

NAFAE

Austerity, Adversity, Art?

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Should we be tendentious or is it *more or less or other* than that?

*"The bourgeois fiction of the solitary, literary genius is not to be superseded by the equally deceptive vision of the progressive writer as a sentimental (bourgeois) sympathizer with the worker... For [Walter] Benjamin, the genuinely progressive writer perceives no such choice...The progressive writer is neither autonomous with respect to nor allied with, the worker; he or she is a literary worker who values and voices the experience of solidarity...the genuine work of art is to be understood neither as an independent creation nor as a token of a tendency, but rather as a technical product within the relations of production"...*

Adapted from ...Graeme Gilloch (2001) *Walter Benjamin Critical Constellations* Polity Press referring to Walter Benjamin's "The Author as Producer" originally a public talk by Benjamin in Paris, France 1934

This presentation will aim explore the position of the art educator in connection with the artist as 'artist worker' and how we might or might not first of all consider embracing that idea and if so, what it might mean for student and teacher in the actual practice of educating...

PS. I propose this as a presentation which not I envisage just stand as a paper but will contain questions to which the audience may respond and/or add...

PPS. As a member of the steering group I am also happy to help out in other ways rather than present

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