

LUCIA SOTNIKOVA. Transfigurative Glitch

Opening, Friday 3 February 2017, 6 – 9 pm
4 - 11 February 2017
Hohe Strasse 53

SETAREH GALLERY is very pleased to present the first gallery exhibition of Lucia Sotnikova. In her photographs, the current recipient of the BEST Art Prize establishes pictorial worlds that oscillate between seemingly surreal *mise en scènes* and situations of everyday life, which appear lapidary but are sharply observed. An element of the grotesque pervades her work that often ironically points to the orders of nature-historical scientific knowledge. One may surmise a utopia, the implementation of which was renounced. However, the photographs by Sotnikova reveal a sensitivity that functions beyond the constantly affirmative perfectionism, thus creating their very own magic.

Sotnikova's original photographic approach enables the artist to transform her subjects into a micro-rhythm of exhilarating single shots. The glitch, or disruption of events, plays an important role as does evolution, the perpetual change and modification of living organisms. The transformation and shift in semantic significance of the individual motifs is represented in a very subtle way.

According to Sotnikova, visual communication relies on an analytical approach to archetypes. The sculpture of a young female dancer in Kapustin Yar Pioneer has an irritating effect on viewers, because the depicted environment seems unusual and unsuitable. The title of the work underlines this transposition, as it refers to a military artillery firing range in Volgograd, thus forming a contrast to the dancer's graceful and innocent figure.

SETAREH GALLERY

LUCIA SOTNIKOVA

(*1986, Volgograd, USSR, lives and works in Düsseldorf, DE)

EDUCATION

since 2012 Academy of Art, Dusseldorf – Visual Art, class of professor Andreas Gursky
2010-2012 Exhibition Design Institute – University of Applied Sciences-Dusseldorf, MA Exhibition Design
2003-2009 Volgograd State University of Architecture, Volgograd, Russia, Degree in Architecture

GRANTS & AWARDS

2016 BEST Art Prize in cooperation with the Academy of Art, Dusseldorf, DE
2010-2012 DAAD Artist Scholarship University of Applied Sciences-Dusseldorf, Dusseldorf, DE
2011 The Great Expectations Award 2011 Maastricht, NL

SOLO SHOWS

2016 Atom Abenteuer, a hotel without memories, BEST GROUP, Dusseldorf, DE
2015 (Из)обретая публичное: апология пустоты, Juznaja Hotel, Volgograd, RUS
2012 Evidence, Cologne City Hotel, Cologne, DE

GROUP SHOWS

2016 Isla Isla, Richas digest, Cologne, DE
die Grosse, Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, DE
shade. orange into. water, AStAraum, Düsseldorf, DE
2014 En el Castillo, MIAC, Castillo de San Jose, Lanzarote, ESP
2013 Class Gursky, Tokio Hiyoshi, Tokio, JPN
Richas Digest #1, Kjubh Kunstverein e.V., Cologne, DE
2012 ReKOLLEKT, Kunstraum Kreuzberg / Bethanien, Berlin, DE
Common Grounds. Vacant Potential, Bureau Europa, Maastricht, NL
ReSphinxed, Temporary Park Exhibition, Maastricht, NL
2008 RaceFastSaveCar, together with Robert Schug, Cologne, DE
2006 Volgogradphoto, Galerie Art d'Oeuvre, Cologne, DE

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Atom Abenteuer – A Hotel Without Memories, exhibition catalogue, edition 500, Düsseldorf 2016
Stretched ceiling, manuscript, 2015
STILL, magazine, issue #2, Berlin, New York 2014
La vie dans la maison, together with Juli Susin, published by Royal Book Lodge, unikat, Paris 2013
Richas digest #1, Journal für Photographie, Cologne 2013
Learning by cooking, the book of complaints, together with Juli Susin, published by Royal Book Lodge, in edition of 5, Paris 2013
Devils Gate, self-published, in edition of 6, 2012