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The Aarhus Art Building and Galleri Image presents

Katarzyna Kozyra **The Midget Gallery presents...** **In Art Dreams Come True**

August 30 – October 26, 2008

In art dreams can come true, and in Polish artist Katarzyna Kozyra's filmic universe everything is possible: Baroque fairy tales populated by drag queens interacting with Snow White and the seven dwarfs and castration are just some of the scenarios meeting the visitor at this thought provoking and controversial exhibition.

The exhibition presents selected videos from the series *In Art Dreams Come True*. Simultaneously the exhibition marks the world premier of the last work in the series, *A Summer Tale*, co-produced by Galleri Image. *In Art Dreams Come True* deals with fundamental questions about human identity and gender. Both have been formed by society's consensus about what is right or wrong, beautiful or ugly. Kozyra confronts myths, taboos and stereotypes of this kind and uses them to discuss the conventions behind human nature, behavior in the social sphere, and standards for beauty, gender and body.

In her works Kozyra mixes the video medium with art performance and installation. Her universe unfolds in an area between dreams and reality. The palpable, colorful and lopsided stagings are humorous but still prod the onlooker to deal with his or her own prejudices and desire.

Kozyra stages herself in different feminine roles – from a cheerleader in close encounters with muscular athletes to an opera diva directed by the strict "Maestro" – and thus starts a discussion about what femininity is. She challenges our understanding of sex roles and identity and through her art she exemplifies the post-modern notion of gender as something chosen by the individual.

Katarzyna Kozyra (b. 1963) has received great recognition through her artistic career and was honored at the Venice Biennale in 1999. The exhibition is curated by Hanna Wróblewska, Zacheta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw in collaboration with Beate Cegielska, Galleri Image.

The exhibition is sponsored by The Danish Arts Council's Committee for International Visual Arts, The Danish Arts Council's Committee for Visual Arts, the Cultural Development Foundation, the Municipality of Aarhus, The Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Denmark, Calamus, Montana Furniture and Consul George Jorck and Emma Jorck's Fund.



