

MAKING SOCIAL REALITIES WITH BOOKS

A series, of **lectures** and **workshops**, that explores the idea of how **books**—libraries, archives, publishing, and distribution—are used to create distinct social realities, whether it is in small communities, or entire movements within art practices and related activities.

PUBLIC COLLECTORS

PUBLIC LECTURE: December 11, 2013, 19:00

Public Collectors is founded upon the concern that there are many types of cultural artifacts that public libraries, museums and other institutions and archives either do not collect or do not make freely accessible. Public Collectors asks individuals that have had the luxury to amass, organize, and inventory these materials to help reverse this lack by making their collections public. The administrator of Public Collectors is Marc Fischer, who is based in Chicago.

The purpose of Public Collectors is for large collections of materials to become accessible so that knowledge, ideas and expertise can be freely shared and exchanged. In addition to hosting collections and other information,

www.publiccollectors.org includes many digital collections that are suitable for web presentation, do not have a physical material analog, or are difficult or impossible to experience otherwise. Rare or unique publications, scanned to PDF format and made available for free download, are among the materials included on the website.

Public Collectors organizes exhibitions and events, participates in exhibitions organized by others, creates exhibition opportunities for collectors, teaches, lectures, responds to research inquiries, and makes its own publications.

For this lecture, Public Collectors will focus on the PDF library it hosts, printed booklets, flyers and paper ephem-

era it shares on its Tumblr site, and Fischer's own collection of small edition, photocopied pre-internet underground music fanzines of the 1980s and early 1990s—with particular attention given to the structure of the publishing and distribution community during that time period.

A selection of printed materials will also be presented, show and tell style, focusing on these music 'zines, as well as an eccentric selection of cheaply printed materials published in booklet form that will include everything from disaster survival and genocide in Lithuania, to how to make shrunken applehead dolls.

Organized by:
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