

# DIAGRAMS OF PARIS

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RE-HALLUCINATING CONTEXTS in the frame of HOW TO DO THINGS BY THEORY project by TkH at Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers, January - December 2010

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# “Re-hallucinating Contexts”: Introduction to four diagrams

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The departure for the project of Walking Theory (TkH) at Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers in January 2010 - *How to Do Things by Theory* - are two cities, “the Belgrade” of TkH and “the Paris” of Les Laboratoires - two dissimilar contexts, situations and realities, the power of whose margins and minorities are not evident. Bringing the contextual approach of TkH's practice in Les Laboratoires implied discerning a new context of operation, demanding its own line of investigation. Hence, we invited whomever felt interpellated to reflect and intervene in the context they considered (or wished) to belong to. The context entails a scene of acts and events, a site of discursive struggles and an atmosphere enveloping common sense. Its location and activity is delineated by the performing arts in Paris, and Belgrade. From the attempt to denominate this territory as “independent scene” - a discussion which revealed historical and conceptual differences and misunderstandings - we arrived at a more precise definition that replaced “independence” with “relative autonomy”. Relatively autonomous or semi-autonomous today are those individual artists, groups and collectives, projects, initiatives, organizations, movements, concepts and spaces, that seek to transform the conditions and terms of work and production, representation and distribution. We referred to our meetings as “re-hallucinating contexts”, whereby “re-hallucination” supposes a sight distinct from the common perception. For a moment things might appear unbelievably different, impossible seems more possible, and another play is played before our eyes. The same people could be recast in new roles, and new concerns and places emerge. Truthful representation of a territory is anyhow condemned to an infinite regress of mental maps of maps.

During a number of working sessions with Virginie Bobin, Grégory Castéra, Alice Chauchat, Sabine Macher, Delphine Jonas, Fabricia Martins, Yves Mettler and Nathalie Rias, and a few meetings with various other actors in Paris, we elucidated great many items in diverse categories: ideas and names of people, projects/initiatives, organizations, events, policies, institutions and other places of assembly. The index which provides reference and explanation for the choice of all items is available on the website [www.howtotothingsbytheory.info](http://www.howtotothingsbytheory.info).

Collective brainstorming required a painstaking diagnosis of the current situation, and the disagreement of partial views transformed individual entries. The result of this process are four diagrams on the modes of organization, events and places, cultural policies and discursive communities - a cartography that describes a geographic territory less than it proposes an orientation in a situation in time. Thus, these are diachronic diagrams, which in their partiality produce new realities, instead of reflecting an actual one. A few paths are open to their use. Can these diagrams act as scores to navigate a relatively autonomous scene in Paris? What are the rhythms and intensities that could emerge from overlaying them? Which items coagulate across various parameters? What could some of the items we uncover here gain in future?

“Re-hallucinating contexts” ends in two study trips, where the participants of Paris (the “Re-hallucinating contexts” group) and Belgrade (participants of the project “Deschooling Classroom”) visit each other's respective cities, after which some of the questions above might be answered. Two more activities hitherto will follow. During the visit of the participants from Paris to Belgrade in January 2011, we will construct the diagnostic diagrams of the scene in Belgrade in collaboration with the participants from Belgrade and Paris. What is still awaiting us are two diagrams of Paris and Belgrade, in which re-hallucination shifts from diagnosis to a prognosis of further development. Will we dare, and manage with the attachments to the same concerns that often separate us more than they unite us, to speculate, project a diagram of a desirable future? You will read about it in the next JDL!

"Nouveaux Territoires de l'ART" (New Territories of Art) is a report commissioned by the French Ministry of Culture in order to devise relevant measures for supporting the rise of "friches" (former industrial wastelands turned into art spaces). Released in 2001, the study attempted to define a common ground for these varied initiatives.

"NOUVEAUX TERRITOIRES DE L'ART"

(INSTITUTIONAL DEFINITION)

2001

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

INSTITUTIONS THAT OCCASIONALLY SUPPORT THE ALTERNATIVE SCENE

- Théâtre de la Bastille
- Ménagerie de Verre
- Nouveau festival Centre Pompidou
- Théâtre de Vanves / festival Atclanthé
- Théâtre de la Cité Internationale
- Centre d'Art le Plateau / Séquences
- la fondation Cartier / Soirées Nomades
- le Jeu de Paume
- Paris Quartier d'Été
- Domaine de Chambrande
- le Forum du Blanc-Mesnil
- la ferme du Buisson
- le Centre National de la Danse
- etc...

