



Following the UNIBZ Design Festival 2012, the Faculty of Design and Art of the Free University of Bozen Bolzano is happy to launch a new project! The temporary platform *Centre Periphery* is an opportunity for design students from Bozen Bolzano and other schools (national and abroad) to meet, discuss and produce artefacts within a 4-days long workshop. The daily work activities during *Centre Periphery* will involve public discussions and a series of main talks around the theme that gives the title to the project. *Centre Periphery* will offer the opportunity to be part of a varied debate, together with internationally renowned guests and teachers of the Faculty of Design and Art of the Free University of Bozen Bolzano.

Every day, during *Centre Periphery*, we will be working together on the development of original projects in the spaces and workshops of the Faculty of Design and Art of the Free University of Bozen Bolzano. Every evening there will be public lectures by the visiting designers followed by food/drinks and music.

The three main fields of action of the invited designers can be summarised with the terms *signs*, *objects* and *space*. Coherently with the interdisciplinary approach of our Faculty, we wish to combine in a single project different issues that characterise the design discipline and can be mixed in experimental forms of production like two- and three-dimensional design connected to innovative spatial interventions. The guest designers will develop a brief, inspired by the motto of the event *Centre Periphery*. During this event, that is going to take the form of a "late summer school", they will supervise the activities of 60 selected participants.

Nobody can argue that Bozen Bolzano is located within the accredited geographical centres where the international debate on design is happening today. Despite a flourishing economy, the main enterprises generally connected to the design world are located somewhere else. Bozen Bolzano

Festival's visiting designers:

Roosje Klap
Thomas Vailly
Gruppe
Zak Kyes



does not lie on the route connecting the so-called design capitals worldwide. Our question is if the inevitable shift in the viewpoint induced by the localisation of our university could be able to generate a different approach to the design methods and practices that we daily deal with. Being far away from the established centres offers, for example, a challenging proximity to other forms of production like a handicraft that deepens its roots in an ancient tradition and offers stimulating input for possible reinterpretations.

What comes to mind when talking about centre? Which are the structural elements that influence its definition? Is it still current to talk about centre and periphery in an age characterised by the ubiquity provided by internet flows that expose projects and thoughts about them to an almost world-wide spread audience?

We decided to invite professionals from three clearly defined disciplines, but our intention is to investigate together the distance between the so-called centre and the periphery of each one of them. What happens if we abandon the security connected to the clear centre of a discipline and start exploring its blurry periphery where the boundaries melt into one another and generate a reciprocal influence that is able to completely change our perception of the so-called centre?

One main workshop will be offered by *Centre Periphery* under the joined guidance of Gruppe, Roosje Klap and Thomas Vailly. The workshop aims to be a transdisciplinary experience during which the participants will have the opportunity to engage with *signs*, *objects* and *spaces*, thought as a unity of expression. The workshop will be free and is open up to 60 participants. Design students from the Faculty of Design and Art of the Free University of Bozen Bolzano as well as students from other schools and young professionals are welcome.

Come to the periphery, join the centre!

Registration deadline:
17.08.14

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