

The Free Carracci Institute Year Book – Introduction

The Carracci were a collective of three artists who were instrumental in forming the Baroque art movement. They sought to overturn the Mannerist tradition and practised a modern approach to the making and production of art. The art school they founded in Bologna in 1582 encouraged students to draw from life; to take inspiration from humanist ideals and to work collaboratively, this was in contrast to Mannerist art that relied upon past ideas and attitudes.¹ The Carracci's worked collectively; when asked which one of them had contributed what particular element to their artworks they said, "it is by the Carracci, we did it together."²

At the centre of our project is the desire to affect agreement and disagreement through methods, tools and techniques which includes the use of the prop, the kiosk, the slogan, and the Spoken (Manifesto) Choir. During the first edition of the Free-Carracci, (introduced at NN Contemporary from 5 November - 23 December 2016) we transformed the gallery into an association, a Carracci-like institute, a headquarters in which to develop new social relations for art.

We invited others to engage with our slogans, views and opinions; getting artists and the public to interpret, disagree /agree or come up with their own slogan in relation to the ones we presented. We invited 'members' to engage with and transform the project adding to it and producing - as our new manifesto shouts - *More: The Neo-Baroque Manifesto*.

¹ The Carracci, En.wikipedia.org, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Carracci, last accessed 24 September 2017

² Feigenbaum, Gail (2004). "Carracci Family" Gale Virtual Reference Library. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. pp. 393–395. Retrieved 23 September 2017.