"ART FACTORIES" 2002

- "experimentation"
- "solidarity"
- "transmission"
- "spaces for art and creativity"

"INTERNATIONAL NETWORK AND RESOURCE"

- France
- Europe
- Asia
- Africa
- Mediterranean Space
- Oceania
- America

- "intermediate spaces"
- "solidarity"
- "young artists"
- "link with territory"

"ACTES if" 1997

RELATIVELY AUTONOMOUS SCENE, PARIS and ILE DE-FRANCE

list of Art factories spaces

Abroad

Ile-de-france

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Europe (ex: czkd, Belgrade)                           | frères Poussière                 |
| Asia (ex: Command N, Tokyo; Evam Project, Mumbai ...) | Théâtre aux Mains Nues           |
| Africa (ex: Community Art Project, Cape Town...)      | l'Avant-Rue                      |
| Mediterranean space (ex: KSCC, Ramallah...)           | Lutherie Urbaine                 |
| Oceania (ex: High Street Project, New Zealand)        | le Batofar                       |
| America (ex: Usine C, Montreal...)                    | 4-33                             |
|   | les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers |
|   | le Café Culturel                 |
|   | l'Echangeur                      |
|   | Mains d'Œuvres                   |
|   | Collectif 12                     |
|   | Point Éphémère                   |
|   | Confluences, etc...              |

list of Actes if spaces

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Anis Gras     | Arx Longa       |
| Café Culturel | Collectif 12    |
| Confluences   | Conteneurs      |
| file 7        | Gare au Théâtre |
| la Pêche      | le Hublot       |
| le Szamovar   | l'Avant-Rue     |
| l'Echangeur   | Mains d'Œuvres  |
| etc...        |                 |

MODES OF ORGANIZATION

INITIATIVES INDÉPENDANTES  
NON SUBVENTIONNÉES

INITIATIVES INDÉPENDANTES  
SUBVENTIONNÉES

INITIATIVES DES POUVOIRS PUBLICS  
SUBVENTIONNÉES

POUVOIRS PUBLICS

1977 : création des DRAC

1980

création des FRAC  
décentralisation

Hôpital éphémère (75)

Ménagerie de Verre (75)  
Mairie de Paris - DRAC - SACD

département danse, université paris8 (93)

1990 création des friches industrielles

revue mouvement commercial (75)  
Les laboratoires d'Aubervilliers (93)  
Hôpital éphémère (75)

les inaccoutumés (festival) IDP - Mairie de Paris - DRAC - adami - onda  
étrange cargo (festival) onda - IDP - Mairie de Paris - DRAC  
Ménagerie de Verre (75) Mairie de Paris - DRAC - SACD

livre Lazzarato, Intermittents et précaires (75)

Le colombier (93)

CND (93)

2000

rapport F Lextrait: Friches

Kadist Art Foundation (75)

Les laboratoires d'Aubervilliers (93) Mairie d'Aubervilliers - CG - IDF - DRAC  
mains d'oeuvre 93 Mairie de Saint Ouen - CG - IDF - DRAC - Mairie de Paris  
Fondation de France - Ministère jeunesse et sport  
Fondation France active - La Nef + commercial

CIP (75) le générateur (94)

Le point éphémère (75) Mairie de Paris, IDF, DRAC, NCV  
bétonsalon (75) Ville de Paris - Drac - Conseil régional - ministère culture - ministère jeunesse et sport  
partenaires privés pour les expositions - Leroy Merlin - Miscos assurance

CAC Brétigny dirigé par Pierre Bal-Blanc (91)  
DRAC - IDF - CG

revue Art21 (75) commercial  
PAF (02)

micadanse (75) Mairie de Paris - DRAC - adami

Théâtre de Gennevilliers (92) Mairie de Gennevilliers - Conseil Général des Hauts-de-Seine - DRAC  
Caisse des Dépôts - Fondation d'entreprise La Poste  
Fondation du Crédit Mutuel pour la Lecture

ECObox (75)

les inaccoutumés (festival) IDP - Mairie de Paris - DRAC - adami - onda  
étrange cargo (festival) onda - IDP - Mairie de Paris - DRAC  
Ménagerie de Verre (75) Mairie de Paris - DRAC - SACD

Castillo Corrales (75) commercial

Il faut brûler pour briller (festival) (75)

