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Ready to Sleep (Arbeitstitel)
Félix González-Torres
Mina Lunzer
Jan Timme
curated by_Sabeth Buchmann

Opening: 02.10.2014
Exhibition: 03.10.–08.11.2014

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And when sleep passed into the realm of life, the dream had to appear as a superfluous, romantic double.,
2009-ongoing

Mina Lunzer's installation is the first public presentation of her long-term research project on the cinematic history of sleep and dream research: The artistic part consists of a film, the scientific part of an analysis developed from an exchange with science historians and anthropologists.

Based on her research, film and text fragments are assembled into a visual essay in the context of *The Century of the Bed*. Divided into six stations, the history of sleep and dream research manifests as the cultural history of technological developments, whose concepts and boundaries become as apparent as the changes that their objects (sleep and dream) have experienced to this purpose.

Lunzer's work is guided by the assumption that through the film technology of the 20th century sleep is no longer—as in conventional iconographies—perceived as a passive or even mortified state, but as an active, reanimated one. This shift of perception results from the integration of a cinematographic concept of time and movement, which subsequently leads to an analogy of brain and video engineering ("The Brain as a Camera Projector"). As it becomes apparent from an example case documented in the exhibition, the synchronization of sleep and dream, body and mind is accompanied by an intensified use of media technology—a moment, that should change both the perception of the dream and its timeliness as well as the associated notion of subjectivity. Iconographies dating back far in culture and art history document the attempts—each undertaken with specific aesthetics and techniques—to depict sleep and dream in the sense of positivist media contents. In contrast, Lunzer's image and text montages highlight the changes that the employed image technologies—as they are upheld in the now again current brain scanners (keyword: "war on terror")—cause in their objects.

Sabeth Buchmann, 2014
Translated by Emily Terényi

Program announcement:
Film screening *Ready to sleep (Arbeitstitel)* with Sabeth Buchmann and Mina Lunzer
29.10.2014, 19:00
mumok cinema, Museumsquartier, 1070 Wien