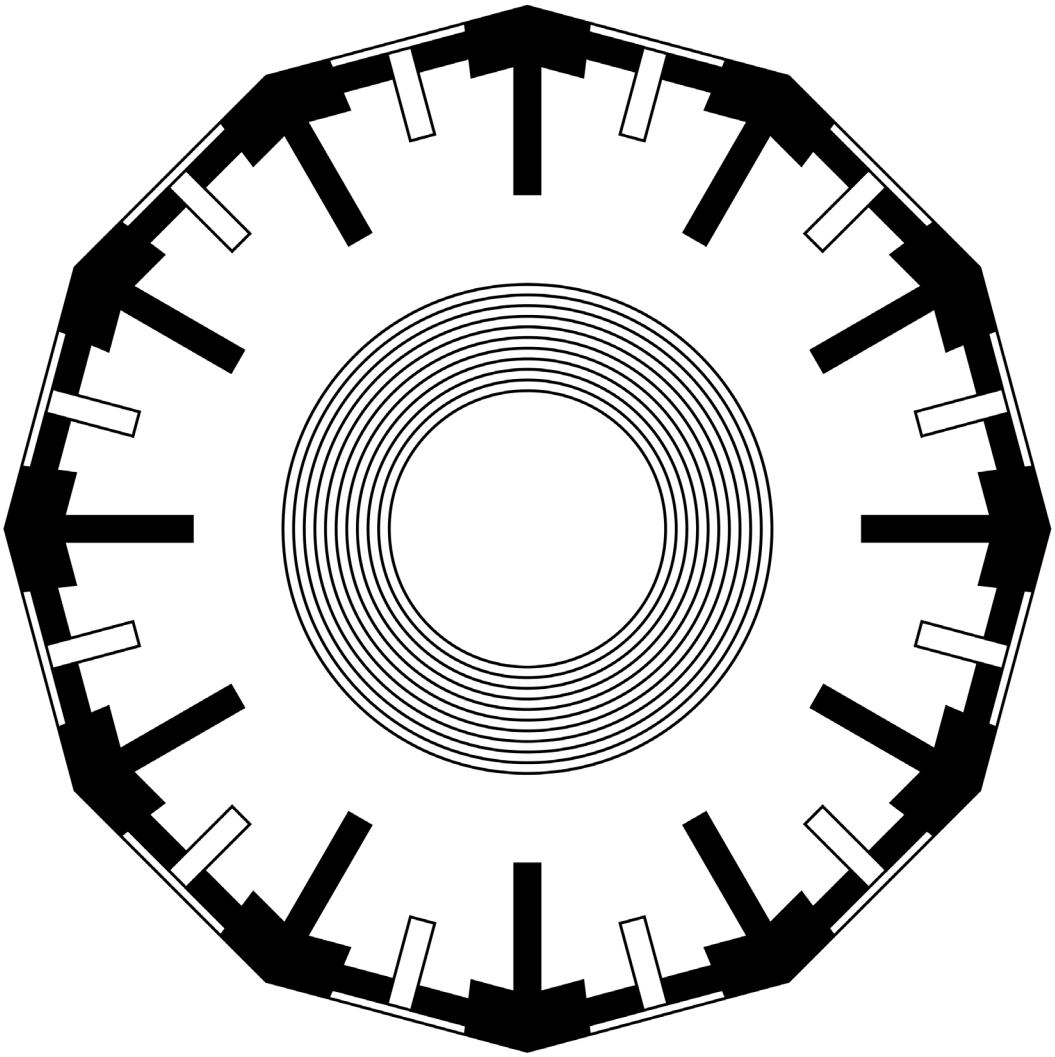
The Reverse-Panopticon, a brief introduction to AEI (Aesthetically Enhanced Interrogation)

Ric Bower, Nástio Mosquito & Kelly Schacht

with special guests: Tom Clulee, Rhiannon Lowe, & Steve Chivalry



The Reverse-Panopticon, digital print, Ric Bower, Nástio Mosquito & Kelly Schacht, ArcadeCampfa, 2019

Campfa Gallery July 19th - August 24th 2019

Artists Ric Bower, Nástio Mosquito and Kelly Schacht present a multifaceted alternative vision for how the fictitious nation of Botrovia might use aesthetic visual experience as a vehicle for disclosing truth, within the nation's complex socio-political context.

The artists' arenas of aesthetic enquiry extend from Western academic drawing processes, through to tattooing and quasi-scientific techniques that employ aesthetic gesture for a pragmatic purpose, such as the Rorschach Test. They invite their audience into a world where creative expression is just another method of societal control, and where soft power activities, such as drawing and tattooing, assume hard power roles.

