

### Leitmotifs

documenta 12 has three leitmotifs. It is no accident that they take the form of questions. After all, we create an exhibition in order to find something out. Here and there, these motifs may correspond, overlap, or disintegrate – like a musical score.

#### Is modernity our antiquity?

This is the first question it is fairly?  
Obvious that modernity or mo?  
Dernity's fate exerts a profound in?  
Fluence on contemporary artists?  
Part of that attraction may stem from the?  
Fact that no one really knows if modern?  
It is dead or alive it seems to?  
Be in ruins after the totali?  
Tarian catastrophes of the twen?  
Tieth century the very same ca?  
Tastrophes to which it somehow gave rise?  
It seems utterly compromised by the?  
Brutally partial application of?  
Its universal demands *liberte*?  
*Egalité, fraternite* or by?  
The simple fact that modernity and?  
Coloniality went and proba?  
Bly still go hand in hand still people's im?  
Aginations are full of moderni?  
Ty's visions and forms and I mean not on?  
Ly Bauhaus but also arch-modernist?  
Mind-sets transformed into contemporar?  
Y catchwords like "identity" or "cul?  
Ture" in short it seems that we are both outside?  
And inside modernity both repelled?  
By its deadly violence and seduced?  
By its most immodest aspiration?  
Or potential that there might after all?  
Be a common planetary hori?

#### What is bare life?

This second ques?  
Tion underscores?  
The sheer vulner?  
Ability?  
And complete ex?  
Posure of being?  
Bare life deals with?  
That part of our?  
Existence from?  
Which no measure?  
Of securi?  
Ty will ever?  
Protect us but?  
As in sexu?  
Ality ab?  
Solute expo?  
Sure is intric?  
Ately connect?  
Ed with infin?  
Ite pleasure there?  
Is an apoc?  
Alyptic and?

Obviously?  
Political?  
Dimension to?  
Bare life brought out?  
By torture and?  
The concentra?  
Tion camp there is?  
However al?  
So a lyric?  
Al or even?  
Ecstatic dim?  
Enstion to it?  
A freedom for?  
New and unex?  
Pected possi?  
Bilities in?  
Human rela?  
Tions as well as?  
In our rela?  
Tionship to na?  
Ture or more gen?  
Erally the?  
World in which we?  
Live here and there?  
Art dissolves the?  
Radical sep?  
Aration be?  
Tween painful sub?  
Jection and joy?  
Ous libera?  
Tion but what does?  
That mean for its?  
Audiences?

The final question concerns education:  
**What is to be done** artists educate them:  
Selves by working through form and subject matter:  
Audiences educate themselves by ex:  
Periencing things aesthetically how:  
To mediate the particular content:  
Or shape of those things without sacrificing:  
Their particularity is one of the:  
Great challenges of an exhibition like:  
The documenta but there is more to it:  
Than that the global complex of cultural:  
Translation that seems to be somehow embedd:  
Ed in art and its mediation sets the:  
Stage for a potentially all-inclusive:  
Public debate *Bildung* the German term for:  
Education, also means "generation":  
Or "constitution" as when one speaks of gen:  
Erating or constituting a public:  
Sphere today education seems to offer:  
One viable alternative to the dev:  
Il didacticism academia:  
And the deep blue sea commodity fetish:

zon for all the living and the dead ism