

CÄCILIA BROWN / STEPHANIE KLOSS WOMEN OF THE TOWN

December 15 – 22, 2018 / January 16 – February 9, 2019

Opening: Friday, December 14 at 7 pm

LAURA MARS GALLERY

Bülowstraße 52

10783 Berlin

www.lauramars.de

Gallery hours: Wed. - Fri. 1 – 7 p.m.; Sat. 1 – 5 p.m.

Press Release

The exhibition of works by Cäcilia Brown and Stephanie Kloss at Laura Mars Gallery shows excerpts, traces, fragments, façades, spaces, stages, and stories from the feminine city.

“Die Kupferdiebin” (The Copper Thief), “Die Zahnfee” (The Tooth Fairy), and “Das schlechte Gewissen” (The Bad Conscience) from the series “Leichte Mädchen” (Loose Girls) have a talk with Lady Volkswagen & Mad-am Riehmestahl about hanging.

Cäcilia Brown thematizes how the visual structures of the cityscape translate the social order by subtly directing human coexistence. Trash bins, pedestrian rail guards, bollards, revolving doors, and other visual “order maintenance devices” of public space are cited – destructive acts such as burning or throwing from a window are part of her methods, as well as the copy and the collection. In the course, the social order of the cityscape is investigated based on sculptural regularities such as verticality and horizontality, bearing and weighing, and subjected to deliberate disorganization. For instance, the artist seizes on the structure of concrete weights suspended from overhead lines visible along railroad tracks, and does so in wax shapes whose fragility is in stark contrast to the materiality of the original forms. Akin to some alternative ordering structure, the urban infrastructure is transposed to the exhibition space, and “used” by the wax shapes. As *Leichte Mädchen*, the sculptures are personalized and referenced to an occupation group that uses public space in order to offer an utterly intimate property as a commodity.

Stephanie Kloss shows the photo series “Avalon”, created at an eponymous BDSM studio in the Berlin district of Spandau. This studio is managed by two women. The rooms she comes upon there are stages and settings serving various fantasies. They are equipped to satisfy certain needs, only there, for money. Stephanie Kloss sets out on a search for traces in this location which exists quasi outside of any location, rather in mind and body, even though it can be localized. Regarding it in its profanity without watching the actions therein was the challenge her work confronts. Without illustrating some documentation or sociological study on sex work, Stephanie Kloss’s works render a psychogram of societal power relations.

On occasion of the exhibition, the catalogue “Avalon” by Stephanie Kloss has been published by Fantôme Verlag.

Cäcilia Brown, born in France, lives and works in Vienna, Austria.

She studied sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna under Monica Bonvicini and taught at the Kun-stuniversität Linz. Stipends: 2014 studio grant Bmukk, Tokyo, Japan 2013 studio grants Land Salzburg, Berlin 2012 studio grant Bmukk, Beijing, China.

Exhibitions (selection) 2018: " There are corner you can't get out of anymore.", Gabriele Senn Galerie, Wien (S); "Adieu, all you judges", Neuer Wiener Kunstverein (G) 2017: „Traces Of Time“, Leopold Museum, Wien (S); Musée du château des ducs de Wurtemberg, Montbéliard, France (G); WAF in Athens, Wiener Art Foundation Athens, Greece (G) a.o.

Stephanie Kloss, born in Karlsruhe. She lives and works as a visual artist in Berlin.

She studied architecture at the Berlin Technische Universität (diploma), and media art at Hochschule für Gestaltung Karlsruhe under Marie-Jo Lafontaine and Günther Förg, as well as photography under Thomas Struth and Candida Höfer. Stephanie Kloss's photographic works deal with sociological, political, and spatial phenomena. She received the cultural exchange scholarship Global 2019 from the Berlin Senate. She is represented in numerous solo and group exhibitions. Next to her artistic work, she teaches extracurricular studies at Universität der Künste Berlin (UDK) and Summer University, curates shows such as "Erotica" or "Piss-ing in a River. Again!" (Kunstraum Kreuzberg), and writes texts for various art magazines.

With kind support of



Bundeskanzleramt