



Property is Theft

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A solo exhibition by Oliver Ressler

MNAC – National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest

Curator: Adriana Oprea

2016



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10.11.2016 –
26.03.2017

VERNISAJ | OPENING
10.11.2016 19h00

MIERCURI – DUMINICĂ |
WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY
10H00 – 18H00

ACCES | ENTRANCE
CALEA 13 SEPTEMBRIE

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OLIVER RESSLER PROPRIETATEA E FURT PROPERTY IS THEFT

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Adriana Oprea

CU SPRIJINUL | WITH THE SUPPORT OF:
ERSTE FOUNDATION, BKA – KUNST,
OTTO MAUER FONDS



Property is theft! (*La propriété, c'est le vol!*), the famous declaration made by French anarchist Pierre-Joseph Proudhon in 1840, serves as the title of Austrian artist Oliver Ressler's first survey exhibition in Romania. The crisis of neoliberal capitalism is Oliver Ressler's favourite theme throughout his activity over the past twenty years, which can be seen as an investigation of the fundamentally economic understructure of all present social imbalances.



"Property is theft", wall text, 2016; "New Model Army", stand-in activists, 2016. Installation view: "Property is Theft", MNAC – National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest, 2016 (photo: Dani Gherca)



"Occupy, Resist, Produce" (with Dario Azzellini), 3-channel video installation, 2014-2015. Installation view: "Property is Theft", MNAC – National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest, 2016

Focusing on films and video installations, the selection of works on display raises the issue of global warming in relation with the financial crisis from 2008 and the process of rampant privatization that has been taking place in the former communist countries. These topics are presented through the reaction of people

and the social movement to them – the strikes, protests, blockades of fossil fuel industry and occupation of factories and squares (*Occupy!*) that have recently occurred. In the context of aggravating ecological, social and political problems, Oliver Ressler tackles the current economic crisis through a range of kaleidoscopic points of view around one single profound, apparently insolvable issue: contemporary capitalism.



"Everything's coming together while everything's falling apart", 2-channel video installation, 2016. Installation view: "Property is Theft", MNAC – National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest, 2016



"Take The Square", 3-channel video installation, 2012. Installation view: "Property is Theft", MNAC – National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest, 2016

Oliver Ressler's new 2-channel video installation "Everything's coming together while everything's falling apart" was produced for this exhibition with the support of ERSTE Foundation, BKA – Kunst and Otto Mauer Fonds.