

CURATORIAL READING GROUP

OUT OF THE LIBRARY

READING LISTS

04

Maria Fusco

LIBRARY GUIDE

PUBLICS

LIBRARY

PUBLICS is a curatorial and contemporary art commissioning agency with a dedicated library, exhibition and event space and reading room in Vallila, Helsinki. The organisation explores an institutional 'work together' model with multiple overlapping objectives, thematic strands and collaborations. The space functions as a public event space, with a library of 8000+ publications.

PUBLICS hosts reading groups, talks, events, exhibitions and performances in collaboration with other partners in the city, nationally and internationally. PUBLICS is a peer-to-peer educational platform and a critical agency where artists, curators, researchers, students, communities and professionals are invited to engage with social issues, as well as gain and share knowledge through various discourses. At PUBLICS, contemporary art production and discursive practices are in constant dialogue through multiple strands. Taking the form of PUBLICS Library and its public program of Talks, Events and Commissions, these overlapping strands are organised alongside PUBLICS Youth program, placing art education, critical research and publicness at the core of curatorial practice.

PUBLICS LIBRARY AS CURATORIAL PRACTICE

↳ PUBLICS takes the Library as one starting point for Curatorial Thinking. PUBLICS thinks with the Library, with its readers, its guests.

Thinking can begin with one book, but then on to another, and another, a different kind of conversation takes place.

Having books side by side is more than the sum of their parts; it's being in contradiction to one another; it's being plural. Arranging things together and working in groups is a productive form of collaboration.

PUBLICS Methodology and Curatorial Thinking (re-)imagines PUBLICS Library:

Library as collection of bodies,
books, words, ideas

Library as process

Library as lived time and space,
sometimes in between

Library as past, present, and future publics

Library as form and content

Library as resource

Library as reference

Library as space for gathering, participating,
and producing

Library as conversation

Library as setting for events, exhibitions,
interventions, and art making

Library as public practice

Library as listening and reading,
and writing

Library as slow programming

Library as body practice

Library as its people

Library as remembering;
as collective memories,

Library as traces, remainders, reminders

Library as educational;
as learning,
as counter-knowledge

Library as institution;
as instituting

Library as organising and organisational
structure

Library as map

Library as work-together model

Library as host and guest

Library as parahosting

Library as shared and sharing

Library as publisher and distributor

Library as curator and commissioner

Library as making research public in public

Library as resistance

WHAT IS PUBLICS LIBRARY?

↳ PUBLICS Library is a public research space dedicated to critical social thinking, learning and education – a place for coming together, discussing, reading and thinking about contemporary art and its many publics. The library is dedicated to representing and challenging the many concepts, theories and practices of curating contemporary art and publicness.

PUBLICS Library is the largest dedicated contemporary art curatorial library in Finland and the Nordic Region, housing the most important books and catalogues related to contemporary art curating since the 1960s as well as rare and out-of-print content, with purchases from and donations by some of the leading figures of contemporary art over the last thirty years.

As our program changes with every season, we organise and host book launches, lectures, talks, reading groups, presentations, symposiums and other publication-related events and exhibitions with local and international guests.

In 2024 PUBLICS launched The Centre For Curatorial Thinking, a new centre in the Nordic and Baltic region focusing on the significance of past and present



thinking, knowledge, and critique within practices of the curatorial.

With The Centre For Curatorial Thinking, PUBLICS provides a critical framework to engage different levels of expertise and local groups in the region and internationally, making visible, developing, and disseminating critical knowledge of curatorial practices with a wide range of institutions and actors.

Through The Centre For Curatorial Thinking, PUBLICS co-curates a program of archival exhibitions, listening sessions, and the Curatorial Reading Group. The aim of the centre is to provide a platform for local curators and art professionals to interact with international colleagues who have contributed to the evolution of innovative curatorial practices of the last sixty years or so.

Each session of the Curatorial Reading Group will be accompanied by an exhibition at PUBLICS of reading and archival material related to our pioneering guests. The aim of this group is to encourage and facilitate interactions between local and international art professionals and curators.

PUBLICS Library is structured around the following 16 categories:

- P1 PHILOSOPHY
- P2 ART THEORY
- P3 PUBLIC ART
- P4 CURATORIAL
- P5 GROUP SHOWS
- P6 ART WRITING
- P7 BIENNIALS
- P8 SOLO SHOWS
- P9 BOOK SERIES
- P10 SMALL
- P11 EDUCATION
- P12 NEW
- P13 ARCHIVE
- P14 MAGAZINES
- P15 SOUND
- P16 FOREIGN LANGUAGE



OUT OF THE LIBRARY

↳ Every now and then we bring attention to some of the Library contents, and focus upon some key topics and thematics. Out of the Library lists are compiled by invited guests, artists, curators, PUBLICS staff and highlight publications under selected subjects. The lists offer a wide range of materials for study and research and serve as thematic guides to our Library collection.

