

+From [the Image of the Action] +To [the Action of the Image]

We invite you to an international meeting of videoactivists between 18-25th of March 2008 in Ankara!

Videoactivist collectives from all around the world are invited, especially from geographies under repressive regimes where political and social struggles are tense requiring videoactivists to witness and record the (hi)stories on the streets.

Our first aim is to meet with different groups and share experiences and skills. In this context, we will discuss the following; the current political and social situation in the country of each group, how to survive as a collective, and how to go beyond one's level of videoactivist production (from recording to distributing 'our voice') under the given conditions of the countries where we reside.

Our second aim is to create a platform for regular communication and cooperation.

We invite one videoactivist and one activist from each videoactivist collective to participate in this meeting with a work (i.e. a video) that the collective produced. We will watch these videos and discuss different practices and ways of collaboration of videoactivists and activists in different situations, different geographies and under different politics. Besides these discussions, we also plan to discuss the following;

Your contribution to the program is very welcome!

[Possible topics]

- +re/writing history
- +time and memory- how do societies remember
- +witnessing/observing/peeping
- +where/who does the image belong to: issues of ownership
- +the gaze/position of the camera(theory and in action)
- +the position of the mass media: what separates 'us' from 'them'?
- +the responsibility/morality of the camera
- +the relationship between the editing and the recorded 'reality'
- +sharing technical resources
- +means of production and distribution as an empowering tool
- +financial challenges
- +the way videos and collectives relate themselves to social opposition, the state and capital,
- +organization within collectives,
- +organization among different collectives.

[fruits]

We want to produce

- a DVD of the videos of each participant collective,
- a BOOKLET summarizing discussions from the meeting with articles on the discussed topics.
- a regular news-DVD titled 'News from the Unvoiced!' that is published every 3 months, with subtitles, which would include the latest works of each collective.

If you want to join this meeting, please contact us with details about your organization and info on the video you will submit. Groups from the Balkans, Latin America, Africa, Middle East, Caucasus and X-USSR are more than welcome!

Note: We are currently searching for independent funds for this project.

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Karahaber VideoActivism Atelier(www.karahaber.org)