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Zak Kyes, *1983, is a Swiss-American graphic designer based in London whose practise encompasses editing, publishing and curating. His work engages with publications and their dissemination as sites for debate and exchange rather than mere documentation. Kyes joined the Architectural Association as Art Director in September 2006. He curated the touring exhibition "Forms of Inquiry: The Architecture of Critical Graphic Design" and is the co-editor the accompanying catalogue (with Mark Owens, 2007) as well as *The Reader: Iaspis Forum on Design and Critical Practice* (Iaspis/Sternberg Press, 2009) and is the editor of *Exhibition Prosthetics* (Bedford Press/Sternberg Press, 2010).

In 2008 he co-founded Bedford Press, a private press and imprint of AA Publications. He currently teaches in the MA programme at ECAL/University of Art and Design, Lausanne and Architectural Association School of Architecture, London. He has lectured, juried, and taught workshops at London College of Communication; Architectural Association School of Architecture, Kunstencentrum Vooruit, Ghent, Belgium; Casco Projects, Utrecht, the Netherlands; Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam, the Netherlands; IASPIS, Stockholm, Sweden; Sint-Lucas beeldende kunst, Ghent, Belgium; Archizoom, Lausanne, Switzerland; and ECAL, Lausanne, Switzerland.

The activities of Z.A.K. studio include graphic design, publishing, editing, and curatorial projects. The studio is based in London since 2005 and currently consists of Zak Kyes and Grégory Ambos. Grégory Ambos is a french graphic designer working in London. He graduated from the ERBA Valence in 2007 and worked for one year at Sara De Bondt studio before joining Z.A.K. in September 2008.

EDUCATION

California Institute of the Arts, BFA '05 Fine Art/Graphic Design, Los Angeles, US;
Skidmore College (incomplete), Dept. Art History, Saratoga Springs, NY;

BIOGRAPHY

2006 – Present: Art Director, Architectural Association School of Architecture, London
2005 – Present: Z.A.K., design studio, London
2001 – 2006: Member, etoy artist collective, Zürich

BOOKS (authored, edited)

2010 'Exhibition Prosthetics', editor, Bedford Press/Sternberg Press, UK;
2010 'Iaspis Forum on Design and Critical Practice: The Reader', co-editor, IASPIS/Sternberg Press, UK;
2009 'Forms of Inquiry Annex', co-editor, Bedford Press, UK;
2007 'Forms of Inquiry: The Architecture of Critical Graphic Design', co-editor, AA Publications, UK;

EXHIBITIONS (curated)

2010 'Exhibition Prosthetics', AA Bookshop, London, UK
2009 'Forms of Inquiry: The Architecture of Critical Graphic Design', Archizoom, Lausanne, CH;
2009 'Forms of Inquiry: The Architecture of Critical Graphic Design', BolteLang, Zürich, CH;
2008 'Forms of Inquiry: The Architecture of Critical Graphic Design', IASPIS, Stockholm, SE;
2008 'Forms of Inquiry: The Architecture of Critical Graphic Design', Lux, FR;
2008 'Forms of Inquiry: The Architecture of Critical Graphic Design', Casco, NL;
2007 'Forms of Inquiry: The Architecture of Critical Graphic Design', Architectural Association, UK;

TEACHING, WORKSHOPS, JURIES

2009 – Present, Guest Professor, MA in Art Direction, ÉCAL, Lausanne, CH;
2007 – Present, Media Studies Tutor, Architectural Association School of Architecture, London, UK;
2009 Histories and Theories Tutor, Architectural Association School of Architecture, London;
2009 Workshop, MA programme, OTIS, Los Angeles, USA;
2009 Workshop, 'Almost Local', ÉCAL, Lausanne, CH;
2008 External Juror, ÉCAL, Lausanne, CH;
2008 External Juror, Sint Lucas, Ghent, BE;
2008 Workshop, MaHKU, Utrecht, NL;
2008 Tutor, AA Winter School, American University of Sharjah, Dubai, UAE;
2007 Workshop with Central St. Martins third year students, UK;
2006 Tutor (with Kasia Korczak), Architectural Association Summer School, UK;
2006 Associate Lecturer, London College of Communication, UK;