Out of the Library lists can be found online and books are available to browse on site at PUBLICS. As the program keeps on growing, please find a list:

- Maaretta Jaukkuri & Tominga O'Donnell
- Maria Lind & Martí Manen
- Brian Dillon
- Maria Fusco
- AA Bronson & Gareth Long

- Shimmer & Gordon Hall
- Black Studies
- Education
- 2084
- The Publishing Reader
- Nomadism
- Collaborative Articulations
- Geographies of Resistance
- WITH Askeaton Contemporary Arts



GORDON HALL, SET (IX), COMMISSION

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Curatorial Reading Group:
Maria Fusco
9 October, 2024

MARIA FUSCO
SUGGESTED READING

- Fusco, Maria, *Who Does Not Envy with Us is Against Us: Three Essays on Being Working-class* (Broken Sleep Books, United Kingdom, 2023)
- Riley, Denise, 'Lyric Shame', p. 68-72, in *Shame and Modern Writing* (Taylor & Francis, United Kingdom, 2018)
- Rosenkrantz, Linda, p. 5-36, in *Peter Hugar's Day* (Magic Hour Press, United Kingdom, 2022)

MARIA FUSCO
FURTHER BACKGROUND READING

- Febos, Melissa, *Body Work: The Radical Power of Personal Narrative* (Manchester University Press, United Kingdom, 2022)
- Hartman, Saidiya, *Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments* (Serpent's Tail, United Kingdom, 2021)
- Howe, Fanny, *Night Philosophy* (Divided Publishing, Belgium, 2020)
- Wark, McKenzie, 'Critical (Auto) Theory' in e-flux Journal, Issue #140

BOOKS EDITED, CO-EDITED OR WRITTEN
BY MARIA FUSCO IN PUBLICS LIBRARY

→ Fusco, Maria, *Who Does Not Envy with Us is Against Us: Three Essays on Being Working-class*

(Broken Sleep Books, United Kingdom, 2023)

→ Fusco, Maria, ed., *Dialecty Chapbooks*

(Book Works & The Common Guild, United Kingdom, 2018)

→ Fusco, Maria, *Give Up Art*

(New Documents, United States, 2017)

→ Fusco, Maria, *With A Bao A Qu Reading when Attitudes Become Form*

(New Documents, United States, 2013)

→ Fusco, Maria, *The Mechanical Copula*

(Sternberg Press, Belgium, 2010)

→ Fusco, Maria, Hunt, Ian, eds., *Put About:*

A Critical Anthology on Independent Publishing

(Book Works, United Kingdom, 2004)

→ Birkett, Richard, Fusco, Maria, eds., *Cosey Complex*

(Walther König, Germany, 2012)

BOOKS WITH CONTRIBUTION BY MARIA FUSCO
IN PUBLICS LIBRARY

→ Haylock Brad, Patty Megan, eds., *Art Writing in Crisis*

(MIT Press, Germany, 2021)

→ Khonsary, Jeff, O'Brian, Melanie, eds.,

Judgment and Contemporary Art Criticism

(Artspeak, Canada, 2010)

THE HAPPY HYPOCRITE SERIES

IN PUBLICS LIBRARY

→ Fusco, Maria, ed., *The Happy Hypocrite, Without Reduction, Issue 12*

(Book Works, United Kingdom, 2021)

→ Scourti, Erica, ed., *The Happy Hypocrite, Silver Bandage, Issue 11*

(Book Works, United Kingdom, 2019)

→ Januškevičiūtė, Virginija, ed., *The Happy Hypocrite, Tolstoyevsky, Issue 10*

(Book Works, United Kingdom, 2018)

→ Sawtell, Hannah, ed., *The Happy Hypocrite, #ACCUMULATOR _ PLUS, Issue 9*

(Book Works, United Kingdom, 2016)

→ Al-Maria, Sophia, ed., *The Happy Hypocrite, Fresh Hell, Issue 8*

(Book Works, United Kingdom, 2015)

- Leaver-Yap, Mason, ed., *The Happy Hypocrite, Heat Island*, Issue 7
(Book Works, United Kingdom, 2014)
- Tillman, Lynne, ed., *The Happy Hypocrite, Freedom*, Issue 6
(Book Works, United Kingdom, 2013)
- Fusco, Maria, ed., *The Happy Hypocrite, What Am I?*, Issue 5
(Book Works, United Kingdom, 2010)
- Fusco, Maria, ed., *The Happy Hypocrite, A Rather Large Weapon*, Issue 4
(Book Works, United Kingdom, 2009)
- Fusco, Maria, ed., *The Happy Hypocrite, Volatile Dispersal: Speed and Reading*, Issue 3
(Book Works, United Kingdom, 2009)
- Fusco, Maria, ed., *The Happy Hypocrite, Linguistic Hardcore*, Issue 1
(Book Works, United Kingdom, 2008)

MARIA FUSCO

Maria Fusco is an award winning working-class writer. Born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, she now lives and works in Scotland, where she is Professor Interdisciplinary Writing at the University of Dundee. Her work is protean in nature, characterised by critical attention to intersectional socio-economic circumstances through an experimental lens. Working across performance and theoretical writing, she is the author of eight books and four large scale performances, her writing is translated into ten languages. Her most recent projects are *History of the Present*, an avant garde opera-film about the legacies of defensive architecture in Belfast, which is co-directed with artist Margaret Salmon with new music by Annea Lockwood, and *Who does not envy with us is against us*, a book of lyric essays about working-class-ness as method (both 2023).

NOTES

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PHOTO CREDITS
p. 5, 8 → Noora Lehtovuori
p. 6 → Aman Askarizad

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Talteen edistämiskeskus
Centret för konstfrämjande
Arts Promotion Centre Finland

PUBLICS

Sturenkatu 37-41 4b
00550 Helsinki, Finland

OPENING HOURS

PUBLICS Library is open every
Wednesday 12-6pm and by
appointment.

To book an appointment, donate a
publication or ask a question, please
contact one of our staff members.

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