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July 20 – November 11, 2012

behind landscape
hinter der landschaft

Tamara Grcic | Jaakko Heikkilä | Karen Irmer | Anastasia Khoroshilova | Shai Kremer
Oh Seok Kwon | Volker Lang | Trevor Paglen | Reynold Reynolds | Elham Rokni

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Since the emergence of the concepts of land art, which originated in America in the early 1970s and subsequently experienced an international breakthrough, the state of our natural, urban, as well as social living environment has dramatically changed the world over. Climate change, natural disasters, the increase in the number of regional conflicts, the resulting shift in the global political balance, as well as the realization that not only nature but also the technical achievements we long believed to be routinely manageable have ultimately become uncontrollable—all of these factors have transformed the way we look at the world.

The advancing process of the internationalization of art is essentially a response to this development. While land art and its related ideas have by all means proven to be critical, albeit largely individualist, contemplative artistic concepts – capable after all of focusing and sharpening our perception of the threat to our living environment and its resources – with critical sensitivity, artists are currently scrutinizing the new global living conditions below the surface of the objectively visible world.

What is particularly striking about this is that as an artistic instrument, the language of aesthetics has lost nothing of its force. On the contrary: it is not only theoretical concepts or concepts predominantly residing in the field of social intervention, but above all powerful, memorable images whose lucid poetry and extraordinary intensity are capable of contributing to a new debate on the state of our world.

The exhibition **behind landscape | hinter der landschaft** traces this phenomenon. It presents stances by artists of international relevance whose analytical, artistic eye reveals an extended notion of landscape. Beyond any ideologization, natural landscapes are increasingly and likewise always perceived as mental and social spheres in a constant state of transformation. Against this horizon, a perspective that all of the stances share – the meshing of internal and external, public and personal views – analyzes the state of a world that is becoming more and more complex in striking visual metaphors that are aesthetically powerful, conceptually vivid, and acutely topical.

Thomas Elsen

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Exhibition:

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Featuring: Tamara Grcic | Jaakko Heikkilä | Karen Irmer
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Trevor Paglen | Reynold Reynolds | Elham Rokni

Curator: Thomas Elsen

Opening hours:

Tuesday– Sunday: 10.00 – 17.00 h, Monday closed

The H2 – Centre for Contemporary Art in the Glass Palace

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exhibition informations





Tamara Grcic

Fire
2004
C-Print/Aluminium
80 x 120 cm, 7 pieces





Jaakko Heikkilä

Unspoken Destinies
Gurgen in the living room
Nazervan, Armenia 2004
Photography
51 x 120 cm





Karen Irmer

Dämmern: Moor
2011
C-Print
150 x 100 cm





Anastasia Khoroshilova

Starie Novosti (Old News)
2011
Mixed media installation





Shai Kremer

Fallen Empires
Kalya
2009
101 x 127 cm





Oh Seok Kwon

Brückenhaus
2008
Videostill





Volker Lang

Landschaft 2, Norditalien
1990
50 x 60 cm
b/w Photography





Trevor Paglen

They Watch the Moon

2010

© Trevor Paglen, Courtesy
Galerie Thomas Zander, Köln
Altman Siegel Gallery, San Francisco





Reynold Reynolds

The Last Day of the Republic
2009
2 channel video installation
HD from 16mm, 8min loop
ed 5, RR02-022





Elham Rokni

Clavileño, 2010
HD projection, loop
Camera: Rami Katzav

