

INFO EXCHANGE

Dear Friends:

We need your cooperation and help. We are in the process of building up an alternative art space here in Wurzburg. It is a nice old city (pop. 125,000) but very clerical and conservative. Even though in the very center of West Germany and having a big University, it seems like all innovative cultural and political activities have never been noticed here.

There is a city-gallery and a few more or less commercial galleries—Prestige Art—things that can be accepted without asking any questions. Art here ends with Expressionism.

With our art space we want to spread visual and cultural information otherwise not available. We are keeping the space as an autonomous project. That also means we are financing everything out of our own pocket without any grants from the city.

We rented a store with two big display windows and two additional rooms. The total space is about 60 square meters. Right now we are renovating the place and are constructing shelves, etc., building in a darkroom. There is still much to do but we hope to be ready for our opening in November. Our program, open to everyone, includes exhibitions, performances, installations, workshop activities, discussion, info-exchange, archive of marginal artists' publications and small presses, audiothek, films and video.

We want to make it a cultural and communicative meeting place. Also we are planning to have artists visiting the Art Space to work there and install an exhibition/do a performance etc. There is a place for living/sleeping in the AAS including heating and toilet.

This is how you can help:

1. We need artists' books, magazines, catalogs, records, cassette tapes and anything else available for the archive. The archive is a very important part of our project as it functions as a permanent information source for people interested in getting to know what is going on somewhere else. And we can assure you there is a real backlog demand for this kind of information. We know about the financial aspect of publishing and mailing but we are not able to pay for subscriptions etc. as we just have enough money to keep the Space. But we have an idea that looks fair to us—everyone sending his or her publications etc. will receive ours in exchange. From time to time, we will produce an info-package with texts, posters and perhaps a small magazine. Also we are interested in coop-publication and -distribution. If you want to sell your publications, please send one more and let us know the price.

2. Exhibitions/performances/Artist-in-residence

Let us know if you are interested in doing anything at the Space. We have to make up our programme at least six months in advance so we need to know in time. Send us the information on your work that you think we should have. There is no charge for exhibiting, but there is also no pay for performing artists. All works will be returned after the exhibition but we ask for one piece for our archive. The AAS is a non-profit-project and therefore cannot sell directly. If you wish to sell your works we can arrange the transaction. In this case we would be very grateful for a donation to help us keep and expand the Space.

3. If you are a publisher of newsletters, art-info-mags, etc., we would appreciate if you could include a note about our AAS so more artists can get in touch with us.

4. Mail artists of the world! Please send your postcards, rubberstamp works, junk art, postage works, objects etc. Beside the AAS we have another contra-culture-project, The Permanent Mail Art Window. At an atelier nearby, we installed a permanent display of Mail Art. We change the shows biweekly and always produce a small Xerox-poster which is distributed around town. Every participant will receive one. Please start sending today. All mail art should be sent to

Peter Below, Mixed Media Edition, Box 229, 8710
Kitzingen, West Germany.

5. To galleries, art spaces, we would like to cooperate with other projects involved in cultural work. Re: exhibitions of video, etc., we want to organize a show together with you and after showing it, send it to the next Art Space. This could be done with bookworks, objects, with the eventuality of producing a catalog for the same show in different places in co-production.

The name of the space is Bazillus/Alternative Art Space/
Steinheilstr. 12-14/8700 Wurzburg, West Germany.

—Peter Below

Joyce Cutler Shaw writes that there is a remarkable show of her work that is available for an exhibition. The show, **The Lady and the Bird IV**, an exhibition of photographs and texts by Joyce Cutler Shaw, is now in Switzerland but can easily be shipped for exhibition purposes.

All the works can be contained in a carton of approximately 12 x 8 x 20 inches or no more than 40 inches in its total dimensions and weighing no more than ten pounds.

Gallery installation space required is variable and can be installed effectively using from 60 running feet to a total of up to 200 running feet depending upon the installation and the number of works included.

For further information, contact Joyce Cutler Shaw, c/o Umbrella.

The Editor of Umbrella collects not only objects, postcards, clippings, and actual umbrellas, but also collects buttons—usually buttons that refer to art, publishing, books and that are not for sale except by a non-profit organization. If you have buttons that refer to art, books, publishing, etc., please send them along. I have buttons to exchange as well.

INTER - DADA 80