

press release

We cordially invite you to the group show ENCLOSED SPACE with the art works of KIRSTIN ARNDT, CLAUDIA LARISSA ARTZ, WOLFGANG FLAD, STEFANIE KLINGEMANN, ROBIN MERKISCH, KAI RICHTER and ARIADNI VITASTALI.

ENCLOSED SPACE

KIRSTIN ARNDT / CLAUDIA LARISSA ARTZ / WOLFGANG FLAD / STEFANIE KLINGEMANN / ROBIN MERKISCH / KAI RICHTER / ARIADNI VITASTALI

April 5 – April 27, 2024

Opening: **Friday, April 5, 2024, from 7pm**
In the presence of the artists

Performance **Friday, April 5, 2024, 7:30pm**
Performance by and with Stefanie Klingemann

Artist Talk/Finissage: **Saturday, April 22, 2024, 5pm**
Discussion on the exhibition and artist survival strategies with the participating artists, moderated by Sibylle Feucht, artist and curator, Bonn

Opening hours: Thursday and Friday 3:00pm – 6:30pm | Saturday 1pm – 5pm
and by appointment

Thanks to:

Under the Label *enclosed space* the participating artists show their works at irregular intervals and in shifting cooperation's. They are all united by their preference and love for the enclosed space, regardless of the formal approach.

KIRSTIN ARNDT marks and defines space through her work. To do this, she uses material, which is known from other contexts, for example metal sheets, impact sound insulation or PVC tarpaulins. The folding and draping forms the material in unusual shape(s), builds and encloses space and interacts with the respective exhibition venue, so that her large-format works are much more interventions and installations than just sculptures.

CLAUDIA LARISSA ARTZ' *enclosed space* refers much more to the metaphysical space than to the physical in her paintings and drawings, where she spreads her own strict system of forms, that often derives from geometric elements used as building components for her pictorial spaces before they are partly dissolved again, looking worn out and aged, pointing towards the fact that space never exists absolutely but always only temporarily.

WOLFGANG FLAD'S spatial objects evoke association to organic structures, it even seems as if the materialized, visible space of the objects is actually just the space in between the invisible organic structures. The enclosed space turns into the gap in between spaces.

STEFANIE KLINGEMANN occupies space with her interventions. Through subtle, minimal interventions in exhibition and/or public spaces, she shifts their reception. Besides physical interventions she also used methods of action and performance. The *enclosed space* for her is the material warehouse she uses for her works.

The photographer and sculptor ROBIN MERKISCH surrounds in his *Wood Models for Concrete Sculptures* space. These sculpture models are optionally reminiscent of architectural master plans of cities, bunkers or guarding facilities, which also have to do with their materiality of pressed wood, that surrounds an aura of practicality and massiveness.

The sculptures of KAI RICHTER do not surround the room, but challenge, define and force it into a different direction. At the same time, the space dominates the work. It all starts from it. Building materials serve as tools in dealing with the space. But they also form the aesthetic canon of Richter's works.

In ARIADNI VITASTALI'S drawings, the space of the paper becomes the enclosed space and therefore the territory of pictorial episodes in which elements of form, color, gesture and line are in a kind of suspended state and define this space as abstract elements, which liberate a fleeing view of the momentary and subjective reality.

ACCOMPANYING EVENTS

Performance: Friday April 5, 2024, 7:30pm

Performance by Stefanie Klingemann

Artist Talk: Saturday April 27, 2024, 5pm

Discussion on the exhibition and artist survival strategies with the participating artists, moderated by Sibylle Feucht, artist and curator, Bonn (www.atworld.ch)

KIRSTIN ARNDT | kirstin-arndt.com

* 1961 in Ottendorf, living and working in Düsseldorf

Study at Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste Karlsruhe (1991 – 97), master student

Diploma; since 2006 professorship at the Hochschule Mainz. Artist in Residence a.o. in France, Spain, Ireland; Projects with architects and designers.

