CAN (Neuchâtel CH), Cité des Arts (Paris FR), Die Diele (Zürich CH), EOFA (Geneva CH), Jubilee Warehouse (Penryn GB), KunstWerke (Berlin DE), Margin (Møn DK), MOTTO (Berlin DE), Musée des beaux-arts (Le Locle CH), Nomad Foundation (Rome IT), OOR (Zürich CH), Printroom (Rotterdam NL), Studio's Plantage Doklaan (Amsterdam NL), Smooth Space (Buckfastleigh GB), Šok Zadruga (Novi Sad RS), Soundart Radio (Dartington GB).*