

Press release June 2015

ANNEGRET SOLTAU

PERSONAL IDENTITY

11 September – 31 October 2015

Opening: Friday, 11 September, 6 p.m.

Artist's talk: 1 October, 7 p.m.

In occasion of Open Art Munich



Annegret Soltau (*1946 in Lüneburg / Germany) dedicates herself to female identity, identity in general, the relation of body and space, and to the specific aesthetical examination of social conditioning.

During her studies at the Academy in Hamburg, in the late sixties and early seventies, with Hans Thiemann, Rudolf Hausner and David Hockney, a period of protest and rebellion, when academic rules and bondages were refused, the artist experimented with drawing and graphics. The line quickly became an expanding element and in spectacular performances Soltau embroils herself, others and the surrounding environment.

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A series of photos from these „knitting“ actions, graphic or physical and gestural elaborations, originates the following step of „oversewing“ self-portraits, a process that finally results in compositions of ruptured, recomposed and sewn photographic fragments. New portraits are thus constructed, mostly from real families and circling around their protagonists, an intimate and personal approach, but at the same time of general relevance and significance in relation to questions like personality, individuality, gender, change, and social codification. Similar transformations are visualized by Soltau in performances and video clips.

Demolition, reconstruction and a form of collage, not by glue, but by thread, dominate her procedures. What has been expressed by painters like Francis Bacon, Asger Jorn, Jean Dubuffet and others, namely the suggestion of a multiple nature, the metaphorical image of human oppression, the continuous research on life and being, a sort of reorganisation of things, all this is articulated by Soltau in the broken, destroyed and then „repaired“ pictures where contrasted surreal realities are meeting. As we can see in „N.Y. Faces“ (2001/2002) for instance, a group of works created in reaction to September 11th, where shock and sadness were frozen in open mouths. The works represent a combination of passport photos and a photographic documentation of a dentist's treatment. On the back are adjoined press messages from the concerning event. „Personal Identity“ (2003-2014) dedicates to the subject of our commonly certificated existence which can not be imagined without chipcards. The cycle „ZeitErfahrung“ contains nearly the complete oeuvre of the artist in smaller scale and will only be finished with her death.

After two presentations of Soltau in Italy – 2012 with a collective show entitled „CORPI SOLITARI. AUTOSCATTI CONTEMPORANEI“, curated by Giorgio Bonomi, and in 2013 with a personal show in Brescia – in 2015 we focus on certain essential aspects of the oeuvre with examples from the long term project „ZeitErfahrung“, from „Personal Identity“ and „N.Y. Faces“, as well as some examples from former periods with some selected works from „Selbst“.

Annegret Soltau will talk about work and life on the 1 October 2015.

Vita

1946 born in Lüneburg

1962-66 works in different professions as for example with emergency doctors from the harbour in Hamburg

1967-72 studies painting and graphics at the Hochschule für Bildende Künste, Hamburg, with Hans Thiemann, Kurt Kranz, Rudolf Hausner and David Hockney

1970 marries the sculptor Baldur Greiner

1972 Master class Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Wien

1973 grant from DAAD for Milan / Italy

1975 first sewings over photos / **1976** first photo etchings / **1977** first sewings between photos

1978 birth of the daughter / **1980** Birth of the son

1982 working grant of Kunstfonds eV., Bonn

1984 grant for Villa Massimo, Rome / **1986-87** Villa Massimo artist residence, Rome

1986 First prize of the competition "Kunst im Öffentlichen Raum", Zentralkrankenhaus, Bremen

1989-90 working grant of Kunstfonds eV., Bonn

1998 Maria Sibylla Merian Preis, Hessisches Ministerium für Wissenschaft und Kunst, Wiesbaden

2000 Wilhelm-Loth-Preis, Kunstpreis of the City of Darmstadt

2011 Marielies Hess-Kunstpreis, Frankfurt a.M.

Member of: Darmstädter Sezession (ab 1974) / Deutscher Künstlerbund, Berlin (ab 1984) / Deutsche Fotografische Akademie, Leinfelden (ab 1988)

Teaching and workshops: Hochschule für Gestaltung, Offenbach a. M. / Fachhochschule Bielefeld / Universität Köln / Internationale Sommerakademie für Bildende Kunst, Salzburg / Universität, Flensburg / Technische Universität, Darmstadt / Johannes Gutenberg Universität, Mainz / Kunstakademie Braunschweig / Freie Akademie Nürtingen / Hochschule Darmstadt