CLAUDIA LARISSA ARTZ | claudialarissaartz.com

* 1969 in Bad Nauheim, Study of free painting, Düsseldorfer Kunstakademie (2000-2006) at

Helmut Federle, master student, diploma und study of interior architecture, Fachhochschule Trier (1990-1996), diploma in engineering, several stays abroad in Paris (Cité), Kansas (State University), Oslo (National College of Art & Design), 6 years teaching in color-composition and drawing (Academy of Communication Design), freelance work in architectural offices, competitions art on construction, site-specific projects in church spaces, lives and works in Cologne since 1997.

A dynamic/tension of static/movement characterizes abstract geometric shapes in a natural color climate my painting. By the fine and sparse application of pigments, by leaving the canvas structure open, the image surface begins to breathe. The resulting transparency of color oscillates between light and dark, between light and shadow.

WOLFGANG FLAD | wolfgangflad.de

Wolfgang Flad is a german sculptor who was born in 1974 in Reutlingen. First, he studied textile design at the University of his hometome and then free art at the Stuttgart Akademie der Bildenden Künste. In 2005 he moved his life and work center to Berlin. His works which seem to float through the ceiling of rooms, use simple materials and combine upcycling concepts with an aesthetic that remind of organic and biological structures. His works are not only present in galleries but also in the public space, such as in the Staatsgalerie Stuttgart, the Kunstmuseum Stuttgart and Albstadt and the Tampa Museum of Art in the United States.

STEFANIE KLINGEMANN | stefanieklingemann.de

I see art as an undertaking between the socially impossible and the individual Unavoidable. From the observations in everyday life, especially those in public space, I gain by experimenting and researching findings, which I transform into creative form. What in art takes shape, it can not only stimulate social discourses, but decisively shape them. I always look for what is available, work from the construction to show the potential of the location and also to activate it in participatory moments. With as little as it takes so much as possible - to make it visible, to make it experienceable - is the aim of my artistic acting. The focus of my artistic research is on intervention in public space, performance, installation and participation.

Born 1977, lives and works in Cologne and Eifel

ROBIN MERKISCH | merkisch.com

*1971 in Düsseldorf, wo er lebt und arbeitet. Robin Merkisch studied from 1991-98 photography and Sculpture at the Folkwang Universität der Künste in Essen and was 1994-95 with a Scholarship abroad at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam. From 1994 onwards, he has worked on numerous exhibitions in Germany and abroad and worked again with industrial forms and models. His works were exhibited either as objects or in some series documented by photography and later shown as a picture. Through a graduate scholarship from the DAAD he worked in 1999/2000 in British Columbia, Canada and finally for a Thematic Residency at the Banff Center for the Arts, Alberta, Canada. 2001/02 Merkisch received a Project scholarship of the Art and Culture Foundation of the Staatskanzlei NRW and a scholarship abroad in 2008 of the State Chancellery NRW with residency in Ontario and Newfoundland, Canada.

KAI RICHTER | kairichter.eu

Born in Munich, training as an industrial mechanic, second educational path and studies of Art History, Philosophy, English Studies, History as well as Free Art Studies at the Kunstakademien Münster and Düsseldorf with Joachim Bandau and Master Student with Hubert Kircol Lecturer at the Peter Behrens School of Art, Düsseldorf since 2008

Richters` works are exhibited e.g. in the Museum für Konkrete Kunst, Ingolstadt, Kolumba, Art Museum of the Archdiocese of Cologne and the Collection of the Kunsthalle Mannheim

ARIADNI VITASTALI | vitastali.com

Greek artist born in 1970 lives and works in Greece. She studied at University of Fine Arts St. Étienne/FR (1994) and at the University of Fine Arts in Paris/FR (1998)

Since then she has participated in a number of international solo and group exhibitions. Of which to *Paintings* in the Yiayiannos Art Gallery (2001), *Happy Days* in the Astrolavos Gallery (2019), Athens/GR, participation at the *Salon of Réalités Nouvelles* in Paris/FR (2002, 2003), at *the Art Athina*, Athens/GR (1999, 2015, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023), *Art on Paper* New York/US (2022, 2023) and *Uiaf* (2023) in Ulsan, South Korea. Vitastali`s works are part of several collections including the Collection of the National Bank of Greece, the Eurobank, the Piraeus Bank, the Société Général and UBS.