

**AUTONOMY AND POLITICAL ACTION** REINIGUNGSGESELLSCHAFT ( whose German implications range from "Cleaning Service " to "Purification Society ") is working on field research dealing with informal artist 's networks in Japan. The goal is the preparation of points of reference and the mapping of an exemplary case study.

Thesis 1: Growing Pressures on social relations to economise, lead to greater solidarity and to the formation of informal artist's networks. In this way, resources for production and infrastructure ( spaces, technology, relationships ) can be supported. Public-relations work can also be organised, target groups sought and profiles developed. An interdisciplinary dialogue makes possible the construction of international relationships and networks. Temporary forms of transitional production elude official politicisation. Economic forms in non-profit areas ( volunteer work, self-exploitation, barter economies) must be critically interrogated.

Thesis 2: The formation of group identities effects artistic contents. Politicisation and economisation are prolonged down to the small-scale structures of artistic networks. It is virtually impossible to tell whether this occurs by compulsion or voluntarily. The organisational structure is based on voluntary work, but is also dependent on public assistance, donations, and sponsorship.

Thesis 3: Spheres of artistic action consciously choose society as a system of references for their own production. In this sense, no autonomy actually exists. Moreover, the innovative potentialities of alternative forms of life and of production are assimilated and integrated as elements of a temporary lifestyle culture.