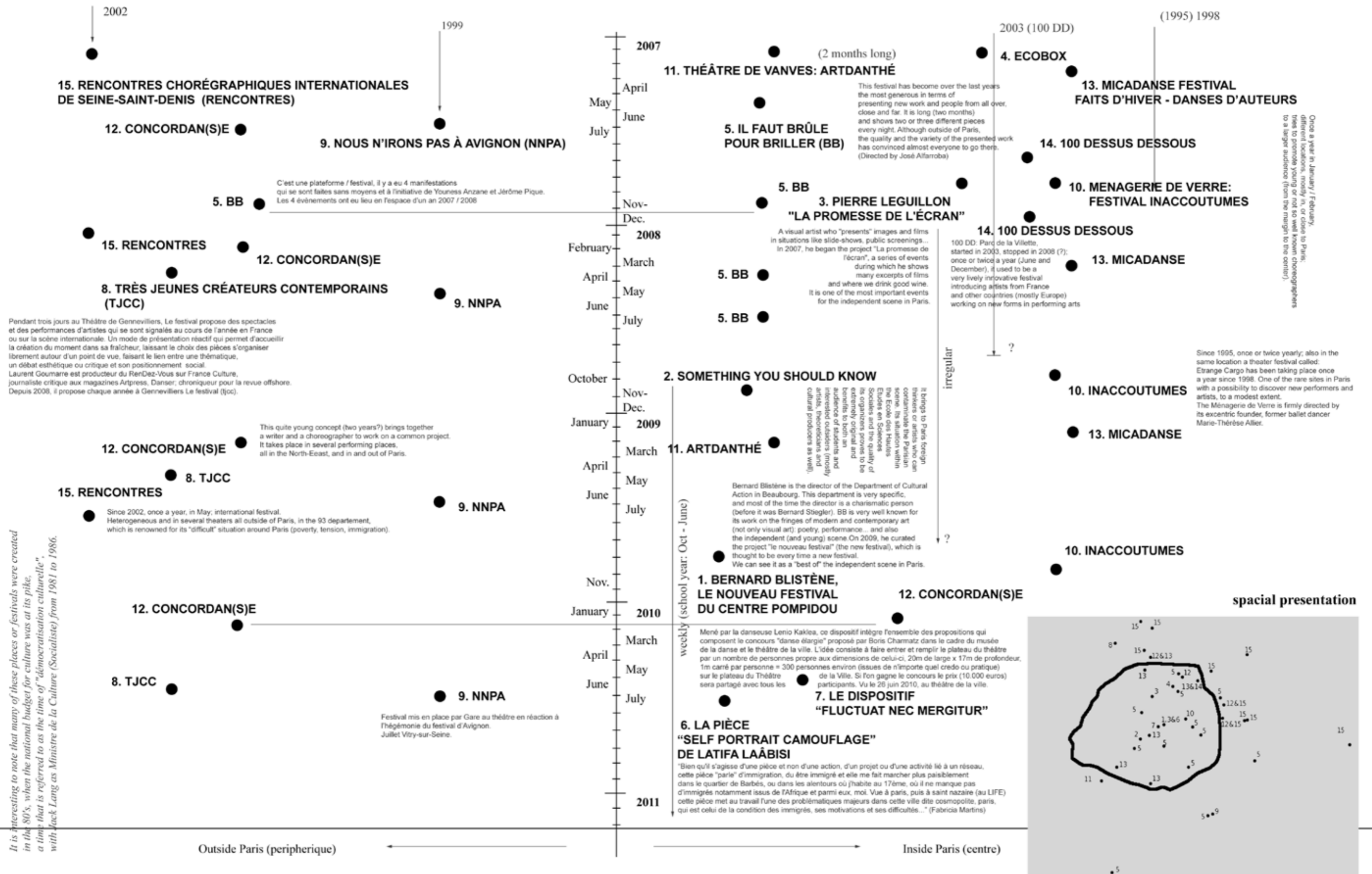
frasq (festival) Mairie de Gentilly - CG Val-de-Marne - IDF - DRAC  
Les laboratoires d'Aubervilliers (93) Mairie d'Aubervilliers - CG - IDF - DRAC  
partenaires privés

tjcc (festival)  
nouveau festival -centre Georges Pompidou (75) (festival)

