

GALLERIA RAFFAELLA CORTESE

PRESS RELEASE

Keren Cytter & Nora Schultz *Continental Break*

via a. stradella 7-1-4 | opening thursday 28 september h. 19:00-21:00
29 september – 23 november 2017 | tuesday – saturday h. 10:00-13:00 / 15:00-19:30 and by appointment

Gallery Raffaella Cortese is pleased to announce the show *Continental Break*, an unseen joint project by Keren Cytter and Nora Schultz. This exhibition is the third one that Keren Cytter presents in the gallery, while it is the first time Nora Schultz works in these spaces.

After several years of friendship and collaborations, the artists decided to develop, for the first time ever, a collective project that blends their artistic researches. Reality and fiction are merged in their work in such a deep way that it is impossible to discern one from the other, creating a new reality in which the viewers recognize moments of their own lives.

Keren Cytter's films, video installations and drawings represent our social reality through experimental narrative modes. The artist has especially worked with the media of the video in an innovative and meaningful manner, making use of a dreamlike, ironic and enigmatic language. Her works fascinate as much as they confuse, carrying the viewers through a world of broken reflections and overwhelming actions but deeply realistic.

Nora Schultz also develops her works starting from daily life, especially for the materials chosen: concrete, plastic, sheet metal, paper, felt, but also ready-made objects such as roller shutters or clothes. These are just some of the materials used for her sculptures, undressed of their usual function. Nora Schultz creates a change of context, not with the intention of alienation, but rather an extension of the possibilities of interpretation.

One of the two videos by Keren Cytter is showed in the center of the space n. 7 and projected onto a reflective material scattering lights and colors in the environment. The four-handed drawings display the shapes of the continents with synthetic and playful features but at the same time immediately recognizable by our visual memory. Also these works are realized on a reflective paper and imbued of the light of the video creating reflections in the space which striking Nora Schultz's hanging sculptures in an endless game of lights and shades. In the room's corner some curtains painted by the artists close off a small portion of the space from which the audio of Keren Cytter's second video invites us to enter. This is projected onto a structure designed and built by Nora Schultz; its uneven and sharp surface plays with the images of the video, shattering and confusing them, almost giving a visual image to Keren Cytter's narrative.

The space n. 4 will feature the important work MOP (Museum of Photography), an archive made up of 800 polaroids taken with a Polaroid 1200i by Keren Cytter during her travels through Berlin, London, the USA and Israel from 2012 to 2013. People, objects, places, transports, homes, hotels and food become witnesses of a daily wholly lived, between travels, work, relationships and all aspects of our lives, told through images of important moments.

Nora Schultz works in the space n. 1 in a minimal way featuring the *Sci-fi-interview* drawings and the *Tripod* sculpture, placed in the center of the hall. All these works tell a suspended, unrealistic and passionate story, without a linear tale, but with a broken, enigmatic, ironic and engaging narration, like in Keren Cytter's video works and MOP. The *Tripod* becomes a living creature, able of moving and escaping from the exhibition space, while the drawings are maps of these unlikely paths.

Keren Cytter's most recent solo exhibitions include: *Keren Cytter Selection*, Künstlerhaus Halle für Kunst & Medien, Graz (2016); *Keren Cytter*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (2015); *Rose Garden*, Indianapolis Museum of Contemporary Art, Indianapolis (2015); *Keren Cytter*, Kunsthal Charlottenborg, Copenhagen (2014); *Video Art Manual*, State of Concept, Athens (2014); *Keren Cytter: HOME*, Zach Feuer, New York (2014); *Show Real Drama*, Tate Modern Oil Tanks, London (2012); *Avalanche*, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam (2011); *Project Series: Keren Cytter*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2010).

After Nora Schultz's participation to the 2017 edition of Skulptur Projekte Münster, her most recent solo shows are: *Inge Mahn*, Kunstverein Braunschweig (2017); *Corner of the Eye*, Kadist Art Foundation, Paris (2016), *Kunstpreis der Böttcherstraße Bremen*, Kunsthalle Bremen, Bremen (2016), *Centre Dental*, Dépendance, Brussels (2016); *Die Geschichte vom Countdown*, Kabinett Dommuseum, Salzburg (2015); *Terminal+*, BMW Tate Live Performance Room, Tate London (2014), *Parrottree--Building for Bigger Than Real*, Renaissance Society, Chicago (2014), *Portikus Printing Plant and Portikus Sounds*, Portikus, Frankfurt Main (2012).

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