

PORTFOLIO

– selected works –

Johanna Maj Schmidt

SHORT STATEMENT/BIO

Johanna Maj Schmidt (*1992) is a media artist and PhD researcher of far-right internet meme culture from Leipzig.

Working at the intersection of film, performance, and analogue forms of image-making like drawing and painting, as well as text, she is interested in traversing epistemological boundaries, that is to say different modes of knowing and seeing. Both in her academic and artistic work, she explores how the online sphere is shaping our social co-existence, and vice versa, and the inner contradictions at the heart of any individual or collective identity.

Before pursuing her PhD as part of the post graduate programme „Rightwing Populism – Authoritarian Developments, Far-Right Discourses, Democratic Responses“, Johanna obtained a degree in media art in the Expanded Cinema class of Clemens von Wedemeyer from the Academy of Fine Arts in Leipzig (First), as well as an MA in Art and Politics (Distinction) from Goldsmiths University of London.

WE MUST BE MISTAKEN, 2022



Etwas zwischen uns / Something between us, Ausstellungsansichten / exhibition views, Johanna Maj Schmidt, 15.3.-29.6.25, GfZK – Galerie für Zeitgenössische Kunst Leipzig, Fotos / photos: Alexandra Ivanciu

4-channel installation, loop, 49'17"

We Must Be Mistaken is a performative 4-channel video installation about echo chambers in online spheres. The audience is moving between two filter bubbles indicated by a separating wall/projection surface. The work revolves around growing rifts between different patterns of desire.

While some yearn for equality and make their anger about gendered power structures heard, others share cynical memes in defense of "free speech" and their idea of masculinity. A conflict develops across the boundaries of both echo chambers, without the characters encountering each other directly.

The audience moves back and forth between the two filter bubbles, gaining intimate insights into the respective emotional worlds and atmospheres that are condensed to the point of absurdity. The viewers have to constantly position themselves anew in relation to the conflicting narratives, and decide which sphere they want to pay attention to. While getting a glimpse into both echo chambers they cannot perceive everything that is happening inside them.

In We Must Be Mistaken, I bring different performative works I did in the past as well as my current research on far-right "meme warriors" (see p. 6) into a constellation with texts by writer friends whom I invited to perform their pieces as part of the video. The performers were conceptually cast and bring their own entanglement with the subject matter into the process of developing the, partly exaggerated, characters. The role of a feminist scholar is e.g. embodied by US-American linguist Dr. Catherine Tebaldi, who studies "Tradwives", i.e. far-right female vloggers. While she initially appears as an expert, she shows herself more vulnerable later, delivering a personal monologue about her unfulfilled longing for intimacy.

I realised the work in collaboration with Charlotte Ruppert (co-director & -writer), with Jan-Luca Ott (production manager), and many other artist friends and acquaintances from Leipzig, NYC & London.

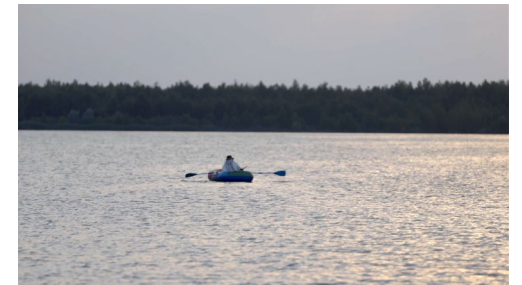
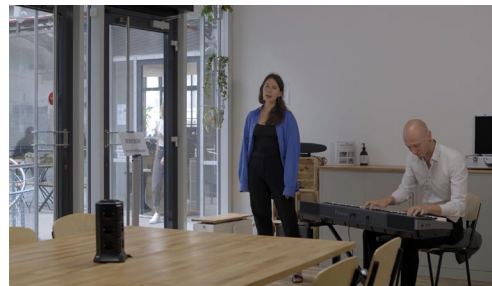
[LINK TRAILER](#)

(no password, 03:12)

