

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Skinless Capital: Neoliberalism and Resistance **A Collaborative Art Installation**

OPENSOURCE Art in partnership with
Fetishizing the Free Market: The Cultural Politics of Neoliberalism,
Unit for Criticism & Interpretive Theory, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
April 29-30, 2005

<< construction >>

A simple definition of “neoliberalism” remains elusive: the term mutates as often as the global capitalism it seeks to describe. To provide a conceptual framework for the collaborative installation, *Skinless Capital: Neoliberalism and Resistance*, we have chosen to foreground:

- market expansion in social and cultural life, from the cult of the CEO to “competitive solutions” to social problems;
- the end of laissez faire: crony capitalism and government intervention on behalf of markets and corporations;
- the “global U.S.” and/or the third-worldization of U.S. labor

Skinless Capital will ask how artists and makers can resist neo-liberalism’s conflation of economic and cultural values. OPENSOURCE Art and the Unit for Criticism & Interpretive Theory seek collaborators for a gallery-wide installation to open on April 28, during the Unit’s international conference, *Fetishizing the Free Market: The Cultural Politics of Neoliberalism*.

We suggest (but do not require) that work responds to the following modes of resistance, as explained by Jan Nederveen Pietersee in his February 2005 Unit lecture, “Cultural Politics of Neoliberalism: Coding/Decoding/Recoding”:

- Cynicism (e.g., *Office Space*, *My New Filing Technique is Unstoppable*)
- Unplugging (“Off the Grid” culture, Luddism)
- Decoding (*Adbusters*, culture jamming, *No Logo*)
- Recoding (consumer boycotts, stakeholder society, corporate activism)

<< reconstruction >>

Skinless Capital will transform OPENSOURCE Art’s downtown Champaign gallery into an image-saturated space that conveys the scope, penetration, and limits of neoliberal economics and governmentality. We seek artists working in all media and encourage participants to manipulate our gallery, using its 1500 sq ft floor-space, combination of large and small rooms, and storefront windows to their fullest extent.

To view our space, stop by any Fri 3-7 & Sat 10-12; or email opensource@boxwith.com to make alternative arrangements. See <http://opensource.boxwith.com> for floor plans and diagrams.

<< timeline for proposals & installation >>

- By April 4: Email proposals to opensource@boxwith.com (250 words and/or jpegs)
Include full contact information
- April 8: Notification of acceptance
- April 17: Artist’s Meeting
- April 23-25: Work/Installation Days
- April 30: Opening Night and Party