



Ruth van Beek, Hanna Mattes & Tania Theodorou

19.12.14 – 21.12.14

For the opening of STUDIO 47, Céline Manz invited us to curate an exhibition. Her invitation coincides with a dialogue that has been under way beginning early this year with "Occupational Hazard", a project (set-up by Tania Theodorou and Hanna Mattes) with and about artists with jobs – touching on related subjects such as the curious economy and value system of the arts, raising questions concerning it's nature: a profession, a vocation or a life-style?

This is an ongoing investigation manifesting itself in conversations, exhibitions, auctions and other means of communication that we intend to continue having in different locations, including under the auspices of STUDIO 47.

For this show, we selected works of ourselves and Ruth van Beek that relate loosely to the ideas of Studio 47: appropriation in times of the internet, the abundance of photography and the immediacy of communication. We decided to focus on our most common ground, the love of bookmaking. The works in the show correspond directly to the books that in some cases they derived from, in others served as an inspiration. Ruth Van Beek's works function for us as an interesting starting point – relevant in this context for its analogue manner and playful collage.



Ruth van Beek

works with a growing archive of found photographic material, images are arranged in constantly changing ways.

From these odd combinations and decontextualized images she makes her work; "Manual nr 2 Dancing Figures" reproduces photograph crops from a vintage dancing manual, using the book's spine as the formation axis of unexpected combos and impossible dance moves. Between the dancers a new personage appears. 'The manual' is an ongoing work. It functions both as a manual for the viewer and as a personal instruction.

Hanna Mattes

re-stages images from mass media. The visual language she uses triggers our memory of popular movies, theatre and news-events.

Her photo series & publication "Encounters" (2013) is inspired by the photographers from the early days (1880's- 1920's), who wanted to capture the metaphysical and the supernatural (aura- and ghost-photography). She used the same "old", analogue techniques to create illusions. Strange objects and light reflections appear in her photographs that are not supposed to be there. "Encounters" researches the way we look at things that we cannot explain.

Tania Theodorou

is showing an enlarged and copied crop of a waterfall out of a stock photo archive, carefully framed as to isolate the content from any context, and effectively stealing that content from the stock photo.

In addition there will be some work from a collection of photos that "come with the frame" and are re-worked to create originals out of the repeated stock images of happy couples, families and life-events...The Book PLA, Is a collection of dictionary definitions of the word Play, from which the visual works have derived as illustrations.