[LINK 1-CHANNEL SCREENER](#)

(password: WMBM_JMS_2022)





video stills, We Must Be Mistaken, 2022

REPRESENTATIONS OF HEROISM IN FAR-RIGHT MEME CULTURE, 2018-ongoing research project (PhD)

While the traditional far right is associated with an actively practiced heroic and martyr worship, the relationship of new rightwing movements to the Heroic remains undertheorized. In my dissertation, I seek to fill this void arguing that far-right online meme culture is marked by an *ambivalent* relationship to heroism, which stands in contrast to the dead serious, unambiguous take on heroism and masculinity in “traditional” Nazi and neo-Nazi propaganda: In the context of the „(First) Great Meme War“, which was a meme-based propaganda campaign in support of, and encouraged by, presidential candidate Donald Trump in 2016, a (partly) *self-ironic* approach to the desire for heroism/soldierly masculinity can be observed. I argue that this self-ironic stance might serve the purpose of *immunising* heroic fantasies in view of a feared „loss“/absence of what is commonly understood as the Heroic in the online sphere, which is commonly associated with physical sacrifice.

In my analysis, I focus on heroic representations of new types of self-proclaimed “meme warriors” that are

emerging on image boards such as Reddit, 4chan, and 8kun. I am particularly interested in the internal contradictions of such heroic imagery that uses references to *historical* physical combat in order to honour contemporary *online* “warriors”. In order to define the online-savvy far right’s changing approach to heroism, I conduct a visual analysis of far-right memes that were circulated during the Great Meme War, by combining Roswitha Breckner’s visual segment analysis with Alfred Lorenzer’s psychoanalytic depth-hermeneutics.

Working Paper available for download: „Saving Heroism in the Online Sphere – The Heroic in Far-Right Internet Memes“, In: Berkeley Center for Right-Wing Studies Working Paper Series, <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/3zd6f7q9#main>.

Analysis of far-right memetic reactions to the Russian war on Ukraine, published as part of the 2022 Leipziger Autoritarismus Studie, <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/365426664>



two memetic self-portraits of so-called „meme warriors“

EINE EINSTELLUNG ZUM REICHTUM
RICHNESS IN A SINGLE SHOT, 2021-ongoing



installation view, Villa Esche, Chemnitz, 2021
image: Alexander Meyer

participatory video collection, ongoing project

A monitor is positioned upright between pieces of antique furniture in the museum Villa Esche, which used to be home to textile factory owner Herbert Eugen Esche, 1874–1962. It shows smartphone recordings from the interiors of other houses. The artist has invited people from all over the world, to collect videos from houses and apartments, which, in their view, best represent “prosperity”. The recordings follow two rules: they should be shot in a single take and filmed with the participants’ smartphones. The footage is presented without any sound. To date, the growing collection included silent views into private homes from Berlin, Bogota, Bologna, Le Mans, London, and Vilnius.

The work references Antje Ehrmann’s and Harun Farocki’s “Eine Einstellung zur Arbeit/Labour in a Single Shot”, who initiated workshops encouraging the participants to shoot short films that investigate the subject of labour. Eine Einstellung zum Reichtum shifts the gaze towards yet another sphere that remains mostly invisible: wealth is, as it seems, imbued with a sense of taboo.



stills, video collection, Eine Einstellung zum Reichtum, 2021

BOY WITH HANG, 2021



solo performance, Villa Esche, Chemnitz, 2021

solo performance

A young man in a ghillie suit, a camouflage suit used by the military, is moving across Villa Esche and the surrounding garden. Equipped with a folding stool, he is settling in different places within the exhibition, where the strategy of camouflage works to varying degrees. While seated, he is playing the hang, a UFO-shaped percussion instrument, which was invented in 2000 that emanates soothing sounds.

