

Life on earth is solely made up of relationships.
If you fall, I fall. If you breathe, I breathe.
The movements of space, planets, winds and tides make us move together.
We are linked and enmeshed together, and eternally meet - again and again, as one whole.
Let's create a space for this elegant corpse, so that it can blossom.
A place to draw lines between strangers.
Linking hands, clicking tongues, a forum where voices echo each other.

Fragment from the RIBOCA2 film:
https://bit.ly/RIBOCALAB_Relations



RELATIONS

OBJECT: Artist Paweł Althamer's project **Draftsmen's Congress** has been exhibited before, and its major theme is the desire to create emotional bonds between strangers, and to create an environment which encourages empathy and the formation of relationships. The essence of this work could be compared with the Ancient Roman forum, an open place for exchanging and encouraging discussion.

CONTEXT: Paweł Althamer says of his method of bringing people together: "My role is to integrate [...] It is just work, and it is the basis of artists' work, reaching into the past back to the times of wizards and shamans." He quotes the important ideas of German artist Joseph Beuys. Beuys fought to expand art to reach what he called social sculpture, and it is the same ethics upon which **Draftsmen's Congress** is based. Art and life come together as one, and the act of mutual creation becomes a social and universal binding agent.

TASK: **Create your own draftsmen's congress** with your classmates, either within the class or, creating a bigger project, involving your other schoolmates. To take part in the draftsmen's congress, you will need a white A4 sheet of paper and a pencil. Before starting your drawing, try to answer these questions: what do you believe to be **aesthetic**? Do you think that art nowadays is aesthetic? Do you prefer aesthetic art, or the opposite?

Once you have thought about the answers to these questions and come to your own conclusions, **draw** your own drawing.

Bring all your works **together** so they can all be seen at once.

Discuss the work as a whole with your classmates (is it aesthetic, etc.)

DEFINITIONS: **Ancient Roman forum:** the central square in a city, a location for public gatherings, courts and markets.

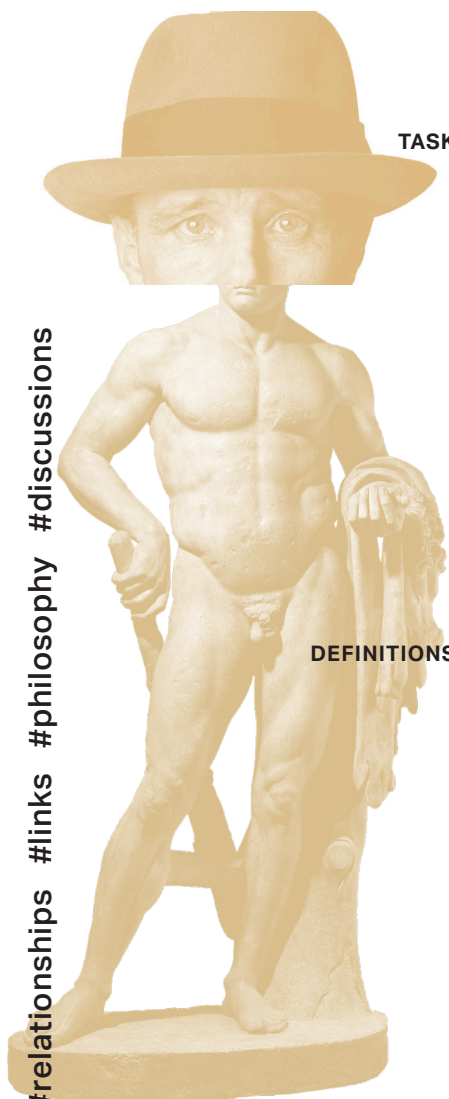
Aesthetics: a branch of philosophy that deals with questions of beauty, art and creation.

Joseph Beuys believed that each person is an artist, and everything a person does can become art. Beuys uses the words "social sculpture" to describe processes which, rather than staying limited to a finished work, involve the creative thinking and actions of people.

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#relationships #links #philosophy #discussions



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