

# Kunsthalle Bielefeld

## Keren Cytter. Hot Lava Night

2.12.23 - 3.3.24

Press release:

Keren Cytter (\*1977 in Tel Aviv) tells stories – absurd, funny and mostly abysmal. Through experimental forms of narrative and perception, Cytter’s work explores social alienation, meaning and representation of language, and the function of the individual in cultural systems. She is primarily a filmmaker, but her work also includes performances, plays, sculptures, drawings, novels, children’s books, and interdisciplinary festivals. With the often cyclical logic of her works, Cytter deconstructs classical narrative patterns as well as conventional language conventions and interpretive sovereignties. Her montages of memories, dream images, and conceits, reminiscent of amateur videos, create multilayered, poetic compositions of a mostly irritatingly grotesque quality.

The exhibition presents over twenty drawings and two new video works by the artist, which are being shown for the first time at the Kunsthalle Bielefeld. These include the eponymous short film “Hot Lava Night”.

Radio reports depict the extent of a fictitious catastrophic flood that leads to a global crisis of unimagined proportions. While showing people’s capacity for compassion and unity, the film depicts the blossoming of a young romance that begins in New York and ends at a coastal refuge. A place where there are no signs of devastation and the boundaries between fiction and reality are blurred.

The artist’s drawings also revolve around social alienation, the function and representation of language and the significance of the individual in society. In addition to her own works on paper, the Kunsthalle Bielefeld is showing Cytter’s artistically designed script excerpts and storyboards for her films as well as drawings that appear in “White Elephant”.

About Keren Cytter

Keren Cytter studied Fine Arts at the Avni Institute of Art and Design, Tel Aviv. Her works have been shown in solo exhibitions in internationally renowned institutions, such as the Kunstmuseum Winterthur (2020), the Center for Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv (2019), Keren Cytter Museion Bolzano (2019), the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (2015), the Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen (2014), the Tate Modern, London (2012) and the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam (2011). She has participated in numerous group exhibitions and biennials, including Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt (2017); Museum Brandhorst, Munich (2015); Kunsthalle Wien (2015); Moscow Museum of Modern Art (2011); Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (2011); Witte de With, Rotterdam (2010); Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven (2010); 8th Gwangju Biennale (2010); Whitney Museum, New York (2009); 53rd International Art Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia, (2009). Her films have been shown at numerous film festivals, including Bolzano Film Festival (2019); European Media Arts Festival, Osnabrück (2018); Bergamo Film Festival (2016); Berlin International Film Festival, Forum Expanded (2008). Cytter was awarded the Joseph Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship (2021), Absolut Art Award, Stockholm (2009), Ars Viva Prize, Kulturkreis der Deutschen Wirtschaft, Berlin (2008) honored.

Curator

Benedikt Fahrnschon