

CLEAN HANDS AND DIRTY HANDS Klaus Schuster

Opening: 16.01.2009, 7 p.m.; press talk: 16.01.2009, 11 a.m.

Duration: 17.01. – 07.03.2009, Tue – Sat 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. & Wed – Fri 3 – 6 p.m.

Location: Kunstverein Medienturm, Josefigasse 1, A-8020 Graz

Contact: key@medienturm.at, +43.(0)316.740084, www.medienturm.at

Thanks to: Land Steiermark, cultural department; BMUKK Vienna, art section; Stadt Graz, cultural department

Supporting program: Kojé Medienturm, quartier21/MQ Vienna

Opening: 22.01.2009, 7 p.m.; Duration: 23.01. – 15.03.2009, every day 12 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Catalogue: publisher house Folio, ISBN 978-3-85256-460-9

Ed., curator Sandro Droschl, text: Anselm Wagner

Artist's donations available



The works of Klaus Schuster document the continuous changing "relation of depicted object, used method and contextual knowledge." (Christian Höller) The shifting which has captured and keeps captured the connection of these parameters, cannot be reconstructed by the mere image concept. These representations clearly indicate that a sort of draft quality remains inscribed on them, and that, via these hypothetical character, they give insight into the process of the image generation itself, a "self-organisation" as "complex interaction of visibility, apparatus, institutions, discourse, bodies and figurativity." (Christian Höller)

"The image becomes an object of desire, of the desire for meaning, whereof one knows that it lacks." (Douglas Crimp) And, as could be added, of a reality, whereof one knows that it does not exist." Reinhard Braun

In the exhibition at the Graz-based Kunstverein Medienturm CLEAN HANDS AND DIRTY HANDS, Klaus Schuster will juxtapose works from two different, new bodies of work. The first group comprises images which are generated with the procedure of 3D computer rendering, as we know them from Schuster's last exhibitions. These works have titles like "Bungalow", "Pissing", "Choc" or "Bizarre Dwarfs". The large scale Lambda prints are presented unframed, without protective foil etc. and thus reflect their closeness respectively distance towards classical photography, which is one position that is often spotlighted in different articles on the works of Schuster.

For the first time, Schuster confronts these works with oil pastel drawings and reworked photographs. The works (around 35) differ from the 3D renderings in one particular aspect: Whereas the images that are generated with the computer never show persons, and the depicted objects or spaces seem to be prototypes or design studies within a deserted world, the oil pastel drawings are dominated by human figures, body parts, faces, sections of a definitely experienced reality in every day life. With the help of retouching, Schuster manages a crossover between all categories: between male and female, human and animal, animate and inanimate matter.

The title opens up a wide spectrum of meaning. At first, the reference to the discourse of the political seems to be in the foreground. Dirty hands stand for a sort of finger painting which lets the bodies casually wallow in paint and flanks the more delicate retouching with blatant body painting. "Dirty" is this growth, penetration and concrescence, since it breaks norms and rules: "Dirt is matter on the wrong place." The title can, however, also simply signify the hands of the artists, which are – depending on the chosen means – clean or dirty.

The exhibition is documented by a catalogue in German and English, which is published by Folio (Bolzano/Vienna), and comprises rich color images with a text of the art historian Anselm Wagner. For the "Edition Medienturm" Klaus Schuster creates with a poster and a video new limited artist's donations.

BIOGRAPHY

*1964, Voitsberg, Austria, lives in Vienna

1978 – 1983 HTL für Kunst und Design Graz

1985 – 1990 Hochschule für angewandte Kunst Wien (O. Oberhuber, E. Caramelle)

