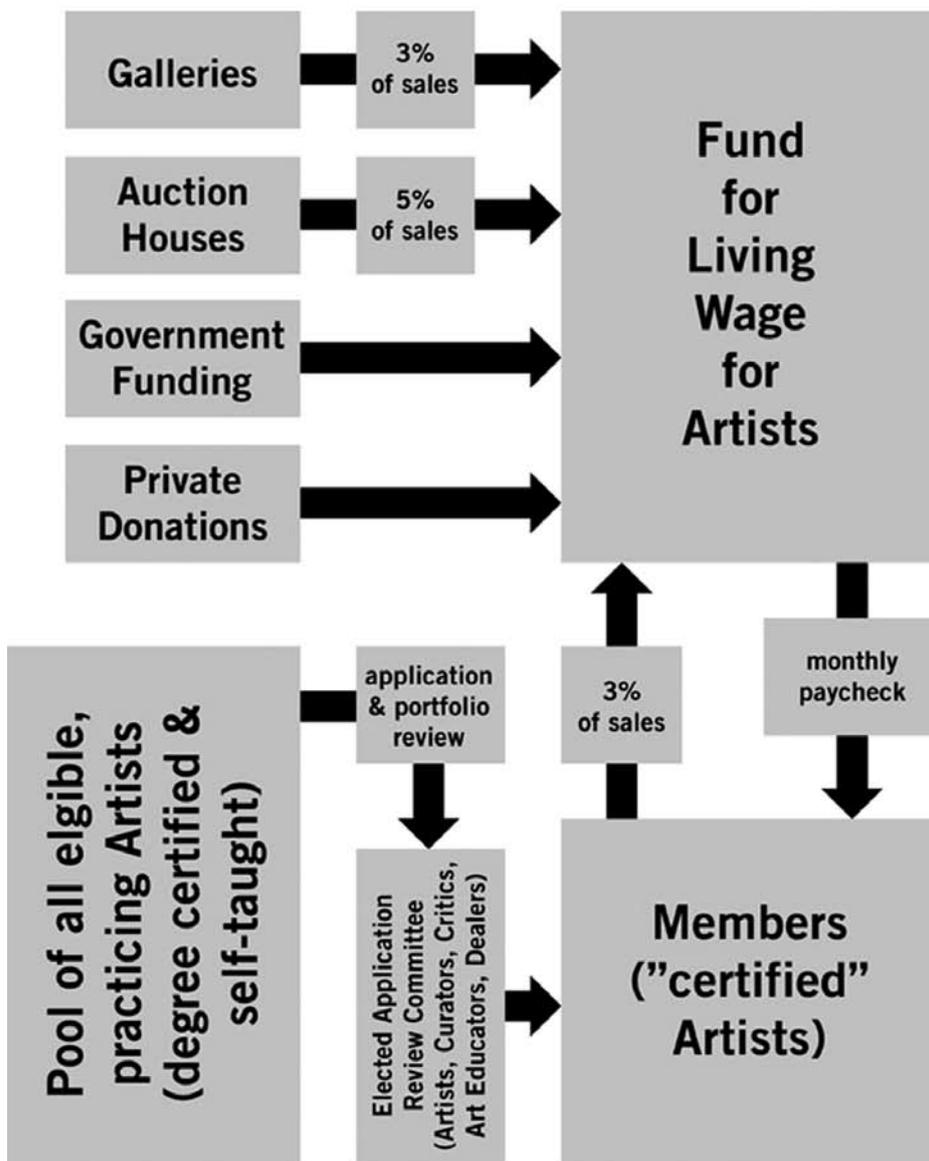


Artist Union Fund for a Living Wage

Daniel Blochwitz



My diagram proposes a sort of artist union fund for a living wage within the current political/socio-economic system - thus an evolutionary rather than revolutionary proposal - that tries to re-distribute fractions of financial gains from art sales made by galleries, auction houses and commercially successful artists. These resources would go into a fund that would disperse the money equally amongst all eligible visual artists, selected by rotating and elected jurors of peers and art world workers in monthly paycycles comparable to a basic income. This system would be based on solidarity, in which those who profit most from the current art market come to the aid of those artists whose work or practice can't sustain their basic needs, because it tends to be too political/radical/critical/conceptual/theoretical or otherwise resistant to mainstream tastes or interests. It could provide a starting point for a future when an art practice can be totally independent of the market and media and subsequently starts to concern itself truly with the issues that are most pressing and/or form-findings that are most innovative. It would benefit the common good and public knowledge. Art would get a chance to reach its most pluralist/democratic/emancipated incarnation and thus also connects most strongly with the "real world"....

Daniel Blochwitz was born in 1973 in East Germany and came to the US in 1995, where he studied visual art, receiving a BFA (Eastern Kentucky University, 1999) and MFA (University of Florida, 2003) degree in photography, the latter with a minor in German Literature and Film, before attending the Whitney Independent Study Program in New York (2003-04). He has shown his work in solo and group exhibitions in the United States and internationally.