



Die Bärensuppe, ein Kunstprojekt von Bilbo Calvez

For quite some time now, I've been thinking about the impact of money on our society and, in particular, why it seems so difficult for us to imagine a society without money.

When I say “without money”, I also mean “without exchange”; in other words, distancing ourselves and becoming free from the punishment/compensation system and to stop counting!

So, from the point of view: “I give, so we get.”

The conversion of activities into numbers, in terms of money, always advantages some, usually the few. It is never fair and engenders a great deal of corruption and catastrophic consequence at the human, animal and environmental level.

Nevertheless, living without money is a step most of us see as impossible.

Most of us fear that a society without money – that is without exchange – would mean chaos and rampant criminality.

But could the current world situation, where a few people own nearly all the wealth of the planet, become worse? A world, in which production is geared only to generate money, a world where objects are conceived to break down, and quickly land in the rubbish bin, so that more need to be produced, bought and thrown away? A world where most of the people do not have enough to eat, in which animals are treated like cheap objects and where nature is destroyed so unscrupulously?

Of course, a moneyless society would require organization, structures and rules. Problems would arise and would need solutions.

With the multimedia exhibition “Die Bärensuppe” I would like to offer a protected space where, instead of panic, aggression or nihilistic reactions, the theme of a moneyless society can be approached open-mindedly and positive visions expanded.

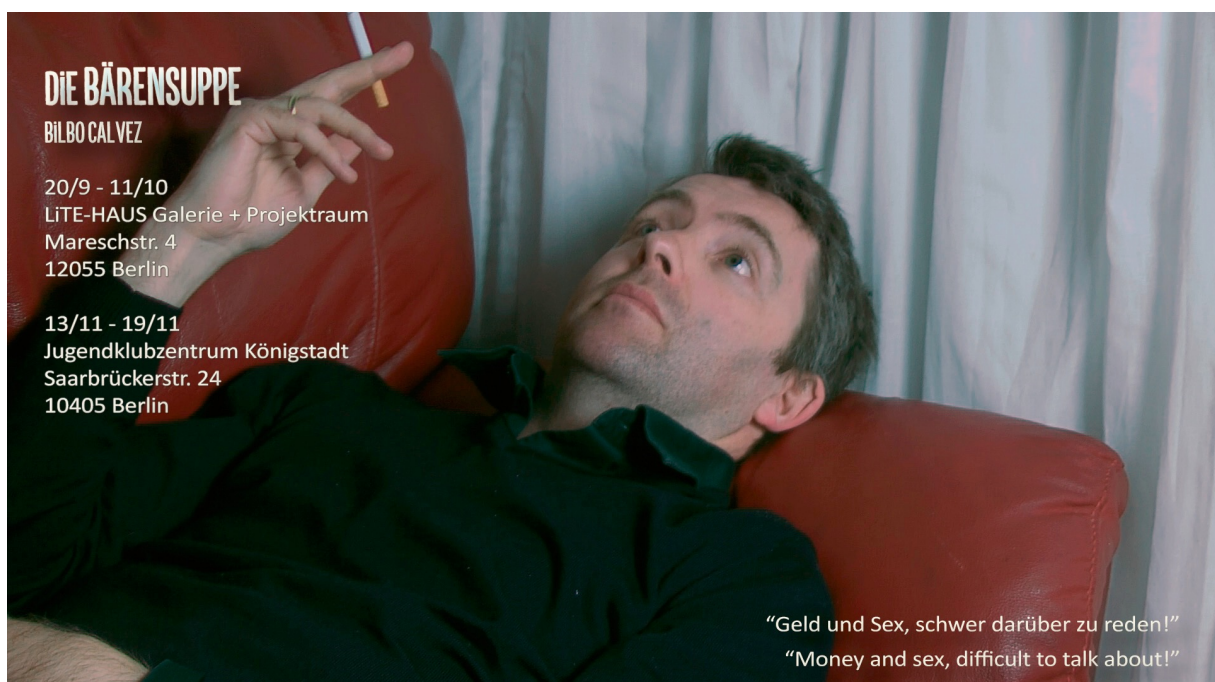
What money does to us.

In front of the main exhibition room you will find 2 interactive installations, a confessional and a therapy room.

The interactive confessional is divided in a space where the visitor can see the confessions of former penitents and a space where he gives their own confession. All of them are confessing sins committed for money as framed by their own sense of morality, rather than in a necessarily illegal sense.



The therapy room is built after the same principle. This time, the people can listen how former patients speak about their money worries, and how money makes them sick and affects their lives or lies on the couch.



In both case, the participants will be filmed and parts of the footage added at night to the confession and therapy loops.

The loops will therefore grow daily. I want to show that everyone's life is affected by money, that the sins and the sicknesses induced by money know no borders and affect each and every one of us.

The identity of the penitents will remain secret. They are masked and their voices anonymized through a vocoder.

The informations

In another room you will find informations about people or projects who bring us a step closer to a world where money will be just a strange remembering...

12 Interviews will be screened. With people like Raphael Fellmer (Happy without Money), Enno Schmidt (Basic Income), Alicia (anarchistic commune), Jörg Platzer (Bitcoins) and so on.

The blog

In a blog which is usable for the exhibitions audience and also from outside, people can discuss the stand of the soup and also discuss the topic.

The Soup

Those who know me well, know I very frequently use the word "soup". I find this word, to be a useful symbol for anything and everything. Ask me about the meaning of life, I might answer "to put something good in the soup!" or "Do your best so that the soup tastes good!" I also use this symbol for other concepts, the galactic soup, the energy soup, the information soup, the souls soup...

This time I want to make my favorite metaphor real: a soup will be cooked!

The soup will cook 4 weeks long and during this time, it should never be finished. Throw in the soup what you have and eat what you need. Basic human needs will be satisfied: food, warmth, communication and a protecting roof.

Of course, there are other ways to participate in the soup apart from bringing vegetables. You can cook, serve, clean the dishes, bring some nice soup plates, a good wine, or simply a smile. The room will be very spartan at the start of the exhibition to allow space for initiative and participation.

Responsibility, initiative, participation will be exercised in a small setting. We grew up in the belief that humanity has to trust money. Here, we can learn to trust people and to seriously question the taboo topic money. In a protected space. In peace.

"Die Bärensuppe" will cook from 20th September until 11th October 2016 in the LiTE-HAUS Galerie + Projektraum in Berlin-Neukölln and also from 13th November until 19th November in the Jugendkulturzentrum Königstadt in Berlin-Mitte.

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www.baerensuppe.berlin
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