

VI, VII

PRESS RELEASE

David Lieske
Fantôme Mains Sur
VI, VII
16.04-16.05.2015

The gallery is thrilled to present the opening of *Fantôme Mains Sur*, German artist David Lieske's second exhibition at VI, VII.

The thirty works on display at the gallery were produced during the month of August 2014 when the artist was briefly living in Berlin's historic Hansaviertel.

The Hansaviertel is a small locality (the smallest among the 95 Berliner Districts) between Großer Tiergarten park and the Spree river within the central Mitte borough of Berlin. It was almost completely destroyed during World War II, but was rebuilt from 1957 to 1961 as a housing estate project by international master architects like Alvar Aalto, Egon Eiermann, Walter Gropius, Oscar Niemeyer, Sep Ruf etc., called Interbau.

Interbau was a housing development, constructed as part of the 1957 International Building Exhibition (IBA '57). The management of the overall plan was conducted by Otto Banning. The urban design competition was won by Gerhard Jobst and Willy Kreuer, whose plans in a modified form the later construction was based on.

Working within constraints of size, layout and cost, forty-eight architects designed a huge range of accommodation, both low and high-rise, with many permutations in structures and shapes. The entire ensemble, including two churches (St. Ansgar and Kaiser-Friedrich-Gedächtniskirche), is now protected as a historic monument by Unesco.

Right beside the U-bahn train station is Hansaplatz square. Now a non-discernible traffic junction, this was an active plaza before the war. Led by Kolleg X students from the Bauhaus in Dessau, there is an active movement to reclaim this Plaza as a community space and share it with the cars and bicycles that currently dominate.

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David Lieske's work has been the focus of more than fifteen solo exhibitions, including: *Platoon (RL-X)*, MUMOK, Vienna; *Déformation Professionnelle*, VI, VII, Oslo; *Platitudo Normale*, CAPC musée d'art contemporain, Bordeaux; *Style and Subversion 1979-2012*, Corvi-Mora, London; *A Greater Administration of Lower Interests*, Tobias Nachring, Leipzig; *Imperium in Imperio*, Alex Zachary, New York and *Everything that doesn't happen today doesn't happen*, Galerie Buchholz, Berlin.

He has participated in numerous group exhibitions including *This and That II*, Corvi-Mora, London; *Whole Lotta Love*, Contemporary Fine Arts, Berlin, *Formalismus. Moderne Kunst, heute*, Kunstverein Hamburg and *More Carpets*, Galerie Isabella Bortolozzi.

Lieske co-founded Dial Records together with Peter Kersten in 1999 and Mathew Gallery, Berlin in 2011. The artist, born 1979 in Hamburg, lives and works in Berlin.

"*Fantôme Mains Sur*," on view from 16.04 – 16.05.2015 will open with a preview at Tordenskiolds gate 12, Oslo N-0160, on April 16th from 19:00-21:00.

For questions about the exhibition or artist please contact Esperanza Rosales: +47 902 798 62

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Isobel Williams
VI, VII
29.05-28.06.2015

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David Lieske
Fantôme Mains Sur
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my father and i live in america now. from our highrise at the coast we can see a small island with military facilities. standing at the window we watch the departure of a big military plane (a camouflage bomber / stealth b52) it almost crashes with some euro-fighter jets which are flying around there like mad. we had read something about this in the news, although the manoeuvre is quite aggressive it has been previously announced so we're not really worried about it. but suddenly the whole thing seems to spin out of control. from a subterranean silo a rocket blasts off heading towards a direction totally different from where the bomber went (which is an anomaly). the rocket disappears into the clouds destination unknown. there is a prompt response. coming back from the same direction, a rocket hits the facility. another rocket blasts off. war breaks out right before our eyes... so what do we do now? - we have to flee! we are very calm and considerate. i pack a suitcase. deciding what to take with me, i have no difficulty to set priorities but somehow it turns out to be tricky to squeeze all my belongings into the suitcase. our destination is hamburg - the westheide motorway junction. i put my clothes into a black getzner suitcase, plus computer, pyjamas and a blanket. i look forward to the car ride with my dad and i feel i'm well prepared. i wonder about the things i was packing and what benefits not yet revealed they will have later on our trip and already now i am pleased with the eventual surprises the items in my suitcase may contain for my father once it turns out we have just the right things at hand. no panic, no sirens. my father says "now they establish neo-liberalism on a global scale." he flips through a issue of der spiegel that seems to support his thesis journalistically. the offshore base we can see from the car window is badly hit. flashes streak under water and the buildings on the island seem to be fatally struck - fire bursts out - the whole island sinks into the sea. though there seems to be cease-fire now i do feel a bit frightened.

-David Lieske