I realised this work together with Charlotte Ruppert, and Andre Schmidt, who performed as Boy with Hang.



solo performance, Villa Esche, Chemnitz, 2021

MY HAPPINESS DEPENDS ON YOU, 2021



video still, Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin, 2021

performance video, 03:00

As a doubled figure inspired by Dolly Parton, the two performers are sitting on an inbuilt flatscreen that shows a streaming video of a multiplayer on-line shooter game by Dr. Disrespect (who is known for his self-ironic performance of gaming masculinity). Dressed in wedding gowns with wavy-blond long-haired wigs, eccentric makeup, and grotesquely big fake boobs (female monstrosity), the performers are holding begging bowls, which are usually used for the collection in churches. Once in a while, they are shouting “My happiness depends on you!” (from Dolly Parton’s song “Jolene”) hauntingly in chorus, staring at the audience intensely/fury-like/expectantly.

If the Heroic traditionally claims a singularity by the self-sacrifice of one individual, strong (man) for the sake

of an ideology, a (feminist) response to the emphasis on the outstanding hero would be a reversion to interdependence. Against this backdrop, the sentence “My happiness depends on you” could be seen, positively, as an anti-heroic preaching or, negatively, as voluntary submission, hinting at the ambivalent relationship between dependency and independency.

The performance video “My Happiness Depends On You” was part of Rencontres Internationales Paris-Berlin 2021. I realised the work in collaboration with Charlotte Ruppert, with whom I performed as well.

[LINK PERFORMANCE VIDEO](#)
(password: Happinesssss)



video stills, Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin, 2021

I WAS THE REASON YOU ARE IN THE WORLD, 2020



performance, Academy of Fine Arts, Leipzig, 2020
image: Kilian Schellbach

performance

Dressed in comfortable everyday clothes and with huge light pink udders on their bellies, two performers sing an adaptation of Kate Nash's song "Nicest Thing". They perform it amidst drawings, paintings, and sculptures.

The lyrical self of the text literally finds her voice regarding her romantic fantasies. Driven by the desire to be her beloved one's only love object for ever, in this interpretation, she blusters herself into a more and more narcissistic-authoritarian attitude.

I both developed and performed this piece together with Charlotte Ruppert. We performed it at the Academy of Fine Arts Leipzig, at an exhibition in an allotment club, and at a feminist gala at the alternative concert venue Conne Island, Leipzig.



performance, Academy of Fine Arts, Leipzig, 2020
images: Kilian Schellbach

WE DID NOT KNOW WHAT WE MEANT WHEN WE SAID WE, 2021

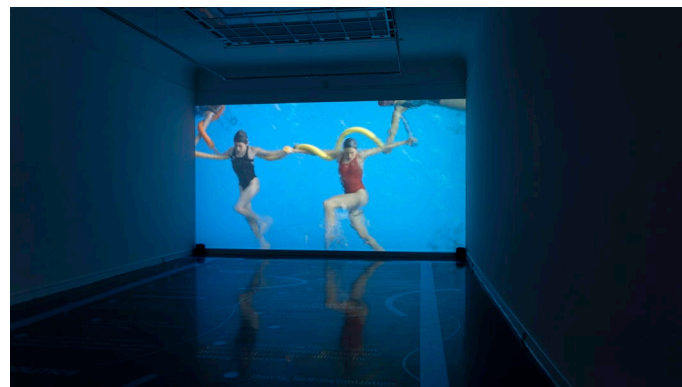


installation view, Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, 2021
image: Stefania Smolkina

*two single channel video installation,
vinyl plotting & one stereo sound work*

Set in a high-diving swimming pool, a socialist modernist building, a group of artists are following the instructions of an Aqua-Aerobics coach. They had given her the task to form the group into a collective, by means of exercises in the water. The camera captures the individual reactions to the instructions above the surface of the water and the struggle underneath. In a state of voluntary floating, the responsibility of coming together as a collective is outsourced – a coach that we never get to see or, to the water itself? The video is accompanied by a reflection on (imposed) collectivity.