The work manifests in multiple forms as the project progresses: Firstly there is a drawing class (directed by Fagot Koroviev (Ric Bower), the Minister of Security for Botrovia): then the Leader of Botrovia, A.L. Moore (Nástio Mosquito), delivers a personal recorded monologue, a performance for one, directly into the sound system of the Tactic δ:ASPM1b Enlightenment Hood worn by the drawing class model. The class model will sing a confessional song, under direction of A.L. Moore before receiving a tattoo from Koroviev, a mark of their engagement with the work. Meanwhile individuals from the Cardiff-based Iranian and Afghan refugee and asylum seeker communities, acting as the Botrovian Revolutionary Guard, administer Botrovian Truth Serum (vodka) to the drawing students and ensuring they fill out all the necessary Botrovian paperwork.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
Friday 19th July:
Drawing class performances with Koroviev in the Reverse-Panopticon space, Campfa: 5.30pm. Booking by Eventbrite.
Private View, July 19th 2019, 6pm-8pm, Campfa, Queens Arcade, Cardiff.

Saturday 20th July:
Drawing class performances with Koroviev in the Reverse-Panopticon space, Campfa 5.30pm

Further drawing classes to be announced on social media, booking by Eventbrite:

CONTACT:
clare@arcade-campfa.org
george@arcade-campfa.org

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR EDITORS:
What happens in the drawing classes?
Each of drawing classes will accommodate 12 students, will run for 40 minutes and will be taught by Fagot Koroviev, (Ric Bower), the Minister of Security for Botrovia, within the Reverse-Panopticon installation space at Arcade // Campfa starting on the 19th July 2019. The participants will learn some traditional academic drawing techniques whilst drinking ice cold Botrovian Truth Serum (vodka).

The classes will be watched over by the Botrovian Revolutionary Guard (members of the Cardiff Iranian community). Students who do not perform to Koroviev's expectation will be taken aside by the Botrovian Revolutionary Guard to engage in dialogue whilst Koroviev corrects the struggling student's work. Drawings that have been corrected by Koroviev will become 'the property of the Botrovian regime' and will be displayed as part of the Reverse-Panopticon installation.

The class model, who is seated in the centre of the Reverse-Panopticon wears the *Tactic δASPM1b Enlightenment Hood,* and receives an intimate communiqué from the Leader of Botrovia, A. L. Moore (Nástio Mosquito), through the hood's audio system. As a mark of their personal encounter with the Leader they



Another Leader, Act I, Security Research, Nástio Mosquito in collaboration with Ric Bower, 2016, commissioned by EMDASH Foundation, for CCQ Magazine

agree to be marked with the official Reverse-Panopticon tattoo (executed by Koroviev in a nearby tattoo parlour).

What is Botrovia?
Botrovia is a fictitious nation lead by A.L. Moore, a concept and character created and played by Nástio Mosquito, as part of his ongoing project Another Leader/Transitory Suppository, a rolling artwork that was initiated for Artes Mundi 7 in 2016.

Who is Fagot Koroviev?
As part of the Another Leader/Transitory Suppository narrative, (the project initiated by Nástio Mosquito), Ric Bower assumes the part of Fagot Koroviev, the Minister for Security of Botrovia. Koroviev is a character transposed from Bulgakov's novel The Master and Margarita; in the novel Koroviev is an anti-establishment demon subverting the totalitarian and pedantically bureaucratic organs of the Soviet state. Bower repurposes Bulgakov's Koroviev turning him into a figure of authority and an agent for change within the Botrovian regime. Koroviev is not bound by social or moral convention; he is endlessly inventive in his quest to rise to the challenges related to societal protection and governmental control, which he perceives the modern nation of Botrovia to be facing

About Arcade // Campfa
Arcade // Campfa is an artist-led gallery and project space located in the Queens Arcade shopping centre, central Cardiff. It comprises two shop units; Campfa is an exhibition space with a year-long programme of contemporary solo and group exhibitions. Arcade is an experimental project space which act as host for exhibitions, workshops, talks and events.
Twice a year Arcade // Campfa offers an artist, or collaborating artists, a six month residency resulting in an exhibition in one of the spaces. Arcade // Campfa also provides studios for artists at Arcade Studios in Fairwater, Cardiff.
https://arcade-campfa.org/

About Nástio Mosquito:
Nástio Mosquito is a multimedia, performance and spoken word artist. Often placing himself centre stage in the work, Mosquito deploys mimicry to explore global and African politics. He typically assumes roles not insomuch that they reflect his own cherished beliefs, but rather as an artifice to express cunning observations on human follies manifesting in modern life.
www.nastiomosquito.com

