



To the press

Irene Kopelman «Entanglement»

Stefan Burger «Caressing an Irritable Colon – The Christoph Schifferli Collection of Ephemera and the Georg A. Hermann Archive as Continuous Flow Systems»

16 March – 12 May 2013

Press preview: Friday, 15 March 2013, from 11 a.m. on

Opening: Friday, 15 March 2013, 6 p.m.

With the exhibitions of Irene Kopelman (*1974, Argentina) and Stefan Burger (*1977, Germany) Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen is presenting two different artistic positions which enter a dialogue. Both projects attempt the impossible: to capture complex phenomena and relationships visually.

The works of the Amsterdam-based artist Irene Kopelman are the result of intensive research which includes close cooperation with scientists as well as her own fieldwork. In the process she searches for suitable methods to transform certain phenomena into drawings, paintings and sculptures.

In the exhibition «Entanglement» **Irene Kopelman** is showing three series of delicate drawings and paintings on paper which she produced during visits to scientific expeditions in Malaysia, Panama and Peru. The artist approached the forests there in cautious and very different ways: whereas for the Panama series of drawings, *Leaf Litter Traps*, she used the outlines of fallen leaves and small twigs which she gathered in nets – the so-called leaf litter traps as laid out by researchers, the diptychs of the Malaysia series (*Sampling Greens*) show Kopelman's attempt to capture in colour studies the immeasurable and perhaps infinite varieties of shades of green in the jungle. In the Peru series (*The Exact Opposite of Distance*) a system ultimately becomes visible which first enabled the artist – overwhelmed by the density and proximity of the jungle – to produce a representation. She created a section with borders made up of crossing lines – such as a tree trunk, a liana or a branch lying on the ground. She then depicts the contents of this “window” in the drawing.

This comprehensive work of Irene Kopelman is being shown at an institution in its entirety for the first time. A publication, produced in cooperation with Roma Publishing, accompanies the exhibition.

Stefan Burger's project is also an attempt at the artistic representation of a proliferating system: the Zurich-based artist, who sometimes uses the ritualised organisational forms of presentation and production conditions of art as a sounding board for his installations, photographs and photo-collages, is showing a continuation and further development of the exhibition «Les éphémères de Schifferli» curated by Giovanni Carmine at Hard Hat in Geneva in 2012. This was a portrait of the ephemera collection of Christoph Schifferli from Zurich, which concentrates on artist posters, exhibition invitations and other incidental printed matter from the art system.

For Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen Burger is expanding the project with a focussed insight into the archive of the German photographer Georg A. Hermann, the central component of which is a photographic archive with pictures of the art world and its protagonists that has grown over decades. Burger transforms the systematic approach of the two collectors on the one hand and the meandering abundance of material on the other into a temporary installative condition.

Biographical information:

Irene Kopelman (*1974 Cordoba, Argentina) studied at the School of Arts, National University of Cordoba, AR and the Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam. Solo exhibitions took place at the following institutions and galleries (amongst others): Motive Gallery, Brussels (2013); Gasworks Gallery, London (2012); BAK, basis voor actuele kunst, Utrecht, NL; Labor Gallery, Mexico City (2011); Centro Cultural Montehermoso, Vitoria-Gasteiz, ES (2009). Further, she participated in various group exhibitions (amongst others): Bienal do Mercosul, Porto Alegre, BR; Fondation d'entreprise Ricard, Paris; MUSAC - Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León, ES (in cooperation with Mariana Castillo Deball) (2011); De Vleeshal, Middelburg, NL (2010); MACBA - Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona; Performa, New York (in cooperation with Mariana Castillo Deball); FRAC - Ile-de-France Le Plateau, Paris; Contemporary Image Collective - CIC, Cairo (2009).

Stefan Burger (*1977 Müllheim/Baden, D; lives in Zurich) graduated in Photography at the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK). Solo exhibitions took place at the following institutions and galleries (amongst others): Freymond-Guth Fine Arts, Zurich (2013); Hard Hat, Geneva (2012); Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden, D; Walcheturm Zürich (2011); Fotomuseum Winterthur, CH; Istituto Svizzero, Venice; Laura Bartlett Gallery, London; Neuer Saarbrücker Kunstverein, D (2010); Kunstmuseum Stuttgart; Stiftung Binz39, Zurich; Hauser & Wirth Collection, Henau, CH (2009). Further, she participated in various group exhibitions (amongst others): Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aarau, CH; Kunstmuseum Luzern, CH; Kunsthalle Nürnberg, D; NRW Forum, Düsseldorf, D (2012); Kunsthalle Krems, AT; Kunsthaus Zürich; Cabaret Voltaire at the 4th Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art; KUMU, Tallinn, Estonia; ReMap3 Athens; Kunstbunker Nürnberg, D; Independent Art Fair, New York (2011); Kunsthaus Glarus, CH (2010).

Events and educational program:

Guided tours

Tuesday, 19 March 2013, 6.30 p.m.

Sunday, 12 May 2013, 3 p.m.

Art Lunch

Thursday, 18 April 2013, 12 noon

Guided tour through the exhibition followed by lunch

Guest cook: Team of the Wyborada Frauenbibliothek (women's library), St. Gallen

Admission: CHF 25/members CHF 22; please sign up at info@k9000.ch

Workshops for school classes

From 18 March we are offering workshops at the exhibition free of charge.

More information: www.k9000.ch (Art Education/Workshops for Schools).

High-resolution images can be found in the press kit on our website (Information/Press). For further questions please contact Giovanni Carmine (carmine@k9000.ch) or Maren Brauner (brauner@k9000.ch).

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Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen
Davidstrasse 40
CH-9000 St. Gallen
Tel: +41 (0)71 222 10 14
Fax: +41 (0)71 222 12 76
info@k9000.ch
www.k9000.ch

Opening times:
Tuesday to Friday 12 noon–6 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m.–5 p.m.