

Tu Felix Austria.... Wild at Heart

Marko Lulic

Dorit Margreiter

Nicole Six & Paul Petritsch

Gregor Zivić

September 17 thru November 6, 2005

Exhibition: Eckhard Schneider

Curator: Rudolf Sagmeister

Press conference:

Thursday, September 15, 2005, 12.00 noon

Opening:

Friday, September 16, 2005, 8.00 p.m.



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You, happy Austria, create! For years the Austrian art scene – which is essentially a Viennese one – appeared to be overshadowed by other large European centers like London and Berlin. However it was in this way – unencumbered by excess hype – that artists here have been free to develop their work ideas undisturbed. A striking current representation of their individual artistic strengths might be embodied in a figure like Hans Schabus. Consider, for example, his large-scale work series “Das Rendezvous-roblem,” 2004, at the Kunsthaus Bregenz, or his current work “Das letzte Land,” 2005, at the Venice Biennial.

Far removed from a falsely understood sense of belonging, his work is characterized by a specific conception of material and space that is in the broadest sense also apparent in the work of the artists in this exhibition: Marko Lulic, Dorit Margreiter, Nicole Six & Paul Petritsch, and Gregor Zivić. Their works develop out of a highly personal exploration of a room or space, which forms the emotional framework for real and media-spawn vestiges from sculptural, architectural, and narrative fragments of image and space. Independent of current art trends, which orient themselves more on social action and sociopolitical problems, these artists develop their own



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individual experiences as highly personal artistic examinations of themselves and the conditions of the room/space.

The artistic atmosphere is similar to the work of David Lynch, whose film “Wild at Heart” (1990) has given this exhibition its title. What is referred to by this is the aesthetic mix of conceptual coolness and an unpredictable tempered wildness that allows this generation of thirty-to-forty-year-olds to create works of powerful images in which, gazing into the mirror of the other, the viewer experiences the two sides of proximity and distance, a sense of security and exposure, the physical and the psychic.

The exhibition “Tu Felix Austria Wild at Heart” brings together four major works recently produced by the artists, four autonomous, powerful statements which – as in the exhibition “Remind ...,” previously held at the Kunsthaus Bregenz – are tied together artistically by their shared thematic tenor.

Each artist has been allotted one floor for his or her work. On the ground floor is **Marko Lulic** with his critical homage to a gradually fading recollection of architectural modernism; on the first floor is **Dorit Margreiter** with her spatial-filmic reconstruction of staged recollection; on the second floor is **Gregor Zivić** with his spaceimage cosmos of private obsession; and on the top floor are **Nicole Six & Paul Petritsch** with their body-filmic experimental spatial measurement of Zumthor’s building; a fascinating prism of refracted emotional and architectural stimuli.

Marko Lulic

Marko Lulic, born in Vienna in 1972; grew up in Lika, Croatia, and Vienna; lives and works in Vienna.

Marko Lulic reconstructs modernist monuments by means of a wide range of materials and, using the medium of video, explores utopian monuments of modernism. He is interested in the relation between form and ideology and in determining the importance attributed to them.

Lulic’ House No. 1 (Weekend Utopia), 2005

As an extension of his focus on modernism, the artist will be presenting a house as a sculpture in the broader sense. Just as his objects in recent years have made reference to modernist monuments and architecture, “Lulic’ House No. 1 (Weekend Utopia)” marks another concrete allusion, this time to Albert Frey’s House No. 1, Palm Springs, 1940. After the exhibition is over,



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the work will be erected by the artist as a house on the Croatian Adriatic coast.

Setting forth previous investigations of form and ideology, this installation represents a further development in the artist's work. In addition, however, it also alludes to the exhibition location, to Vorarlberg's characteristic architectural influence, and recent art historical trends in art museums.

Gregor Zivić

Gregor Zivić, born in Vienna in 1965; lives and works in Vienna.

Interweaving and transcending the bounds of painting, installation, architecture, performance, photography, and video, Gregor Zivić builds a complex "world" in which he himself plays the protagonist, recording his expeditions and adventures with the help of video and large-format photography. In his elaborate "architecture sculptures" fiction and reality, different spatial perspectives, realms of color and material, autobiographical fragments, and elements from dreams and science fiction are intertwined. Though Gregor Zivić has primarily shown only his photographic work to date, he has created a comprehensive spatial installation for the exhibition at the Kunsthaus Bregenz which will allow visitors to visually immerse themselves in his world.

Bob's Pistol Building, Come Out and Find In, 2004/05

Video on DVD, 4:07 min, looped

Title: "Bob's Pistol Building," 2004/05

Camera and film editing: Georg Schenk and Stephanie Ortner

"Pistol Building": assorted materials, approx. 6 x 2 x 3.2 m

Bleachers: approx. 5 x 1.8 x 1.4 m

Wooden rib construction: approx. 4 x 4 x 3.8 m

Video tunnel: 8 x 4 x 3 m

Large photo printed on tarp: 4.2 x 9 m

Video on screen in "Bob's Pistol Building": "Bob," 2005; camera: Christine Hauptstummer

In addition there is a detached modular wooden frame construction with approx. 50 photographs



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Dorit Margreiter

Dorit Margreiter, born in Vienna in 1967; currently lives in Vienna and Los Angeles.

