Curators at Work. At School. The Learning Potential of Curatorial Practice

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Abstract

All projects which have ever been submitted to the media arts competition Prix Ars Electronica are recorded in an open access archive on the internet. Among them also those of u19 – freestyle computing or u19 – CREATE YOUR WORLD, the competition's category for young people. The attempt to classify this archive in a theoretical framework concludes in the hypothesis, that it is an (art) collection.

A so far theoretical study by Edlmair goes into the question, how school might be an appropriate place to work with u19 projects towards an exhibition. The author assumes that curators learn a lot about the topics, contents and particular exhibits of their exhibitions. The process of creating an exhibition lets curators concentrate on particular subjects, questions and objects for a period of time and leads to certain "arrangements in space".

The focus of the study is on the learning potential of curatorial and explorative practice of pupils at the age of 16 to 18 years.

The conception of exhibitions is based on curatorial approaches of Daniel Tyradellis' Thinking in Space and Herbert Lachmayer's Staging Knowledge.

Helga Kämpf-Jansen's concept of Aestetic Research provides the basis for subject-didactic pedagogical considerations and the pupils' practical work.

Keywords