



Gesellschaft
für Moderne Kunst
am Museum Ludwig
Köln

PRESS RELEASE—2016 YOUNG ACQUISITION

JULIETTE BLIGHTMAN *Time and death (some say sex)* | *Collective Nouns*

This year the initiative *Young Acquisition* of the Gesellschaft für Moderne Kunst am Museum Ludwig is acquiring the two works *Time and Death (some say sex)* and *Collective Nouns* by the British artist Juliette Blightman. Since 2005 the initiative has made twelve acquisitions for the Museum Ludwig.

Juliette Blightman was born in Farnham, Great Britain, in 1980 and lives and works in London and Berlin. Juliette Blightman was born in Farnham, Great Britain, in 1980 and lives and works in London and Berlin. She earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at the Byam Shaw School of Art in London in 2003 and a Master of Fine Arts at Byam Shaw /Central St. Martins in 2007. The main theme of her work is the relationship between art and life, between the private and the public. She creates her works like ongoing journal entries articulated in different media, such as photography, drawing, painting, text, and video, or combined in installations.

Her works were recently featured in the exhibitions *Juliette Blightman / Ellie Epp* at the Badischer Kunstverein in Karlsruhe (2015), *Come inside, Bitte at Eden Eden in Berlin* (2015), *Eden Eden Eden* at Karma International in Los Angeles (2015), *Gerry Bibby / Juliette Blightman* at the Kunsthaus Bregenz (2014), *I hope one day soon you'll come and visit me here* at Isabella Bortolozzi Galerie in Berlin (2011) and as well as *the day grew dark* at the Künstlerhaus Stuttgart (2010), among others.

Collective Nouns

The installation *Collective Nouns* shows a houseplant and a framed photograph of a small girl in a bathroom. These are accompanied by a billowing, bassy sound. It is easy to presume that the girl is Blightman's daughter, Eve, who appears time and again in her works. The sound, which makes the plant's leaves gently sway, derives from recordings made at the Berghain nightclub in Berlin. The viewer becomes part of a setting that could be the venue of a past event, or one that is impending. Who was there? What is happening beyond the space, and where are the sounds coming from? Through the personal photo of her daughter the artist offers insight into her private life, and with the sound she generates a strange atmosphere of presence and absence at the same time.

Are these places or moments that have been missed out on? Where does private life begin, where working life? By also addressing Blightman's role as mother and artist, her works deal with these themes again and again.

Time and Death (some say sex), 9.37 min.

The single-channel video piece *Time and Death (some say sex)* combines video footage, photographs, and pencil and color drawings into a loose collage-like sequence to form a continuous video. At the outset, for instance, it shows drawings from various interiors, then a party scene captured on video, and a photograph of two people in the same room, sleeping on a sofa, who beforehand were shown dancing in the video. The linking of the images



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recalls the everyday practice of quickly viewing photos on smartphones. From the midpoint of the video on, we hear a manipulated version of the song “Temptation” by New Order, a new wave and post-punk band from Manchester. With it, Blightman creates a nostalgic atmosphere resonating with the feeling of a melancholy flashback: the moment at which one realizes that images, moments, or experiences are transient.

The Young Acquisition: In joint sessions with Dr. Yilmaz Dziewior, director of the Museum Ludwig, and Dr. Barbara Engelbach, curator for contemporary art and media at the Museum Ludwig, the members of the *Young Acquisition* initiative present works representing various artistic positions from their own generation and discuss these in detail. The next “young acquisition” is then selected collaboratively from the proposed works.

Since 2005 works by the following artists have been acquired for the Museum Ludwig:

- 2015** Katja Novitskova *Approximation (shoebill)* (2014) / *Growth Potential (SALTS)* (2014)
- 2014** Yto Barrada *A Modest Proposal (2010–13) I Cinéma modèle – Alcazar* (2013)
- 2013** Ed Atkins *A Tumour (in English)* (2011)
- 2012** Klara Lidén *Toujours Être Ailleurs* (2011)
- 2011** Nairy Baghramian *Spanner* (2008)
- 2010** Roman Ondak *The Stray Man* (2006)
- 2009** Susan Philipsz *Lowlands* (2008)
- 2008** Edgar Arceneaux *Arrangement without Tormentors* (2003–04)
- 2007** Tom Burr *Video Booths* (1995)
- 2006** Bojan Šarčević *Working Surface I* (2004) / *Miniatures* (2002)
- 2005** Peter Piller *durchkämmten* (2004) / *Liegeplätze* (2004) / *deko+munition* (2003) / *Pfade*, from: *Von Erde schöner* (2003–04)

For further information please visit <https://gesellschaft-museum-ludwig.de/en/initiativen-und-preise/junger-ankauf/>

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