

Here and now... Amnesia

Influenced by cultural, social and political changes, remembrance, commemoration and forgetting are ongoing processes that accompany the construction and re-interpretation of personal and national identity. Lots of facets and questions exist about memory - one of the biggest mysteries of human brain studied in many different disciplines like in neurobiology, psychology or philosophy.

Artists rely on their memory for creation, they get inspired from their memories, reconstruct, imagine memories or create surfaces for projection of the memory. Going back to our memories is a mental time travel and an important link between past and present.

The exhibition *here and now... amnesia* at Savvy Contemporary is an invitation to discover "memory-traces" of five artists from Western and non-Western countries living in Berlin, aiming to coin a "here and now" with their art works especially created for the show. A residency at Savvy Contemporary is offered to them for a couple of weeks to create pieces in permanent dialogue with one another and with the curator, as well as develop a scenography for the multidisciplinary group show that will approach different facets of memory or the complete or partial loss of it, amnesia.

The French-Algerian painter Dalila Dalléas Bouzar reflects about the memory of her personal life and the violent past of her native African country Algeria in a series of drawings and paintings and an audio-installation, offering a kind of preview of her current project in Algeria. Video- and light artist Dominik Lejman from Poland will show one of his video-paintings exhibited for the first time, a metaphoric image and allusion to memory, present or gone in here and now, immaterial and intangible. Rebecca Loyche from the United-States approaches memory in a series of four videos called "Memory", working as psychological portraits of past recollections, loosely based on taboo themes of amnesia, narcissism, infatuation, and compulsive disorders. The installations of the Ukrainian artist Maryna Markova will approach loss of identity through amnesia and the political choice of trying to erase collective memory. Francisco Rozas from Chile is searching memory of space in situ - behind the architecture of the gallery Savvy Contemporary - and will rebuild from there. He will also question the idea and memory we have about paradise/ nature in Europe and South- America in a second installation.

For the catalogue of *here and now... amnesia* several international writers will approach diverse dimensions of memory in neurobiological research, in philosophy, of the memory in African American and South African culture of course essays and texts about the introduced artists.

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14. May - 16. June 2011

Vernissage: 13.05.2011, 7 pm.

Exhibition: 14.05-16.06.2011

Opening hours: thurs. - sun., 4 - 8 pm.