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#### Course Info

XVII Advanced Course in Visual Arts

**Title:** *The Dream Seminar II*

**Visiting Professor:** Susan Hiller

**Dates:** 28 June – 26 July 2011

**Location:** FAR, Villa Sucota, via per Cernobbio 19, Como:

**Web:** [www.fondazioneratti.org](http://www.fondazioneratti.org)

#### Corso Aperto

**Dates:** 2 - 22 July 2011

**Location:** Villa Sucota, via per Cernobbio 19, Como

#### Lectures

Jan Verwoert

4 July, 7 p.m.

Susan Hiller

14 July, 7 p.m.

Alexei Penzin

21 July, 7 p.m.

**Location:** Villa Sucota, via per Cernobbio 19, Como:

#### Susan Hiller's solo exhibition

15 July – 7 September 2011

**Opening:** 14 July

**Opening Hours:** Tues-Sun; 4-8 pm

**Location:** Spazio Culturale Antonio Ratti (ex-San Francesco), Largo Spallino 1, Como

#### Press office

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## *The Dream Seminar II*

XVII Advanced Course in Visual Arts

28 June – 26 July 2011, Como

Visiting professor

**Susan Hiller**

2 - 22 July 2011

**Corso Aperto**

**Presentation of works by the participant artists**

14 July 2011

**Opening of the Susan Hiller's personal exhibition  
at Spazio Culturale Antonio Ratti (ex San Francesco)  
and**

***The Provisional Texture of Reality***

**open lecture by Susan Hiller**

The XVII edition of Fondazione Antonio Ratti's Advanced Course in Visual Arts will be held from 28 June to 26 July. Entitled *The Dream Seminar II*, it will have as Visiting Professor Susan Hiller (born in United States in 1940, she lives and works in England since the Seventies).

The course, directed since 1995 by Annie Ratti and curated by Andrea Lissoni and Cesare Pietroiusti, with the coordination of Angela Maderna, will be held in Como at the premises of Fondazione Antonio Ratti.

During the course, Susan Hiller will invite the participants "to keep dream notebooks and to read several texts that approach dreams from a variety of unusual perspectives. The participant artists will participate in intensive group workshops focusing on individual dreams. There will be occasional lectures, discussing, analysing and illustrating the relationship between dreams and image making in diverse societies around the world. A collective work or proposal for a work may emerge from these experiences." (Susan Hiller)

A scientific committee composed by the internal members Annie Ratti, Andrea Lissoni e Cesare Pietroiusti and one external member, Lorenzo Benedetti (Director of the Art Center De Vleeshal, Middelburg, The Netherlands), selected 20 young artists from over 350 candidates. The participants for the XVII edition of the Advanced Course in Visual Arts are: Eva Barto (France); Lindsay Benedict (USA); Emma Buswell (Australia); Nayari Castillo (Venezuela); Matthew Coombes (UK); Gerard Cuartero (Spain); Dario D'Aronco (Italy); Roberto De Pol (Italy); Stefan Eichhorn (Germany); Elif Erkan (Germany); Maria Elena Fantoni (Italy); Roberto Fassone (Italy); Sarah Fuller (Canada); Giovanni Giaretta (Italy); Tamara Henderson (Canada); Carolin Koss (Germany); R. Lyon (USA); Marta Roberti (Italy); Johanna Sophie Santos Bassetti (Spain); Iacopo Seri (Italy).

As in the previous years, the course offers a programme of public lectures given by speakers from different international cultural. Jan Verwoert (Art Historian and Critic, Contributing Editor of Frieze,) will do this years first lecture, which will take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. It will be followed by a lecture by Susan Hiller on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July, entitled *The Provisional Texture of Reality*, on the occasion of the opening of Susan Hiller's solo exhibition at Spazio Culturale Antonio Ratti (ex-San Francesco), Largo Spallino 1, Como.

The last lecture will be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of July, and will be given by Alexei Penzin (researcher at Institute of Philosophy, Moscow). All the encounters will take place at the new premises of Fondazione Antonio Ratti, in Villa Sucota, Como, at 7 pm.

Corso Aperto, curated by Cesare Pietroiusti, will take place from 2 to 22 July at Villa Sucota, Como. The young artists who participate in the course will present their research process and works, which can be altered during the whole lasting of the exhibition. The show can be visited during the whole duration of the course.

**Susan Hiller** was born in the USA in 1949 and has lived and worked in Britain since 1970s, when she became known for an innovative artistic practice excavating the overlooked or ignored aspects of our culture. She has adopted and combined media in ways radical for their time and she is acknowledged as an important influence on younger generations of artists.

Hiller cites Minimalism, Fluxus, aspects of Surrealism, anthropology and feminism as influences on her unique practice. She juxtaposes knowledge derived from anthropology, psychoanalysis and other scientific disciplines with materials generally considered unimportant, like postcards, wallpaper, popular movies and stories of UFO sightings, balancing the familiar and the unexplained and inviting the viewer to participate in the creation of meaning. She collects and uses images, objects and sounds to create new contexts, incorporating traces of memory, history, and personal allusions. Her practice often investigates subconscious processes, including dreaming, reverie, automatic writing and improvised vocalizations. Privileging the repressed, forgotten or unknown, Hiller analyses, recontextualizes and confers status on what lies outside or beneath recognition.

Solo exhibitions of Susan Hiller's work were held at Tate, London; Castello di Rivoli, Turin; Moderna Museet, Stockholm; Joy Art Gallery, Beijing; Kunsthalle, Basel; Kunst-Raum des Deutschen Bundestages, Berlin; Museu Serralves, Porto; Fondation Mendoza, Caracas and other public institutions.

Hiller has explored the intersections of memory, history and the unacknowledged in a number of publications. Her talks and interviews have been collected in two books: *The Provisional Texture of Reality* (JRP Ringier, 2008) and *Thinking about Art: Conversations with Susan Hiller* (Manchester University Press, 1996). She is the author of *The J-Street Project* (DAAD and Compton Verney Trust, 2005) and *After the Freud Museum* (Bookworks, 1995; reprinted 2000).