Course description

Title of the course: The Story of the Coincidence

Tutors of the course, contact details

Martin Kollar (studio@martinkollar.com)

https://www.martinkollar.com/				
Code M-KH-E-201-FS- 252601-06, B-KH-201-FS- 252601-06	Related curriculum Photography BA, MA	Recommended semester within the curriculum	Credits -	Number of class hours: 20 Student working hours: 20
Related codes	Type workshop	Can it be an elective course?	In the case of elective, what are the specific prerequisites -	

Course connections (prerequisites, parallelism) -

Topics and themes to be covered in the course



In this immersive workshop, internationally acclaimed Slovak photographer Martin Kollar invites photography students to explore the unexpected, the unplanned, and the uncanny through the lens of coincidence. Known for his distinctive visual language that blurs the line between documentary and fiction, Kollar will guide participants in sharpening their observational instincts and embracing serendipity as a creative force.

Over the course of the workshop, students will engage in fieldwork, group discussions, and portfolio reviews, learning how to recognize and capture fleeting moments that resist narrative conventions yet tell powerful, ambiguous stories. Emphasis will be placed on cultivating a

personal vision, navigating uncertainty, and understanding the role of chance in photographic storytelling.

Keywords: documentary, European, memories, surveillance, responsible art, borders, observing, reinventing tradition, collective action

Martin Kollar (1971) Born in Zilina in Czechoslovakia (now Slovak Republic), studied at the Academy of Performing Arts Bratislava, the Film faculty, camera department. He has been working as a freelance photographer and cinematographer since he graduated there. He has received several grants and awards, including the Prix Elysee and Oskar Barnack Award. His work has been exhibited across the world, including Brooklyn Museum, the Slovak National Gallery (Bratislava), Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin, Germany, Tel Aviv museum of art and Musee Elysee (Lausanne).

His previous books include, Nothing Special (Actes-Sud, 2008), Cahier (Diaphane, 2011) Field Trip (MACK, 2013) Catalogue (Slovak National Gallery, 2015) Provisional arrangement (Mack/ Musee Elyse 2016) and AFTER (Mack, 2021). His work has been part of the public institutional collections as Victoria and Albert Museum, Fonds national d'art contemporain (FNAC), The Centre national des arts plastiques (CNAP), Slovak national Gallery and others. As a cinematographer, Martin has worked on a number of films, including 107 MORHERS (2021) KOZA (2015), VELVET TERRORISTS (2013), COOKING HISTORY (2009), 66 SEASONS (2003) and others. He made his directorial feature debut, 5 OCTOBER (2016).

Tasks and responsibilities

independent topic proposal / consultation, fieldwork, execution, presentation / creation of works

Aim and principles of the course

The aim of the workshop is to develop a series of photographs

- > It establishes the unity of the concept, the medium
- > photographic production
- > express your independent creative ideas in an adequate visual form along a complex concept

Specificities of process organization / organization of learning

Meetings are from Monday to Thursday at 10:00-13:40

Venue: M_206

Assessment

The students will exhibit their work prepared for the assignments at the end of the week.

Method of assessment

presentation and exhibition of works