

## **Małgorzata Kaźmierczak (The Faculty of Humanities, Institute of Art and Design of the Pedagogical University of Krakow, Poland): The theory of the preservation and documentation of performance art**

The lecture considers the contingency of performance art documentation: how an accidentally acquired image or deliberately created documentation influence our memory of performance art events and create a fictional action which exists only in our imagination. The problem will be illustrated with examples of widely known iconic performances are used, as well as primary sources, such as interviews with artists and documentalists. It also analyzes whether technological improvements change the contingent and fictional nature of documentation. It analyzes the problem from the perspective of a researcher, as well as a person who has documented hundreds of performance art pieces.

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Małgorzata Kaźmierczak Ph.D. A historian, curator, and researcher of contemporary art. Her interests focus on performance art and its social and political contexts, particularly the relationship between artistic practice and freedom of expression. She explores mechanisms of censorship, strategies of artistic resistance, and the role of art criticism in shaping public discourse.

An important area of her research is South American performance art, analyzed through the lens of memory, corporeality, violence, and democratization processes. She is also interested in the transformations of the art field after 1989 in Central and Eastern Europe and the functioning of transnational artistic and institutional networks.

Her research is closely linked to her curatorial practice and experience as a director. She carries out exhibition projects and international collaborations, combining theoretical reflection with institutional action. As president of the International Association of Art Critics (AICA International), she is committed to developing global initiatives promoting artistic freedom of expression, the ethics of criticism, and intercultural dialogue.