KUNSTHALLE GIESSEN

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What's next? Kunsthalle Giessen's upcoming programme 2024

In April of 2023, the Kunsthalle Giessen fittingly celebrated its reopening with the two-part exhibition **Forced Amnesia** by Luxembourg artist **Mary-Audrey Ramirez**. Part two of the exhibition will open on 2 February 2024 at Casino Luxembourg – Forum d'art contemporain (Luxembourg), curated by Kevin Muhlen and Dr Nadia Ismail. The exhibition is accompanied by a joint catalogue, to be published by *Distanz Verlag* in March 2024.

Alongside the solo exhibition A Journey You Take Alone by British artist Emma Talbot, on show until 28 April, the Kunsthalle Giessen will also present two further female positions in 2024: Rachel Maclean and Raphaela Vogel. The successful collaborations with the Panel on Planetary Thinking and the Stadttheater Giessen will continue next year.



Fig.: Rachel Maclean: DUCK, film still, 2023, © Rachel Maclean



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Exhibitions

Emma Talbot. A Journey You Take Alone Until 28.04.2024

The exhibition A Journey You Take Alone by Emma Talbot (*1969 Stourbridge, UK; lives in Reggio Emilia, IT and London, UK) centres on birth and death – the beginning and end of human life. Her works, whether it be her densely woven sequences of images on silk, videos



Fig.: Installation viewt Emma Talbot. A Journey You Take Alone, Kunsthalle Giessen, 2023, photo: Rolf K. Wegst

or three-dimensional objects, all deal with archaic aspects of love and mourning, age and transience, as well as with themes such as gender inequality, corporeality and the interplay between nature and spirituality. The artist's personal memories and experiences often flow into her stories, combining to form her distinctive style, in which faceless beings interact with animal-like creatures and are always interspersed with existential questions or statements about life and death. The British artist combines text and image,

developing a characteristic aesthetic that ultimately unfolds in a foundational narrative structure.

The exhibition has been realised in cooperation with the Kunsthall Stavanger. Curated by Dr Nadia Ismail.



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Rachel Maclean 12.07. – 13.10.2024

This July, the Scottish artist **Rachel Maclean** (*1987 Edinburgh, GB; lives in Glasgow, GB) will transform the Kunsthalle Giessen into a 'walk-in' Gesamtkunstwerk. Her multimedia practice



Fig.: Rachel Maclean: DUCK, film still, 2023, © Rachel Maclean

centres around virtual realities, deepfakes and photographic techniques that she employs in order to bring garish, fantastical narratives to life. Fuelled by politics and pop culture, Maclean develops satirical societal parodies that address digitalisation, gender and capitalism. Opulent and elaborately staged, the artist creates immersive environments and paintings in which the lines between the

two-dimensional and tangible space become blurred. Maclean uses her deepfakes to negotiate current issues such as the consumption of news from unverified sources. She studied at Edinburgh College of Art and has exhibited at the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Tate Britain, London; Trade Gallery, Nottingham; Kunsthalle Kiel, Kiel and Kunstpalais Erlangen, Erlangen, among others. She also represented Scotland at the 57th Biennale di Venezia in 2017.

There are plans to publish a catalogue in collaboration with the Kunstpalais Erlangen. Curated by Dr Nadia Ismail.



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Raphaela Vogel 29.11.2024 – 02.03.2025



Fig.: Raphaela Vogel: Found Subject, 2023, installation view BQ, Berlin, photo: Roman März, Berlin, Courtesy: BQ, Berlin + the artist

Sculptural sound and video collages as well as installation works that interact with architectural and natural conditions stand at the centre of Raphaela Vogel's work (*1988 Nuremberg, lives in Berlin). Spatial experience is an essential part of her artistic practice, meaning that Vogel's work can never be viewed in isolation of its surroundings. To achieve this, the artist favours the use of found objects that she adapts and repurposes. Thus, Vogel disrupts their original function while lending them a new symbolic power. The artist develops her video works alone: she films, slips into different roles and produces, confronting viewers with her intimacy and immediacy. She studied at the Akademie der Bildenden Künste Nuremberg under Michael Hakimi and at the Städelschule in Frankfurt am Main under Peter Fischli. Her solo show at the Kunsthalle Giessen follows exhibitions at the Westfälischer Kunstverein, Münster; Kunsthalle Basel, Basel; Galerie BQ, Berlin; Kunsthaus Bregenz, Bregenz; Haus der Kunst, Munich, including her 2021 presentation

in the Kunsthalle Giessen's display window as part of the INSIDEOUT series.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a catalogue produced by the Kunsthalle Giessen in collaboration with the Synagogue de Delme, France, the Kunstverein am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz, Berlin and Le Confort Moderne, Poitiers, France Curated by Dr Nadia Ismail.



