

Keynote

Charles Garoian:

Performing Art and Its Pedagogy of the False

An extremist, political *will to truth* has been driven by pernicious falsifications in recent election campaigns in the U.S. and worldwide. The fake, *post-truth* logic of this nationalistic zeal slanders and defrauds the empirical potentialities of art, and its pedagogical affordances for thinking otherwise, with the express purpose of *making* traditional understandings and foundational methodologies *great again*. In this keynote lecture, the nostalgic resolve for epistemological predeterminations will be positioned alongside the *powers of the false*, the cinematic concept of time of Gilles Deleuze, to argue that artists and teachers create empirical truths by encountering the contingent events and circumstances of living in the world; not to be confused with baseless, petty lies or merely reproducing past representations. Within this adjacent positioning, art's pedagogy of the false will be addressed according to Deleuze's two regimes of narration: that which is organically descriptive, and chronologically *truthful*; and, that which is inflected, *falsifying*, and that emanates from the contingent *de-chronologized* encounters and alliances of time-out-of-joint. The dynamic, paradoxical relationship between these two narrative regimes will be characterized according to secondary school and university art and education students' experimental art performances, during which imperceptible, new, and unfamiliar ways of thinking were evoked as powers of the false.

Charles Garoian is professor of art education at Penn State University. He has performed, lectured, and conducted workshops in festivals, galleries, museums, and university campuses in the United States and internationally. Based on the critical strategies of performance art, his teaching focuses on exploratory, experimental, and improvisational art making processes in visual art studio and art education courses. In addition to his scholarly articles featured in leading journals on art and education, Garoian is the author of *Performing Pedagogy: Toward an Art of Politics* (1999); co-author of *Spectacle Pedagogy: Art, Politics, and Visual Culture* (2008); and, *The Prosthetic Pedagogy of Art: Embodied Research and Practice* (2013); all three volumes published by The State University of New York Press.