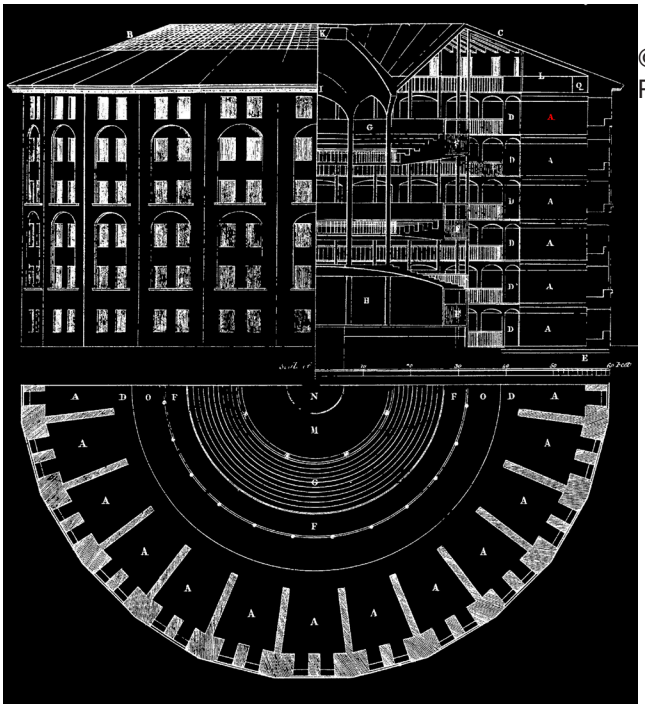
About Kelly Schacht:
Belgian artist Kelly Schacht plays with the notions of authorship and originality in her work. Both moments and objects from the past are rethought and become able to generate a renewed aesthetic. Schacht has exhibited internationally and her work is represented by Meessen De Clercq and Tegenboschvanvreden.
www.kellyschacht.be

About Ric Bower:
Ric Bower was a founding editor of CCQ magazine, a publication that sought to manifest art practice in a magazine format. His interests lie primarily in the role of the aesthetic as a vehicle for disclosing truth.
Bower has explored the Iranian art scene first hand and was drawn to the tension many artists experience between working with the government to produce propaganda, or choosing to operate completely outside of the state-sanctioned system. He now works closely with the refugee and asylum seeker community in Cardiff on a voluntary basis.
http://.ricbower.work
http://.ccqmagazine.com

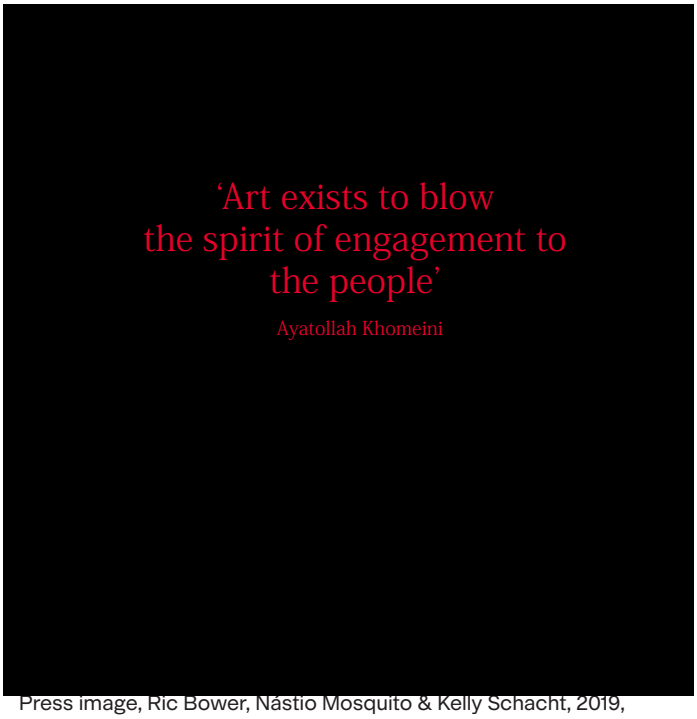
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With special thanks to:
The University of Portsmouth &
Cardiff Metropolitan University

