

NAFAE Annual Symposium, 2018, Austerity, Adversity, Art?

Friday, 23 March 2018 (All day)

@.ac

'The Precarious University' – Co-Production as Interstitial Resistance

The Precarious University is a project initiated by @.ac - an artist collective without any permanent membership, formed in response to the Browne Review of 2010 and the subsequent commodification and financialisation of UK Higher Education. The Precarious University is an ongoing social sculpture, whose curriculum and agenda continually evolves. We meet within contested social spaces that we re-purpose as democratic sites of making and learning. We have held sessions at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Coventry University, and BALTIC.

Our pecha-kucha presentation will reflect on our forthcoming exhibition within Hanover Project, based within the Department of Fine Art at University of Central Lancashire, opening 26th March 2018. Our exhibition will exist as a space for students to organise their own artistic education and production. Our intervention expands strategies of dissent from within (NCAD and Central St Martins occupations, 2015), which Emma Mahony terms as 'interstitial resistance' (2016), into the context of pedagogy. We intend to 'de-school' student/teacher roles (Ranciere, 1991), by disrupting the function of the art school and gallery, producing a space in which students can engage in acts of co-production: The Precarious University.

Our presentation will feature a banner drop of fabric-based works produced with students at UCLan.