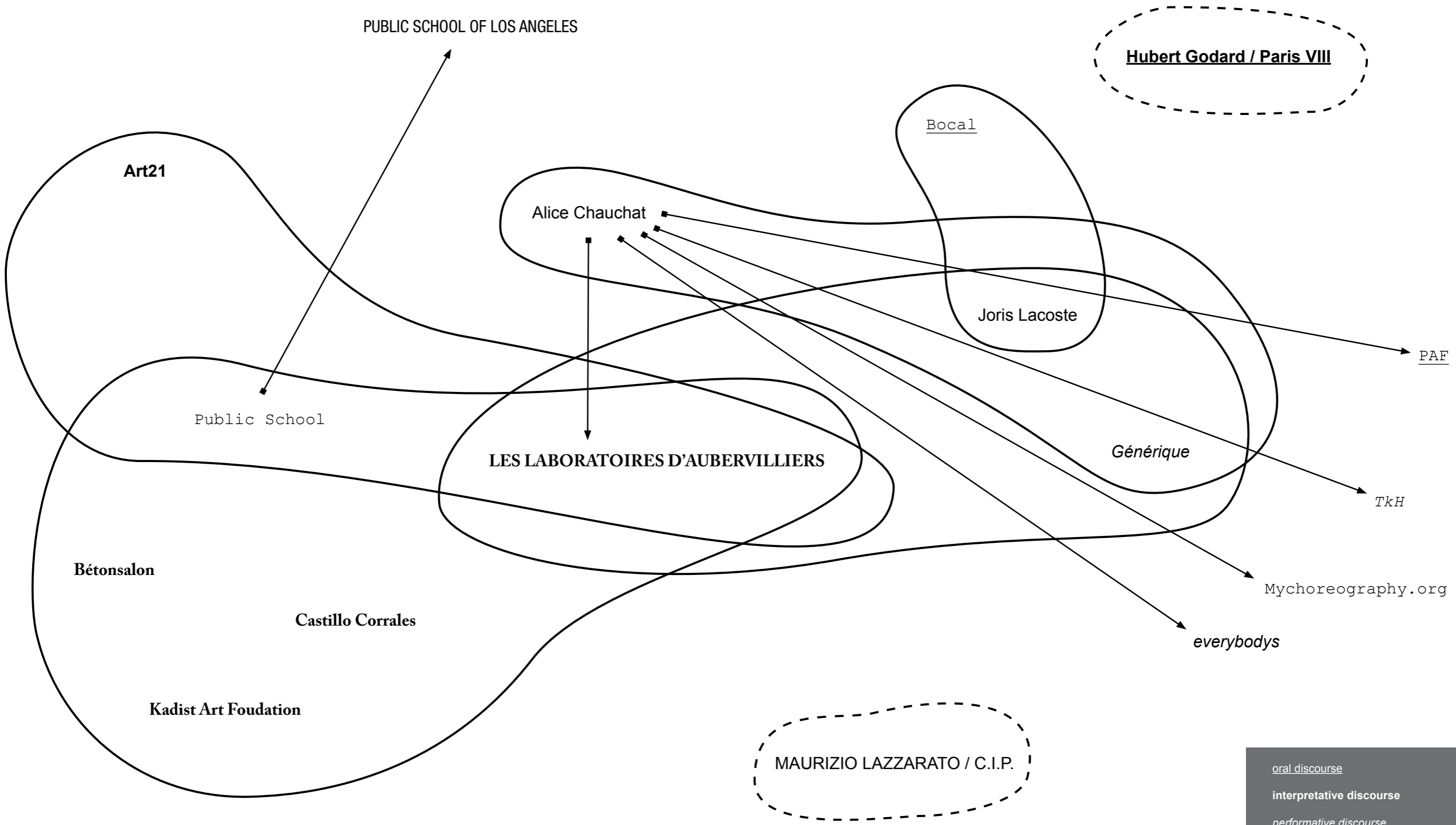
circulaire 2009 (Sarkozy demande la rentabilité des lieux subventionnés)

2010

### DIAGRAM OF EVENTS: FESTIVALS, ARTWORKS, PERFORMANCES, EXHIBITIONS, WORKSHOPS, DEMONSTRATIONS



It is interesting to note that many of these places or festivals were created in the 80's, when the national budget for culture was at its pike, a time that is referred to as the time of "démocratisation culturelle", with Jack Lang as Ministre de la Culture (Socialiste) from 1981 to 1986.



- oral discourse*
- interpretative discourse*
- performative discourse*
- POLITICAL DISCOURSE
- exp. educational formats
- conceptual approach in visual arts

- diagnostic diagrams of the scene in Belgrade
- two prognostic diagrams of the scenes in Belgrade and Paris

**WILL FOLLOW!**