In her work, Dorit Margreiter addresses our view of architecture as it has been influenced by cinema and camera and, vice versa, its film image as influenced by real and fictitious buildings. To what extent is “film architecture,” even with real sets, in fact fiction? What messages are conveyed through the choice of locations and architecture? To what extent do buildings guide the eye of the camera and the perception of the viewer?

Grandeur et Décadence d’un Petit Commerce de Cinéma, 2004

Installation, 16 mm projection, DVD projection; color, sound

“The film and video projection ‘Grandeur et Décadence d’un Petit Commerce de Cinéma,’ a title that makes reference to Godard, was created for the *Liverpool Biennial* and examines the role of Liverpool as a location for the British film industry, especially as the backdrop for period pieces set in other cities like Dublin and Rome. Promio, the cameraman (the so-called ‘opérateur’) for the Lumière Brothers, plays a fictitious first-person narrator [...]: Ending up in Liverpool on a stopover en route to Dublin, she tells about her travels all over the world, for example to St. Petersburg, Athens, etc., where she is to operate the so-called ‘Cinématographe,’ a mobile unit consisting of camera, printer, and projector in one. [...] Margreiter takes advantage of Promio’s stopover to document the areas of Liverpool that have been used in the past as film set doubles for other cities.

Shown in a rear projection, the footage corresponds with the video documentation of the building of a film set for a scene set in 1897, the same year that Promio was to travel to Dublin. The various set locations, on the other hand, are shot on 16 mm. [...]

Translated from: Sabeth Buchmann, *Augen auf die Welt*, in “Dorit Margreiter. 10104 Angelo View Drive,” ed. by Matthias Michalka, MUMOK Vienna, 2004 (p. 29).

Nicole Six & Paul Petritsch

Nicole Six, born in Vöcklabruck in 1971; Paul Petritsch, born in Friesach in 1968. Collaboration since 1997; live and work in Vienna.

Nicole Six & Paul Petritsch have focused on human perception of space as a theme for years. Usually, their point of departure derives from everyday situations. They investigate and measure these by means of simple actions and interventions, which they document using video and photography. In doing so they reveal basic existentially physical, bodily, and emotional structures of being.

The apparently absurd, shallow test series create poetic and powerful parables about the *conditio humana* – address the theme of the vulnerability of man in space, tightness and expanse, borders and narrowness, being bound by the force of gravity, the fear of falling, the meaningfulness of “work” and “doing.”

“... Uncertainty, bottomlessness, and vertigo arise particularly in and around spaces which lack clear bounds and coordinates, but they are also evident in situations in which human action and perception are exposed to failure or at least to a sense of fragile seriousness. Six/Petritsch place themselves – and thus vicariously their viewers as well – in these kinds of extreme situations ...” Excerpted from: Thomas Trummer, “Gefährdung, Entzug und grundloses Aushalten. Zur Kunst von Nicole Six und Paul Petritsch,” 2005.



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KUB-Publication

Tu Felix Austria....Wild at Heart

With works by Marko Lulic, Dorit Margreiter, Nicole Six & Paul Petritsch, and Gregor Zivić, the Kunsthaus is presenting four of the newest positions in young Austrian art. What they all have in common is an approach that transcends the borders of painting, installation, architecture, sculpture, performance, video, and photography and mixes these media in manifold ways. In conjunction with the exhibition, a catalogue will be published that impressively documents the installations on display at the Kunsthaus Bregenz. Moreover, accompanied by biographic data, sketches, and photographic material, short essays will provide a well-founded introduction to the works and concepts of the artists.

Tu Felix Austria

Wild at Heart

Edited by Eckhard Schneider

With essays by Birgit Albers, Winfried Nußbaumüller, Rudolf Sagmeister, and Thomas Trummer

German/English, approx. 88 pages, approx., 32 color illustrations,

Softcover, 14.5 x 19.5 cm

Price: approx. 24.80 Euro

To be published in time for the exhibition opening

Publications of the Kunsthaus Bregenz can be purchased at: www.kunsthhaus-bregenz.at



KUB-Edition

Tu Felix Austria....Wild at Heart

The edition portfolio "Wild at Heart" as conceived especially for the exhibition at the Kunsthhaus Bregenz. It contains four sheets by the artists Marko Lulic, Dorit Margreiter, Nicole Six & Paul Petritsch and Gregor Zivić.

Marko Lulic,
Dorit Margreiter,
Nicole Six & Paul Petritsch,
Gregor Zivić

Wild at Heart, 2005

Portfolio with four photographs based on the works on display at the Kunsthhaus Bregenz

Limited edition of 60 units, numbered and signed, approx. 40 x 50 cm

Special price during the exhibition: 750.– Euro, incl. 10%VAT, plus forwarding expenses. Purchase price after the exhibition: 890.– Euro, incl. 10% VAT, plus forwarding expenses

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Thursday 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.