

JACKY STRENZ

Kurt-Schumacher-Str. 2 60311 FRANKFURT am MAIN

EVA BERENDES

Guards

May 18 – July 15, 2018

In her fourth solo exhibition at Jacky Strenz Eva Berendes presents a series of new sculptures dealing with commercial infrastructure of article surveillance systems. These systems are installed as gates at the entrance areas of supermarkets and department stores, sometimes placed directly at the check-out. Controlling that goods have been paid for and released from security tags before they leave the store they replace the function of a doorman. In order not to disturb the customer's shopping experience they are in general designed to be of low visual presence.

In her new series Berendes is interested in the sculptural-painterly potential of these objects whose aesthetic combines stylistic aspects of the respective consumer world with pragmatic elements, like, for example decorative panels that are supposed to protect the structures against confrontations with the shopping carts.

The new series builds on Berendes' longstanding interest in manifestations of the pictorial in the broadest sense. Berendes' works are mostly designed as flat and permeable screen-like structures in the space. These are characterized by the reflection of purely abstract form approximating decoration, display, furniture design and urban infrastructure. By alluding to functional objects Berendes' works seek for openness and ambiguity in the encounter of the painterly with the viewer.

The artist has studied in Munich, Berlin and London and took part in numerous international group and solo exhibitions, amongst those at Hara Museum, Tokyo; CRG Gallery New York City; Glasgow Sculpture Studios; Witte de With, Rotterdam; Daimler Kunstsammlung; S1 Artspace Sheffield. More recently she also worked in interdisciplinary projects. e.g. on set designs for contemporary dance.

A comprehensive catalogue of her work has been published in 2017 at the occasion of a solo exhibition at Städtische Galerie Waldkraiburg by Verlag für moderne Kunst Wien.

On May 15 Berendes' architectural commission for the Trade Union Congress London will be launched. A collection of sunglasses designed in collaboration between Berendes and the brand Oxydo has just come out. The artist is further taking part in a group exhibition at Daimler Collection Berlin titled „Visions of Exchange“ opening on June 1st.