The First RITCS Arts & Politics Symposium takes the risk, which may also be a chance, of bringing together some of the most outspoken reformist and radical voices in contemporary political and artistic debates, to find out whether we still share a trouble with the state and what that trouble would be, and whether radical-reformist alliances are possible. The international symposium will discuss a range of contemporary issues, such as the state’s relationship to ecological catastrophes, to the people it is supposed to represent, to capital flows, to artistic protests, the role of art and art institutions in our troubled state and the relationship between state and performance. Far from casting a nostalgic retrospective look on 1968, the symposium will primarily consider our contemporary predicament and discuss artistic tools and strategies for protest in our troubled world, drawing a lesson or two from 1968.

The First RITCS Arts & Politics Symposium is a three days public event, which is embedded in the RITCS Winter School 2018. The RITCS Winter School 2018 is a joint initiative of the bachelor and master programmes in audiovisual arts and performing arts at the Royal Institute for Theatre, Cinema & Sound (RITCS) in Brussels.
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018**

**CINEMA RITCS**

**Session V. The state and capital (flows). Part I**
Chair & moderator: Lieven De Cauter (RITCS & KU Leuven).

14.00.-14.30. **Coffee break.**

14.30.-15.00. **Florian Wüst (film curator, Berlin). Happiness in the Aftermath of State Formation. Lecture.**

15.00.-15.30. **Sanja Mitrovic, Artist Presentation.**


16.30.-17.30. **Klaas Tindemans & Ronny Heiremans, moderated by Wouter Helsen.**

**CINEMA RITCS**

**Session VI. The state and capital (flows). Part II**
Chair & moderator: Lieven De Cauter (RITCS & KU Leuven).

19.30.-22.00. **Veerme & Heinemans, Masquerade (2015, 51 mins.). Screening, with an introduction by Klaas Tindemans (RITCS & VUB), followed by a public discussion.**

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**FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2018**

**CINEMA RITCS**

**Session VII. From 1968 until today. The state of our troubles**
Chair & moderator: Carl Wijs (RITCS)


11.30.-12.30. **David Riff in conversation with Lara Staal (artist, Berlin), followed by a public discussion.**

12.30.-14.00. **Lunch time.**

**CINEMA RITCS**

**Session VIII. The state of performance. Performing the state**
Chair & moderator: Early Wijs (RITCS)


14.30.-15.00. **Q&A.**

15.00.-15.30. **Coffee break.**

15.30.-16.30. **Klaas Tindemans & Ronny Heiremans, in conversation with Florian Wüst and Andreas Siekmann (artist, Berlin), followed by a public discussion.**

16.30.-17.30. **Discussion. Sanja Mitrovic in conversation with Jeroen Theunissen (RITCS) and Klaas Tindemans, followed by a public discussion.**

17.30.-19.00. **Closing drinks.**

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**ADMISSION**

Except for the evening film screenings at Cinema RITCS on January 10, 11, 12, 15, 17, 2018, admission to all the day sessions of the First RITCS Arts & Politics Symposium on January 10, 11 and 12, 2018, is free. However, it is strongly recommended to make reservations. With confirmed reservations, admission and / or seating cannot be guaranteed. Please mention your full name and the day(s) or session(s) you will attend. You will be sent a message on or before January 8, 2018 to: reservations.ritcs@ehb.be.