



Government Policy, Cultural Production, Personal Privacy

A Workshop • September 10, 2004



On Friday, September 10, 2004 a public workshop "**Government Policy, Cultural Production, Personal Privacy**" was held at the UB Center for the Arts. Organized by the UB Art Galleries and UB Law School, and hosted by the Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy, this interdisciplinary workshop addressed the impact of government policies on cultural production and personal privacy, and the art sector's response to censorship.

The first of two afternoon panels was a historical discussion of the McCarthy era and the ramifications of the 1966 Freedom of Information Act on the visual arts. The second panel addressed contemporary threats to free expression, focusing on the Patriot Act, censorship in the arts, and trends in the age of the Internet.

In conjunction with the workshop, the UB Art Galleries presented two contemporary art exhibitions: "Arnold Mesches: The FBI Files" and a group exhibition "Shutters," which explored the interface of monitoring strategies and domestic spaces.

PROGRAM & PARTICIPANTS

Screening Room, UB Center for the Arts

1:00 to 3:00 pm Panel No. 1: The Past

A historical discussion of the McCarthy era and the ramifications of the 1966 Freedom of Information Act on the visual arts.

Moderator: Sandra Firmin, Associate Curator, UB Art Galleries

- **Nancy Buchanan** Artist & Professor, School of Film and Video, CalArts
- **David Craven** Professor, Department of Art History, University of New Mexico
- **Arnold Mesches** Artist & Professor, University of Florida, Gainesville
- **Nils Olsen** Professor and Dean, UB Law School

3:15 to 5:15 pm Panel No. 2: The Present

Contemporary threats to free expression, focusing on the Patriot Act, censorship in the arts, and trends in the age of the Internet.

Moderator: George Kannar, Professor, UB Law School

- **Lee Albert** Professor, UB Law School
- **Niels Bonde** Artist & Professor, Malmö Art Academy, Copenhagen
- **Marjorie Heins** Founding Director, The Free Expression Policy Project; Fellow, Brennan Center for Justice, NYU School of Law
- **Svetlana Mintcheva** Director, Arts Advocacy, National Coalition Against Censorship
- **Miguel Ruiz** Assistant Professor, DLIS, UB School of Informatics

5:00 - 7:00 pm Receptions: UB Art Galleries

Closing reception for the exhibition "Arnold Mesches: The FBI Files" and opening reception for the exhibition "Shutters."



Government Policy, Cultural Production, Personal Privacy

A Workshop • September 10, 2004



Program

UB Center for the Arts, Screening Room

- 1:00** **Welcome by Lynn Mather**, Director of the Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy
Introduction by Sandra H. Olsen, Director, UB Art Galleries

Panel No. 1: The Past

A historical discussion of the McCarthy era and the ramifications of the 1966 Freedom of Information Act on the visual arts.

Moderator: Sandra Firmin, Associate Curator, UB Art Galleries

Nils Olsen, Professor and Dean, UB Law School

Under the Wire Into the Open: The Making of the FOIA

Arnold Mesches, Artist and Professor, University of Florida, Gainesville

The FBI Files

Nancy Buchanan, Artist and Professor, School of Film and Video, CalArts

Atoms for Security: Citizen Surveillance after World War II

David Craven, Professor, Department of Art History, University of New Mexico

The Freedom of Information Act, FBI Surveillance of Artists and Opposition to the Post-War Pax Americana

3:15 **Panel No. 2: The Present**

Contemporary threats to free expression, focusing on the Patriot Act, censorship in the arts, and trends in the age of the internet.

Moderator: George Kannar, Professor, UB Law School

Marjorie Heins, Founding Director, The Free Expression Policy Project; Fellow, Brennan Center for Justice, NYU School of Law

"Structural" Free Expression Issues: Copyright, Media Concentration, and Conditions on Funding

Lee Albert, Professor, UB Law School

The Perils to Privacy and Liberty of Waging War on Fear and Insecurity

Miguel Ruiz, Assistant Professor, DLIS, UB School of Informatics

Surveillance, Privacy, and the "Chilling" of Free Expression: What the Technology Can (and Cannot) Do

Niels Bonde, Artist and Professor, Malmo Art Academy, Copenhagen

Don't Forget Your Tin Foil Hat: One European Perspective on Surveillance Through the Filter of Art and Culture

Svetlana Mintcheva, Director, Arts Advocacy, National Coalition Against Censorship

Contemporary Arts Censorship: Issues in the United States – Politics, Religion, and Surveillance

- 5:15** **Closing remarks by Nils Olsen**, Dean and Professor, UB Law School

5:00 - 7:00 **Receptions: UB Art Galleries**

Closing reception for the exhibition "Arnold Mesches: The FBI Files"

Opening reception for the exhibition "Shutters"

Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy, 511 O'Brian Hall, University at Buffalo Law School
Buffalo, NY 14260 tel: (716) 645-2102 www.law.buffalo.edu/baldycenter