Galleries: Galerie Anita Beckers, Frankfurt a.M. / Haleh Gallery, Berg am Starnberger See / Galerie Merkle, Stuttgart / Galerie Christa Burger, München / Maurer Zilioli, Brescia-München

Important recent personal shows:

2015

PERSONAL IDENTITY, Maurer Zilioli Contemporary Arts, München

2014

DOPPELKOPF, Kunstfreunde Bergstraße e.V., Fürstenlager Auerbach (mit Baldur Greiner)

EINHEIT UND TRENNUNG – Familienbilder, Frauen Museum, Bonn (K)

2013 PULSE MIAMI ART FAIR, Selected works by Annegret Soltau, Miami, USA, Courtesy: Galerie Anita Beckers

SUMMA ART FAIR MADRID, Madrid, España, One Woman Show, Courtesy: Galerie Anita Beckers

L'ESPERIENZA DEL TEMPO, Maurer Zilioli – Contemporary Arts, Brescia, Italia

IDENTITY, Haleh Gallery, Berg am Starnberger See (mit Shadi Ghadirian) (K)

2011 Marielies Hess-Kunstpreis, Goldhalle des Hessischen Rundfunks, Frankfurt a.M. KÖPF – Zeichnungen, Radierungen, Fotomontagen, Galerie Rothe, Frankfurt a.M.

2010

SELF PERFORMING, Galerie Merkle, Stuttgart (K)

2009 ARBEITEN 1975 – 2009, Galerie Friebe, St. Gallen, Schweiz

2008

MAL BIN ICH FRAU, MAL BIN ICH MANN, Galerie Caesar & Koba, Hamburg

2007

PERSONAL IDENTITY, Fraunhofer Institut, Darmstadt (K)

2006

ICH SELBST – Werkschau, Institut Mathildenhöhe, Darmstadt (K)

NACHTBLICKE, Giedre Bartelt Galerie, Berlin

2005

NICHTS IST WIE ES SCHEINT, Galerie Ulrike Buschlinger, Wiesbaden

Important recent group shows:

2015

THE PHOTOGRAPHERS, KUK, Monschau

GENDER IN ART. MOCÁK – Museum of Contemporary Art, Krakow, Poland (K)

FRAUEN VIDEO ARBEITEN. ZKM | Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie, Karlsruhe

GENDER-CAMERA-PERFORMANCE. ZAMEK – Culture Center, Poznan, Poland (K)

FEMINISTISCHE AVANTGARDE. Kunst der 1970er-Jahre aus der Sammlung Verbund, Wien. Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg (K)

ART CENTRAL HONG KONG. Courtesy Galerie Anita Beckers, Frankfurt

PERFORMING PORTRAITURE. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Lizbeth and George Krupp Gallery (Gallery 264), Collection of Manuel de Santaren

2014

Festiwal Nowej Sztuki „LABiRynT”, Słubice/Polen, Frankfurt/Oder (K)

ART TORONTO. International Art Fair Toronto, Kanada, Courtesy Galerie Anita Beckers, Frankfurt

TOUGH & TENDER. P8GALLERY – Cooperative Gallery for Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv, Israel (K)

WOMAN. Internationellt Feministiskt Avantgarde Från 1970-Talet Foto och Video från Sammling Verbund, Mjellby Art Museum, Halmstad, Schweden

ART SOUTHAMPTON NY, USA, Courtesy Galerie Anita Beckers, Frankfurt

ARTEVIDA: CORPO [BODY], Fundação Casa França-Brasil, Rio de Janeiro, Brasilien (K)

TRANSITION, Galerie Anita Beckers, Ausstellungshalle Schulstraße, Frankfurt a.M.

