



Agnieszka Polska

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Future Days, 2013, video, 20:00 min

The video reenacts an encounter between a selected group of artists who have an imaginary meeting after death in a place known as the 'heaven for artists'. This encounter, which in most cases would not have been possible during their lives, includes key figures from the 20th century art scene such as Bas Jan Ader or Charlotte Posenenske meeting their Polish contemporaries, who were important then and are nearly forgotten now, as Włodzimierz Borowski or Jerzy Ludwiński. The element that joins all the characters together is a specific willingness to abandon the art, as we know it, to radically extend its cultural meanings. The video, both humorous and melancholic is shot in the beautiful landscapes of Gotland, Sweden. The dialogues are based on actual quotations from these selected artists' statements and texts and reflect upon what their concept of art.



***The Forgetting of Proper Names*, 2009, animated video, 3:45 min**

The video is based on Sigmund Freud's essay of the same title. Excerpted segments of the essay are used as a voice-over for the animation created from photographs of happenings and performances of minimal and conceptual art from the fifties and sixties.

The objects, deprived of their primary context, lose the function they were meant to perform and finally are grouped as an absurd collection devoid of meaning.



***Sensitization to Colour*, 2009, video HD, 5:02 min**

In 1968 in Poznan, Włodzimierz Borowski, a Polish avant-garde artist, performed his action *Sensitization to Colour*. The performance, painterly and colourful, was documented in black and white photographs, which Agnieszka Polska used as a basis to rebuild the space in which it was originally enacted using materials only in greyscale. The film, which can be taken as a commentary on the process of understanding art from the past, shows a new space for the performance, one that has been abandoned by the artist and all viewers.



***My Favorite Things*, 2010, animated video, 5:35 min**

The protagonists in the video are animated artworks with a conceptual, minimal or Dada background, by such artists as Marcel Duchamp, Robert Morris, and others. Polska uses a common like children counting-out game as a means to pull piece by piece iconic art images from an imaginery mixed bag filled with historical items. For Polska art becomes a toy or fetish-like object that can be easily manipulated by changing the context through visual associations. Polska achieves this effect by mixing typical household items amongst these well known artworks.



Small L Beam, 2012, c-print, 30 x 40 cm

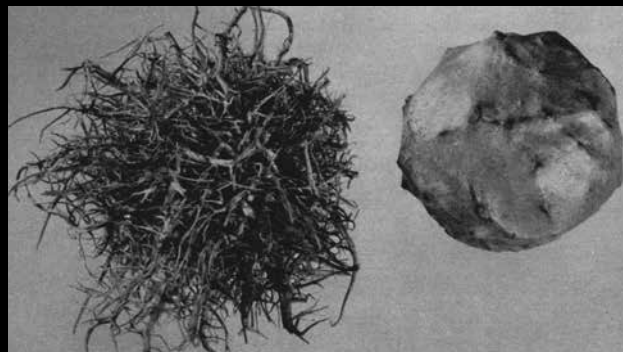


Arton 4, 2010, c-print, 150 × 127 cm



How the Work Is Done, 2011, video 6:26 min

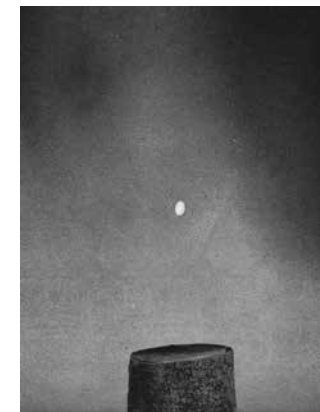
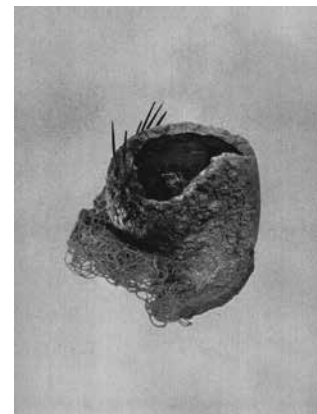
The video *How the Work is Done* is a quasi documentary referring to a real event from 1956. It began with a group of fine art students from the Academy in Cracow who due to the political waves, chose to close themselves in the sculpture-ceramic studio thus beginning the strike. Amongst the ceramic ovens, tools and unfinished sculptures these students abandoned their work and staged an unofficial strike. During that time they spent living and sleeping in make shift beds, they dreamed of creative work as if it was arduous physical labor. This video questions the social and political effectiveness of artistic activities and what is the social meaning which can be extracted from the experience of doing.