We Did Not Know What We Meant
When We Said We is a collaborative
project by Louis Hay, Franziska
Koppmann, Jan-Luca Ott, Jonas
Roßmeißl, Yara Saleh, Johanna Maj
Schmidt, Stefania Smolkina, Su Yu
Hsin, Max Wigger. It was part of the
exhibition “Conditions of a Necessity”
at Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden,
2021.



video stills & installation views, Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, 2021
images 5 & 6: Stefania Smolkina

STARDUST WALK OUT, 2020



public/social sculpture, Baden-Baden, 2020

public/social sculpture

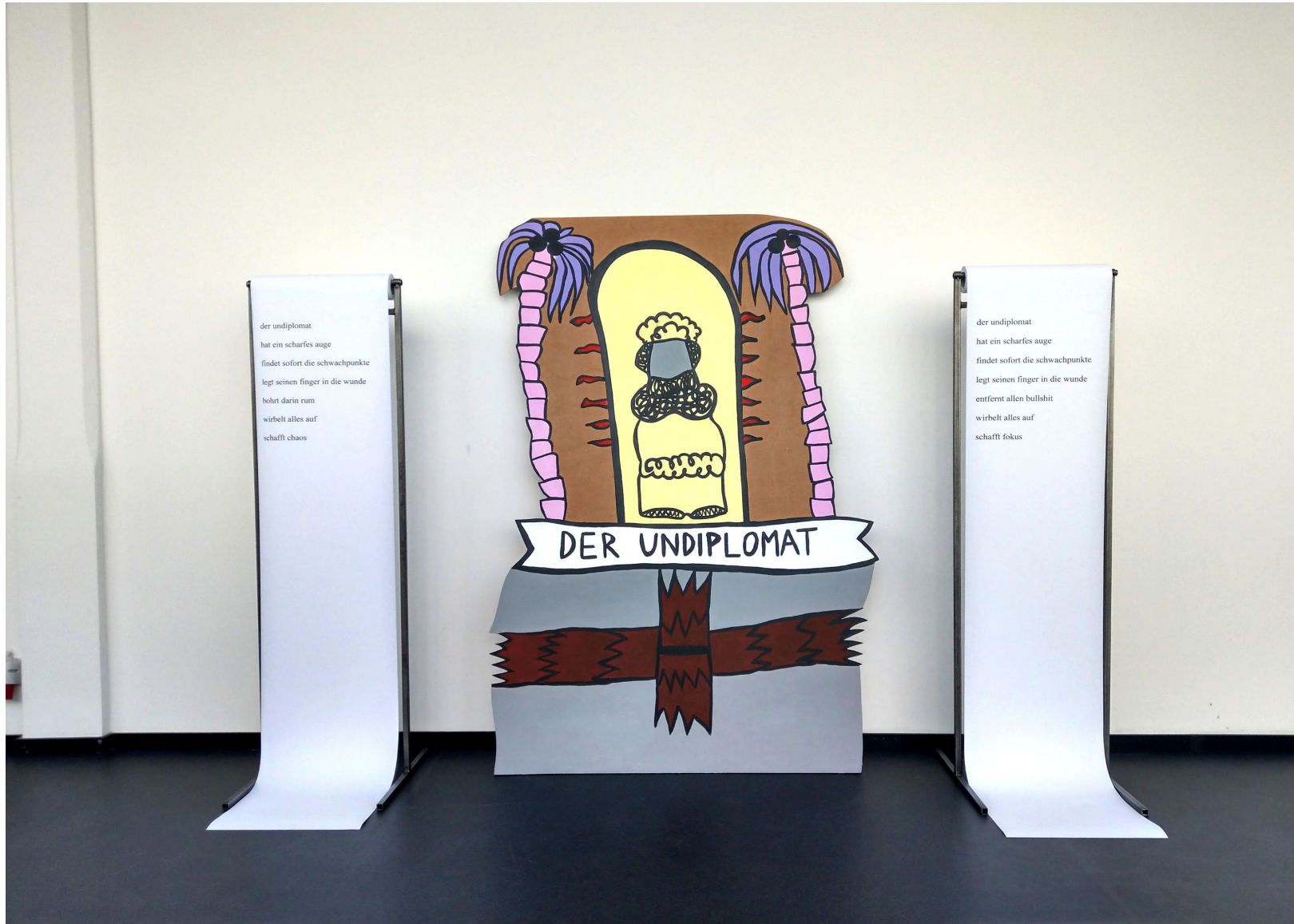
A square-shaped public/social sculpture made of slippers from 4- and 5-star hotels of Baden-Baden. Passers-by are invited to choose a pair of slippers from the white square and walk around wearing them in public space.