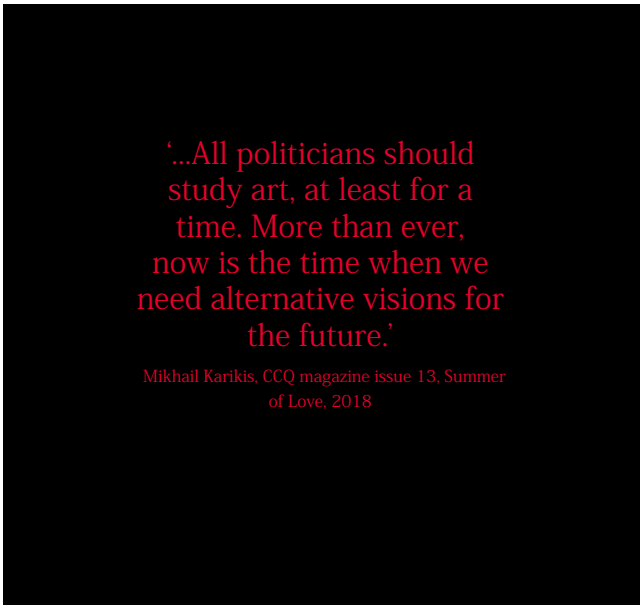
The project is supported by Arts Council Wales Lottery funding



© Ric Bower, Nástio Mosquito, Kelly Schacht, 2019
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Press image, Ric Bower, Nástio Mosquito & Kelly Schacht, 2019, courtesy Arcade // Campfa



Plan of Jeremy Bentham’s Panopticon penitentiary, drawn by Willey Reveley, 1791, The Reverse-Panopticon, Press image, Ric Bower, Nástio Mosquito & Kelly Schacht, 2019, courtesy Arcade // Campfa

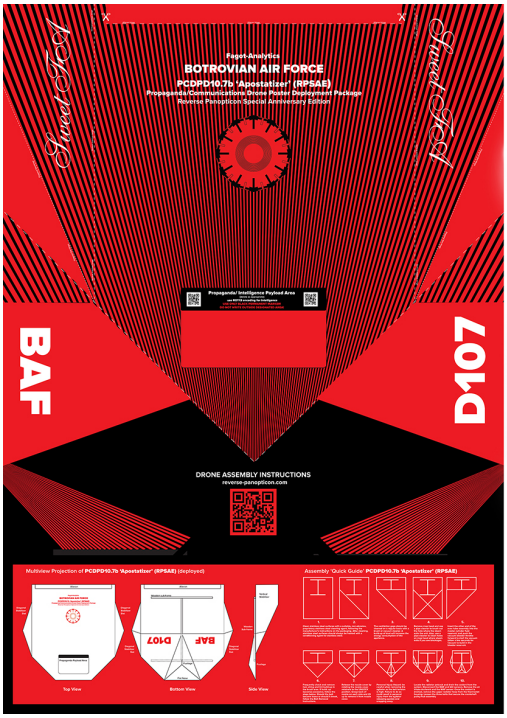
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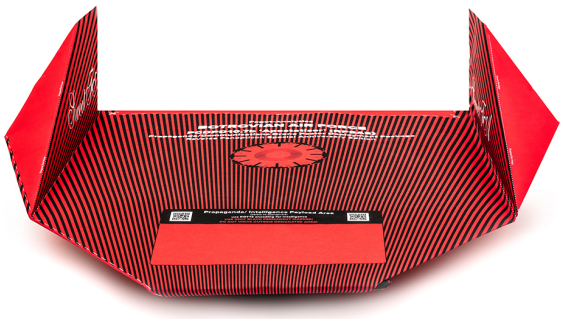


Illustrative drawing of the model wearing the Tactic δASPM1b Enlightenment Hood, after Parmigianino, The Reverse-Panopticon, © Ric Bower, Nástio Mosquito, Kelly Schacht, 2019, courtesy Arcade // Campfa



Trust Fagot: Fagot Koroviev, the Security Minister of the Nation State of Botrovia, (student number 529501) has achieved 90% at the OSHAcademy Professional Certificate Program 607 Tattoo and Body Art Safety. His training conformed with ANSI Z490.1 and ISO 45001 guidelines for safety. You will be pleased to hear the training also qualifies for Continuance of Certification (COC) toward professional recertification. Fagot received his qualification personally from Steven J. Geigle. MA, CET, CSHM-E. Reverse-Panopticon, **Ric Bower, Nástio Mosquito & Kelly Schacht**, Arcade-Campfa, 2019, Fagot's coat by **Tom Clulee**





Reverse-Panopticon, Special Anniversary Edition (RPSAE) Fagot-Analytics (FA), Propaganda/Communications Drone Poster Deployment Package PCDDP10.7b 'Apostatizer', Unhumanned Flying Machine (UFM) shown both in Deployed Condition (DC) and Pre-Deployed Condition (PDC) The Reverse-Panopticon, Press image, **Ric Bower, Nástio Mosquito & Kelly Schacht,** *2019, courtesy ArcadeCampfa, photo: Amber Bower*