LECTURES, PERFORMANCES, READINGS

2009 'Untitled: Variations in Design Practice', conference, Otis, Los Angeles, USA;
2009 'Recent Work', Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam, NL;
2009 'Documents & Dissemination', Berlage Institute, Rotterdam, NL;
2009 'Béton & Garamond', conference, École spéciale d'architecture, Paris, FR;
2009 'Collaborative Practices', panel discussion, XVA Gallery at Al Bastakiya Art Fair, Dubai, UAE;
2009 'Joseph Grigely, Exhibition Prosthetics', with Hans Ulrich Obrist, AA, London UK;
2009 'Ever Inquiring', Archizoom / EPFL, Lausanne, CH;
2009 'Beijing Mini-Marathon', interviewed by Hans Ulrich Obrist, Vitamin Creative Space, Beijing, CN;
2008 'Manifesto Marathon', curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist, Serpentine Gallery, London, UK;
2008 'East Coast Europe', Swiss Institute, New York, USA;
2008 'The Forms of our Inquiry', Casco, Utrecht, NL;
2008 'Learning from Dubai', The Third Line gallery & American University of Sharjah, Dubai, UAE;
2007 'FOI: Lecture Series', moderator, Architectural Association, London UK;
2007 'Catalogue 3: Bold/Italic, Ghent, Belgium', conference, Ghent, BE;
2007 'Catalogue 2: LCC, UK', London College of Communication, UK;
2007 'Catalogue 1: Bath Spa University, UK', Bath Spa, UK;
2003 'Artist as Engineer', conference, I-DAT Univ. of Plymouth, UK;
2002 'Surface Play' Art In Motion III symposium, Museum of Contemporary Art, US;

RECENT AWARDS

2010 Most Beautiful Swiss Books 2009 (for Manifesto Marathon), Swiss Federal Office of Culture, CH;
2010 Most Beautiful Swiss Books 2009 (for Solution 1-10: Umbauland), Swiss Federal Office of Culture, CH;
2006 YG 06, Art Directors Club, US;
2005 Creative Futures, Creative Review, UK;
2005 Adobe Design Award, US;
2004 Art Directors Club Hall of Fame Scholarship Award, US;
2003 Swiss Art Awards, Bundesamt für Kultur; Basel, CH;

SOLO EXHIBITION

2006 'All That Is Solid Melts Into Air', solo exhibition; Kemistry Gallery, UK;

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2009 'The Malady of Writing', MACBA, Barcelona, ES;
2009 'Graphic Design for and Against Cities' with Metahaven, Corner College, Zürich, DE;
2009 'Metapress', RCA Show, London, UK;
2009 'Dubai Düsseldorf', Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen, Düsseldorf, DE;
2009 'Untitled', OTIS, Los Angeles, US;
2009 'It's not for Reading. It's for Making.', FormContent project space, London, UK;
2009 'Cultural Branding', Caracas, VE;
2008 'Life With the Lions', New Jersey, Basel, CH;
2008 'Kemistry Gallery Retrospective', London, UK;
2007 'East Coast Europe' with Markus Miessen, Krome Gallery, Berlin, DE;
2007 '33 Livres Préférés', ENSAV La Cambre, Brussels, BE;
2006 'Young Guns' Art Directors Club, New York, US;
2006 'MARS' 22nd International Biennale of Graphic Design; Brno, CZ;
2005 'Success Will Ruin Everything', Los Angeles, US;
2004 'ADC Hall of Fame', The Art Directors Club, New York, US;
2004 'etoy.DAY-CARE 2', Nieuwe Domeinen, Amsterdam, NL;
2003 'Critic is not enough' Shedhalle, Zürich, CH;
2003 'etoy.CUSTOMER-CARE', AIV IV: Armory Northwest, Pasadena, US;
2002 'etoy.DAY-CARE', Bienale Internazionale di Torino 2002, Torino, IT;
2002 'Swiss Art Awards', ART33; Basel, CH;
2002 'etoy.FAQ', Retrospective Kunsthalle St. Gallen, St. Gallen, CH;