Exhibitions and awards

- 2007 "Fotosommer Stuttgart", second prize
- 2006 "Selbstorganisation", MUWA Museum der Wahrnehmung, Graz
advancement award for artistic photography 2006 of the Federal Chancellery
- 2005 "Self-Organization", Thomas K. Lang Gallery, Webster University, Vienna
"Blank", Kunstverein Medienturm, Graz
- 2004 "Der Widerstand der Fotografie", Camera Austria, Graz
Galerie Fotoforum Bozen, Bolzano
New York – grant, Federal Chancellery
- 2003 national grant for photography
"frisch saftig steirisch", Kunstforum Hallein
"Wo alles wahr ist, auch das Gegenteil", art award of Diözese Graz-Seckau,
Kulturzentrum bei den Minoriten, Graz
"Kunst-trans: via Graz", Kulturzentrum bei den Minoriten, Graz
- 2002 "Graz intern", Forum Stadtpark, Graz
"Welt", shop window action, Kulturverein Kürbis, Wies
- 2001 "Barock virtuell", Kulturzentrum bei den Minoriten, Graz
- 2000 "Auge: Experiment", Kärntner Landesgalerie, Klagenfurt (cat.)
"sentimental journey", (with w.w. anger), ESC im Labor, Graz; Galerie Cult Wien, Vienna
- 1999 "interface", ORF Landesstudio Steiermark
- 1997 "Kunst auf Zeit", poster action of Gruppe 77
"Pose to Pose", in the series Retina, steirischer herbst im Harrach
Styrian award for photography and media art 1997 (first prize) (cat.)
- 1996 "Anderswo II", Fotogalerie Wien, Vienna (cat.)
- 1995 London – grant, Federal Chancellery
- 1994 advancement award for photography, Styria (GRAM prize)
advancement award of the Province of Styria (prize of the Federal Chancellery)
advancement award for photography of the city of Graz
"Styrian Window", Neue Galerie Graz (cat.)
- 1993 advancement award for photography, Styria (Humanic prize)
- 1989 „Akte der Beschreibung“, Galerie Grita Insam, Vienna (cat.)
- 1988 "Glück auf", Projekt, Schuhfabrik, Köflach (cat.)
"Besucher", steirischer herbst und Kulturreferat München, Künstlerwerkstatt
Lothringertsrasse (cat.)
- 1987 "Übergänge", Trigon 87, Neue Galerie Graz (cat.)
- 1986 – 89 – 95 advancement award of the Province of Styria (acquisition prize)



Klaus Schuster, Ohne Titel, 2008. oil pastel
on book page , 24 x 30 cm



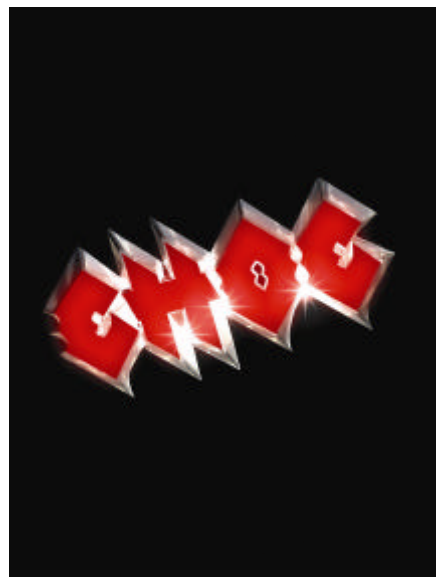
Klaus Schuster, Apartment, 2008. Lambda print,
variable dimension

Literature

- 1987 Wilfried Skreiner, Ist die Wende am Ende. In: "Übergänge" Trigon 87, ed. Kulturreferat der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung
- 1988 Friedrich Steininger, Energie – Die Kreative Kraft. In: "Glück auf" Werner Fenz, Konstruktion und De-Konstruktion des Alltags. In: "Besucher", ed. Steirischer Herbst
- 1994 Christa Steinle, Eine rezeptionistische Untersuchung. In: Styrian Window, Die "Neue Malerei" der 80er Jahre, Neue Galerie Graz, ed. Christa Steinle & Alexandra Foitl
- Günther Holler-Schuster, Steiermark heute. In: Styrian Window, Die "Neue Malerei" der 80er Jahre, ed. Neue Galerie am Landesmuseum Graz
- 2000 Reinhard Braun, Virtuelle Blicke. In: "Auge Experiment", ed. Kärntner Landesgalerie
- Reinhard Braun, Robert Woelfl. In: "prospect location", ed. Klaus Schuster
- 2001 Reinhard Braun, "Waiting for things to come..." , ed. Klaus Schuster
- 2003 Reinhard Braun, "Zweideutige Bilder". In: Camera Austria Nr. 83/2003
- 2004 Werner Fenz, In: Lichtungen Nr. 97/2004
- 2006 Werner Fenz, "Auskunft geben"; Manisha Jothady, "Bildproduktion-Bildrealität"; Anselm Wagner, "Leere Räume". In: Begleitheft zur Ausstellung im MUWA



Klaus Schuster, choc, 2008. Lambda print, variable dimension



Klaus Schuster, Bizarre Dwarfs, 2008. Lambda print, variable dimension