

Live Stream

**with Patricia L. Boyd, Jason Hirata,
Nina Könnemann, Michael E. Smith
and Matt Welch**

April 25 – July 27, 2024

Opening: Wednesday, April 24, 6–10 pm

Press preview: Wednesday, April 24, 11 am

Concurrent with Gallery Weekend Berlin, Fluentum presents the group exhibition *Live Stream*, featuring videos, sculptures, and installations that engage in a dialogue with the exhibition space and its specific histories and materiality. *Live Stream* takes the form of an open exchange with five artists who were invited to adapt existing works in response to the site of Fluentum. Individual artistic practices transform the historical site of the former Luftgaukommando III and later US headquarters—its classicist architecture and massive natural stone—into a broad network of associations. Through sculptural interventions in the building, the works in *Live Stream* initiate a reorientation of perspectives and emotional states, as familiar visual axes give way to an activation of the entire space.

Located in the heart of an extensive complex, the present-day exhibition space originally served as the representative entrance hall for a Nazi air force military facility. Designed as a barracks and administrative headquarters, the elaborate entrance area clearly stands out. As the totalitarian regimes of the 20th century vanished, so too did its political function. Almost ten years ago, the complex's transformation into a residential area began—a conversion superimposed on the ideological architecture that will influence and change it in the long term. The exhibition *Live Stream* therefore confronts the private and the public, the domestic and the political, the present and the past. As the tongue-in-cheek title suggests, the works on display activate the site's rigid architecture like a stream of life, reflecting the specific inscriptions of people in the formal abstraction of the National Socialist material vocabulary.

Moving image and its technologies seem ubiquitous, yet their silent dependence on physical media is often overlooked. By depicting and scanning (imaginary) spaces, infrastructures, and architecture, the works in *Live Stream* highlight the material conditions of showing. In sculptures and video works by Michael E. Smith, subtle and mischievous interventions turn the monumental building into malleable material, while Jason Hirata focuses on the social dimensions of exhibition making. A ceiling suspended sculpture by Patricia L. Boyd, made from old floor boards, uses the site's staircase void. Matt Welch's installation, consisting of a kinetic sculpture, video, and sound, merges the immaterial space of the video and its affective qualities with the unnervingly homely residential area

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surrounding Fluentum. Nina Könnemann's films observe public space and break up the banality of everyday life at its margins.

Live Stream was curated by Dennis Brzek and Junia Thiede.

Press Preview

The press preview will take place on Wednesday, 24 April at 4 pm. To sign up, please write an e-mail to press@fluentum.org.

Press material and images are available at [this link](#).

About Fluentum

Fluentum is a nonprofit, privately run institution dedicated to exhibiting, producing, and collecting contemporary art, with a special focus on time-based media such as film and video. An initiative of Berlin-based entrepreneur and collector Markus Hannebauer, Fluentum opened its exhibition space in a former military complex in Berlin in 2019. Fluentum's exhibition space is located in the imposing main building of a former military facility. Constructed between 1936 and 1938 during the era of National Socialism by architect Fritz Fuß as „Luftgaukommando III,“ the building served a key infrastructural role for the German Luftwaffe. After World War II, US forces utilized the building as their military and intelligence headquarters until the last GI departed in 1994.

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CONTEMPORARY
TIME-BASED
ART

Opening Hours

Fr 11 am–5 pm
Sat 11 am–4 pm

Special Opening Hours Gallery Weekend Berlin

Thu–Sun 11 am–6 pm

Opening and Reception

Wed, April 24
6–10 pm

Clayalle 174
14195 Berlin

Admission free

Accessibility

Wheelchair-accessible ground floor. The Lift for access to the 1st floor is only partially suitable for wheelchairs. Parking on site.

In case you need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our team.