Let Us Dance 2014

Flash Mob Performance Project Young In Hong

Contextual Information:

It is now acknowledged that the 2008 candlelight demonstration in Seoul against the import of inferior US beef by the Korean Government, largely consisted of teenage girls who'd organised their participation through the exchange of information via online networks and mobile phones. An event that involved so many teenage girls was considered socially and politically irrelevant, and went unreported by the mainstream media until images began to circulate on the internet. This was the first time in Korean history that thousands of teenage, many middle school girls in uniform had participated in a political demonstration as they were generally under extreme pressure to study for highly competitive exams rather than engage in socio political action. The girls landmark participation against injustice was in stark contrast to the established belief that they could be relied upon to be passive. Inspired by this pivotal demonstration, Let Us Dance re-contextualizes the event by inviting teenage female street dancers to respond to and interpret this moment in history through an improvised flash mob performance using their own soundtracks from their mobile phones. Each performance by 5 of the volunteer teenage dancers at a time, involved entering the institutional gallery space unannounced, doing their dance and then leaving, having taken control of the space and of the artwork itself, disrupting accepted hierarchies. 2

contrasting systems meeting boundaries with unpredictable but potentially transformative outcomes.

The participating girls will come into the gallery space on time, dance and leave when it finishes, as if nothing has happened. The performance will take place 2pm every Saturday until 13th September 2014.