WOMAN. The Feminist Avant-Garde from the 1970s. Works from the Sammling Verbund, Palais de Beaux Arts, Brüssel, Belgien (K)

7 SEEN – seven artists, Haleh Gallery, München

FOTOGRAFIA CUCITA, Galleria Whitelabs it., Mailand, Italien

2013

PULSE Project, curated Presentation "Selected by" art collectors: Baryn Futa and Manuel de Santaren, MIAMI BEACH ART FAIR, Miami, USA

DREISSIG MAL DREISSIG No.2, Galerie Merkle, Stuttgart

ART.FAIR. Cologne, Haleh Gallery, Berg am Starnberger See (K)

SIE.SELBST.NACKT. Paula Modersohn-Becker und andere Künstlerinnen im Selbstakt. Paula Modersohn-Becker Museum, Bremen (K)

HASENMILCH – Mensch und Tier. Galerie Christa Burger, München

FRAUENBILD. Kunstforum Seligenstadt

DIE LEINWAND DES LEIBES. Körperkult als neue Soziale Plastik, Walkmühle, Wiesbaden (K)

MUJER. LA VANGUARDIA FEMINISTA DE LOS ANOS 70, Obras de la Sammlung Verbund, Viena, Círculo de Bellas Artes, Photoespaña 2013, Madrid, España

SP-ART FAIR IN SÃO PAULO, Brasilien, Galerie Anita Beckers, Frankfurt a.M.

FADEN – Von der Komplexität des Unscheinbaren, Deutscher Künstlerbund Projektraum, Berlin

2012

ACCROCHAGE, Galerie Merkle, Stuttgart

CORPI SOLITARI, Maurer Zilioli Contemporary Arts, Brescia, Italien

FRANCIS BACON E LA CONDIZIONE ESISTENZIALE NELL'ARTE CONTEMPORANEA, Strozziina Fondazione, Palazzo Strozzi, Florenz, Italien (K)

REVISITED – DISKURS ZUR KUNSTGESCHICHTE IN DER FOTOGRAFIE", Galerie Christa Burger, München

SEEING ONESELF, Casablanca Biennale, Marokko / Gallery kai, Osaka, Japan (K)

2011-12

VOICE OF WOMEN, Haleh Gallery, Berg am Starnberger See

DAS TEXTILE ALS MEDIUM DER ZEITGENÖSSISCHEN KUNST, Kunstarchiv Darmstadt

2011

ENTRE-TEMPS, Galerie Friebe, St. Gallen/Schweiz

COLLAGE – ZERSTÜCKTE WELT, Galerie Netuschil, Darmstadt

2010

SEEING ONESELF, Fotomuzeum Cecskemèt, Ungarn

DONNA: AVANGUARDIA FEMMINISTA NEGLI ANNI'70 dalla Sammlung Verbund di Vienna, Galleria nazionale d'arte moderna, Rom (K)

VORREITERIN, Gabriele Münter Preis, Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin und Frauenmuseum, Bonn (K)

KÖRPERNAH – AKTE/NUDES, Galerie Tammen, Berlin

KÜNSTLER & KÜNSTLERFREUNDE, Galerie Merkle, Stuttgart

Works in public collections:

Hessisches Landesmuseum, Darmstadt

Städtische Sammlungen, Darmstadt Fraunhofer Institut, Darmstadt

Polizeipräsidium, Darmstadt

Städtische Sammlungen, Frankfurt a.M.

Städel Museum, Frankfurt a.M. Sammlung Deutsche Bank, Frankfurt a.M.

Sammlung DZ-Bank, Frankfurt a.M.

Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg

Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg

Kunsthalle zu Kiel

Kunsthalle Bremen

Städtische Sammlungen, Leinfelden
International Art Collection Junij, Architekturni Muzej, Ljubljana, Slovenija
Artpool Art Research Center, Budapest, Ungarn
Wilhelm-Hack-Museum, Ludwigshafen
Städtische Sammlungen, Mainz
Kulturreferat der Stadt München
Städtische Sammlungen, Rüsselsheim
Sammlung Videokunst der Stadt Salzgitter
Schleswig-Holsteinisches Landesmuseum, Schloß Gottorf, Schleswig
Städtische Sammlungen, Schwäbisch Hall
Staatsgalerie, Stuttgart
Graphische Sammlung der Universität Trier
Rheinisches Landesmuseum, Bonn
Museum des 20. Jahrhunderts, Wien, Österreich
Kunsthalle Wilhelmshaven
Städtische Sammlungen, Wolfsburg
Städtische Kunsthalle, Mannheim
Sammlung THE VERO GROUP, Houston, Texas, USA
Sammlung VERBUND, Wien, Österreich
Hochheimer Kunstsammlung, Hochheim a.M.
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA
Frauen Museum, Bonn
Archive Artist Publications, München
Mediathek, ZKM, Karlsruhe
Materialien und Dokumente: BAM-Portal