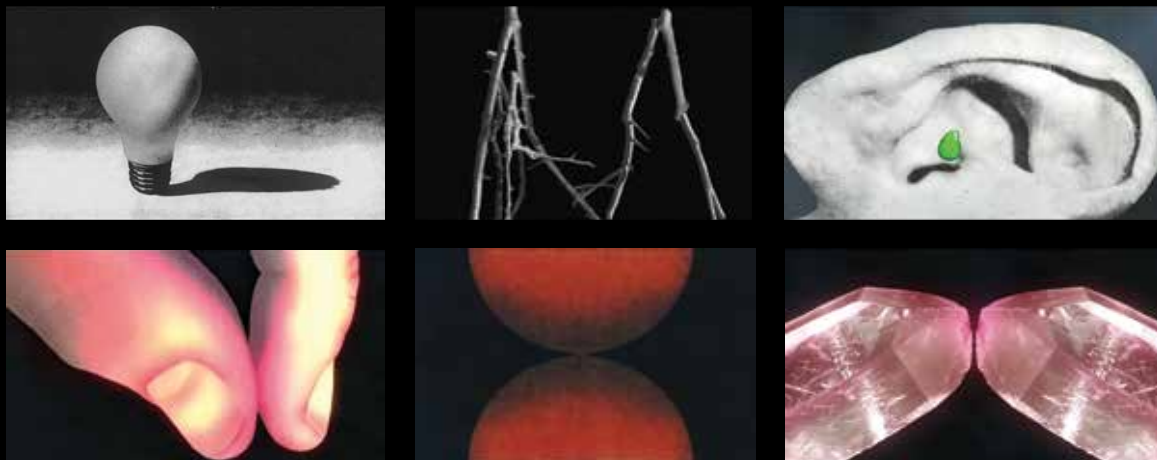
The Garden, 2011, HD-DVD, 11:45 min

The video *The Garden* refers to Paweł Freisler, a Polish artist active mostly in the 1960s and 1970s, who moved to Sweden. In the late 1970s he stopped being active as an artist and started running a garden. Freisler is known mostly for his 'art of story telling' -ephemeral practice which involved the telling of stories about his performances and art objects, impossible to confirm.

From this point of view, also his escape from public life and from the participation in the art world can be another story dedicated to create a legend; his 'mystic' garden can be considered as a new scene for his performance. *The Garden* shows a hypothetical visit in his Swedish land, the visit that in fact didn't take place but this is the only solution to preserve the myth.



Levitating Egg, 2011, c-print, 30 x 40 cm each



Five Short Videos, 2012, HD-DVD, video-installation

Five Short Videos is a multiple screen video installation realized for the Future Generation Art Prize at PinchukArtCentre in 2012. The work incorporates various of her animations that explore how we visualize objects in motion. This selection of short videos is a collection of omitted elements from her earlier works.

AGNIESZKA POLSKA Born in Lublin in 1985. Lives and works in Warsaw.

SCREENINGS (SELECTED)

2014

Hair, 19th Biennale of Sydney, AU

2013

Hair, 13th Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul, TR

20th International Festival of Animated Film, Stuttgart, DE

Kino der Kunst, Munich, DE

2012

29th Kasseler Dokumentarfilm- und Videofest, Kassel, DE

Memoirs of an Amnesia, Images Festival, Toronto, CA

Agnieszka Polska/Alina Szapocznikow, Tate Modern, London, UK

The Themersons: 1 Day Before Yesterday – 1 Day After Tomorrow,

ICA -The Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK

12x12. The IBB Video Lounge, Berlinische Galerie, Berlin, DE

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTED)

2013

Pseudoword Hazards, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg, AT

Nonsense Syllables, Summerhall, Edinburgh, UK

2012

Transfer: PinchukArtCentre, Kiev, UA

Aurorite, Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, PL

2011

The Gardener's Responsibility, Georg Kargl BOX, Vienna, AT

2010

Decades, Kunstmuseum Dieselkraftwerk, Cottbus

Three Videos with Narration, ŻAK | BRANICKA, Berlin

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTED)

2013

The Black Moon, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, FR

The Future Generation Art Prize @ Venice, Palazzo Papadopoli, Venice, IT

Six Memoirs for the Next..., Bregenzer Kunstverein, Bregenz, AT

Focus Poland 3: Take 5, Centre of Contemporary Art, Toruń, PL

2012

Intervention, Belvedere, Vienna, AT

Sport in Art, MOCAP, Cracow, PL

21 Artists Shortlisted for the Future Generation Art Prize, PinchukArtCentre, Kiev, UA

The Call for Fashion, Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw, PL

Soundworks, ICA -The Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK

Grey Peak of the Wave, Harris Lieberman Gallery, New York, US

Air de Pologne, De Garage, Mechelen, BE

The Forgetting of Proper Names, Calvert 22 Gallery, London, UK

2011

Based in Berlin, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin, DE

2010

Early Years, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin, DE

Good Old Days, Aarhus Kunstbygning, Aarhus, DK

2009

Anabasis: Rituals of Homecoming, Festival of Dialogue of Four Cultures, Łódź, PL

Freedom from Profit, Zachęta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw, PL

Breathless, Market Hall, Vienna, AT

2008

Ain't No Sorry, Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw, PL

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