

Saturday, August 3, 2013

#### POLITICS & RELIGION

Ivan Illich was a political thinker. At the height of his celebrity in the 1970's, he described himself as a pamphleteer who was trying to introduce his views into everyday political discussion. He was also a profoundly religious thinker who believed that modernity could be understood only as a perversion of the Christian Gospel. The modern world has tried to separate politics and religion, but the very possibility of such a separation has come into wide question in recent years. In this light, we will explore the relations between politics and religion in Illich's thought.

Speakers: (4.00 -6.00 pm; open discussion to follow)

**Carl Mitcham**, "*After Illich: The Politics of Energy*", Professor, Colorado School of Mines, Denver. co-editor: [The Challenges of Ivan Illich](#)

**Wolfgang Palaver**, "*Between Parochial Altruism and a Pilgrim Church: Ivan Illich's Contribution to Theological Politics*", Professor, University of Innsbruck, Vienna, author: [Rene Girard's Mimetic Theory](#)

**David Cayley**, "*What is Ivan Illich's political position?*", formerly of Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Toronto; author: [Ivan Illich in Conversation](#)

#### THE EVENT IS OPEN AND FREE TO THE PUBLIC.

THIS GATHERING WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF JOSHUA MAILMAN & JODIE EVANS

OAKLAND SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

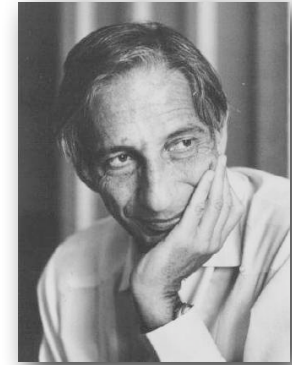
530 18th St oakland, CA 94612

Dates: Aug 1- Aug 3, 2013

Times: 4.00 - 8.00 pm



# After the Crisis: The thought of Ivan Illich today



August 1- 3, 2013

4:00-8:00pm

Oakland School for the Arts  
Marion E Green Black Box Theatre

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Ivan Illich (1926-2002) was a provocateur who questioned his society's dependence on expensive and inhibiting institutions and proposed a simpler, more convivial style of life in which people would be able to think and act for themselves. His prophetic calls to rethink the assumptions on which contemporary societies rest were not heeded. Today the crisis Illich tried to address is over, but only in the sense that it has become permanent and intractable. This gathering will ask how Illich's thought addresses this new condition. Over the course of three convivial evenings we will discuss the assumptions which keep us locked within the conventional horizons of education, economics, ecology, and religion.

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**INTRODUCTORY REMARKS: GOV. JERRY BROWN**

**THURSDAY: AUGUST 1, 2013  
@ 4 PM**

**MARION E. GREEN BLACK BOX THEATRE  
OAKLAND SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS**

**Thursday, August 1, 2013**

**EDUCATION & SERVICES**

Educational services have become ever more necessary to "making it in America." Virtual classrooms, massive open online courses (MOOCs) and measurement of outcomes are geared to active and life-long learning. Has learning now been unchained from the consumption of knowledge units packaged for others?

Speakers (4.00 -6.00 pm; open discussion to follow):

**Dan Grego**, "*Confessions of an Apostate from the Religion of "Education"*", Executive Director, *TransCenter for Youth*, Milwaukee, author: [Schools for Conviviality](#) (forthcoming)

**Richard Westheimer**, "*Institutionalized childbirth and the Student Loan Crisis: modern rituals at the altar of systemic 'neediness'"*, former public school teacher and schools consultant.

**Jean Robert**, "*Is there thought after economics"*", activist, architect, author: [Trust People](#).

**Friday August 2, 2013**

**ECONOMICS AND ECOLOGY**

Economists puzzle over the lengthening economic crisis, unsure of what needs to be done. Reading the data, scientists wring their hands in despair of a political solution to the ongoing ecological crisis. Is the "green economy" - reviving economic growth through remedying environmental damages- a way out of this unprecedented predicament?

Speakers: (4.00 -6.00 pm; open discussion to follow)

**Trent Schroyer**: "*Liberations from Autistic Economics"*, Past President TOES (The Other Economic Summit); author: [Beyond Western Economics](#)

**David Bollier**: "*The Quiet Realization of Ivan Illich's Ideas in the Contemporary Commons Movement"*, Co-founder: Commons Strategies Group; editor: [The Wealth of the Commons](#)

**Gustavo Esteva**: "*Commonism: enclosing the enclosers"*, founder, Universidad de la Tierra, author: [The Oaxaca commune and Mexico's autonomous movements](#)