BOOKS (selection)

2009 'Serpentine Gallery Manifesto Marathon', Walther König, DE;
2009 'Battery City', Edited by Hans Ulrich Obrist & Hu Fang, Vitamin Creative Space, CN;
2008 'Solution 9: The Great Pyramid', Ingo Niermann & Jens Thiel (eds.), Sternberg Press, DE;
2007 'The Violence of Participation', Markus Miessen (ed.), Sternberg Press, DE;
2007 'Strategies for print and new media designers', New Riders, CA;
2007 'Contemporary Graphic Design', Charlotte & Peter Fiell (eds.), Taschen;
2007 'One hundred at 360°, Graphic design new global generation', Laurence King, UK;
2006 'Look At This', Adrian Shaughnessy (ed.), Laurence King, UK;
2006 'Poster Design for the Next Century', Rockport Publishers, USA;

2006 'Young Guns' Art Directors Club, Rockport Publishers, USA;
2004 'ADA 83, Art Directors Annual', New York, USA;
2004 'The Vatican to Vegas' Norman M. Klein, New Press, USA;
2002 'Information Arts, intersections of art, science and technology', MIT Press, USA;
2001 'MUTATIONS' Rem Koolhaas, ACTAR, ES;
2001 'Net.art' Tilman Baumgärtel, Verlag für moderne Kunst Nürnberg, DE;

MAGAZINES (selection)

2010 Artforum, 'Top Ten by Jesko Fezer', USA;
2010 Design 360°, 'Independent Graphic Design', CN;
2010 e-flux journal #12, 'Manifestos for the Future', Hans Ulrich Obrist, USA;
2010 Kaleidoscope (No. 4), 'EXCURSUS #2', IT;
2010 Chicago Art Review, 'Elms Choice: Exhibition Prosthetics', USA;
2009 Kaleidoscope (No. 3), EXCURSUS #1', IT;
2009 Click Opera, 'The metonymic source of all freshness', Momus, DE;
2009 Kaleidoscope (No. 2), 'Book Machine', interviewed by Hans Ulrich Obrist, IT;
2009 Kaleidoscope (No. 1), IT;
2009 IDEA (No. 332), 'How does graphic design CHANGE?', JP;
2009 Task Newsletter (No. 2), 'All Possible Futures', interviewed by Jon Sueda, IT;
2009 Quotation (No. 2), London Eye, JP;
2008 Design Observer, 'Some Questions about an Inquiry', Alice Twemlow, USA;
2008 Click Opera, 'Graphic energy: Zak Kyes', Momus, DE;
2008 build (June), 'Economic Design', in conversation with Markus Miessen, DE;
2008 Grafik (No. 165), Showcase, UK;
2008 IDEA (No 326), Forms of Inquiry feature, JP;
2008 Design Korea (Vol 358), cover and interview, KR;
2008 Visual (No. 132), Interview, by Astrid Starvo, ES;
2007 Grafik (No. 159), Best of 2007, UK;
2007 Grafik (No. 157), Forms of Inquiry review, UK ;
2007 Étapes (No. 148), feature profile by Adrian Shaughnessy, FR;
2007 Grafik (No. 152), extended profile by Steven Bateman, UK;
2007 Ink (No. 1), mise en page et perception, FR;
2007 Grafik (No. 150), UK;
2007 STEP, 'Forward Vision', profile by Alice Twemlow, US;
2006 Crossfields, Issue 2, UK;
2006 IdN, Typography Feature, JP;
2006 +81 (Vol.32), Creators On The Line, JP;
2006 Creative Review (May) 'Gallery: Zak Kyes', UK;
2006 Graphic 9, "Narrative typography" Magma, UK;
2006 Grafik Magazine (No. 139), "Objects of Desire", UK;
2006 Grafik Magazine (No. 138), Feature, UK;
2005 The Independent Newspaper, UK;
2005 Creative Review (Nov), 'Creative Futures Issue', UK;
2005 LA Daily News, 'Year captured on invitations', Los Angeles, USA;
2004 Article: Eye magazine 53, UK;
2004 Art Directors Club, Interview, New York, USA;