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Cooperations/Specials

Panel on Planetary Thinking
Connor Cook + Darren Zhu: 27. – 29.05.2024
Aisling O'Carroll: 04.11. – 10.11.2024



Fig.: photo: Paul Hess

The Panel on Planetary Thinking is a think tank of the Justus Liebig University Giessen that researches and publicises sustainability issues from a planetary perspective. In order to develop an overall planetary perspective, the panel breaks down established boundaries between scientific disciplines such as the natural and cultural sciences and enables new collaborations between scientists and artists by means of a residency fellowship. Fellows Connor Cook with Darren Zhu and Aisling O'Carroll will present their results at the

Kunsthalle Giessen in 2024 under the heading Planetary Times.

(Re)Spacing 08.05. + 23.10.2024



Fig.: photo: Rolf K. Wegst

In July of 2023, the cooperation between the Giessen Municipal Theatre and the Kunsthalle Giessen was successfully relaunched. As part of the (Re)Spacing performance series, members of the dance ensemble develop choreographies and performances that are showcased at the Kunsthalle on a one-off basis. In doing so, the dancers reference the previous exhibition while negotiating its themes with their unique performative form of expression.



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Mary-Audrey Ramirez. FORCED AMNESIA #2

Opening: 02. Februar 2024, 6 pm at the Casino Luxembourg – Forum d'art contemporain

Exhibition: 03.02. – 28.04.2024



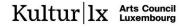
 $\label{eq:Forced Amnesia} \textit{Fig.: Mary-Audrey Ramirez}, \textit{Owly on Stone/Forced Amnesia}, \textit{2023} \\ \textcircled{0} \\ \textit{Mary-Audrey Ramirez}.$

The exhibition Forced
Amnesia by Luxembourg
artist Mary-Audrey Ramirez
that was on show at
Kunsthalle Giessen in April
2023 will be expanded on at
Casino Luxembourg. Inspired
by digital technologies and
computer game scenarios,
the artist Mary-Audrey
Ramirez (* 1990 in
Luxembourg, LU; lives and
works in Berlin, DE) creates
immersive worlds that stem

from her own internal cosmos. Her installations give viewers the impression of being inside a computer game. In order to achieve this, she utilises the creative potential of artificial intelligence. For Ramirez, this means a collaboration between man and machine as they support each other in the creative process. Combining fact and fiction and the constant migration of the digital into our world are integral parts of her practice. In her work, Ramirez creates bridges between the physical and digital worlds. The artist's work feels like a journey directly into her nocturnal dreams and her innermost being. Her works are imbued with a dystopian beauty, from which a subtle humour occasionally glimmers, softening the darkness of the motifs. Mary-Audrey Ramirez thus reveals the mechanisms of Forced Amnesia, because the escape is 'sweet', but the confrontation with the 'ugly' reality is merely deferred.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a joint catalogue produced by both institutions and published by Distanz Verlag in March 2024.

With the kind support of







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Epub: Matthew Cowan: The Scream of the Strawbear
Presentation of the online publication and edition
Fri., 12.01.2024, 6 pm
Oberhessisches Museum



Fig.: Matthew Cowan: The Strawbear, 2019

Matthew Cowan's recent online publication and his new editions will be presented as a follow-up to his solo show The Scream of the Strawbear. In his photographs, videos, installations and performances, the New Zealander explores European customs and the role they play today. Rituals, dresses and costumes are central to these endeavours. His own editions will be presented amidst the cultural-historical objects on display at the Oberhessisches Museum. The exhibition was held from 07.09. —

17.11.2019 in cooperation with the **Oberhessisches Museum**. An online publication is now being launched to mark the solo show, and will be presented on **Friday**, **12 January 2024 at 6 pm**.

Film: Sibylle Ruppert



Based on the exhibition **Dancing In Darkness**, which was shown at the Kunsthalle Giessen in 2023, a film about the life and work of the artist **Sibylle Ruppert** will be produced and released in 2024.

Fig.: Archive material estate SR, Courtesy Paul Walter and Sigrid Seeger-Walter



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Cooperations/Specials:

Presentation of the epub and editions

Matthew Cowan: The Scream of the Strawbear im Oberhessischen

Museum

12.01.2024, 6 pm

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