The work negotiates questions regarding the relationship between private and public life in a place that has been known (for centuries) as a resort town for rather wealthy tourists.

Stardust Walk Out was a collaboration between Jan-Luca Ott, Johanna Maj Schmidt, and Stefania Smolkina as part of "Conditions of a Necessity - The Gathering", which took place at Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden.



DER UNDIPLOMAT, 2019



installation view, LOFFT, Leipzig, 2019

acrylics on wood, digital print on paper, steel

“Der Undiplomat” (the “undiplomat”) leans against the wall, showing a hybrid, messianic/threatening creature (something in-between queen and sheep) in an archway, surrounded by an “exotic”/vulnerable environment and a proto-state emblem. Next to the painting, there are two rolls of paper with digitally printed texts describing two different types of undiplomats: both types always immediately find the weak spots, both types of undiplomats put their finger in the wound, but while one of them twists it and thereby creates more chaos, the other one creates focus by putting her finger in the wound. In its former configuration, the undiplomat can be seen as a prototype characteristic of a vulgarizing and derailing time (perhaps a Trump kind of figure). In her latter version the undiplomat is also a heroic-uncompromising role model: she confronts herself with weak spots, removes superfluous bullshit, targeting problems directly.

This installation was exhibited at the Performance Philosophy Festival „Am Nerv der Demokratie“ at LOFFT, Leipzig, in 2019.

der undiplomat

hat ein scharfes auge

findet sofort die schwachpunkte

legt seinen finger in die wunde

bohrt darin rum

wirbelt alles auf

schafft chaos

der undiplomat

hat ein scharfes auge

findet sofort die schwachpunkte

legt seinen finger in die wunde

entfernt allen bullshit

wirbelt alles auf

schafft fokus

THE NEW VERTICAL, 2018

First published in PaperWork (3), London.

The New Vertical

'What the Anus has got to do with the Trousers' is a Brazilian saying. People commonly use it when one thing has got nothing to do with another thing:

1. Anus
2. Trousers

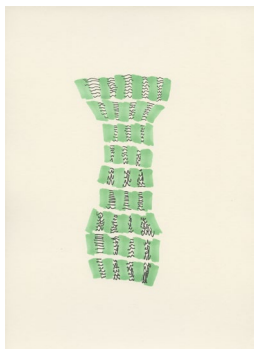
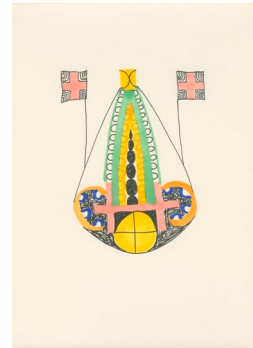
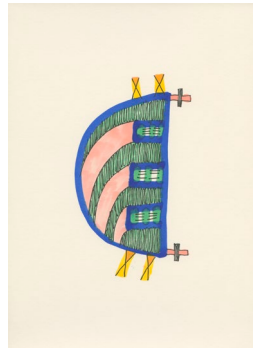
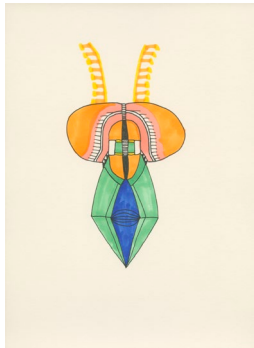
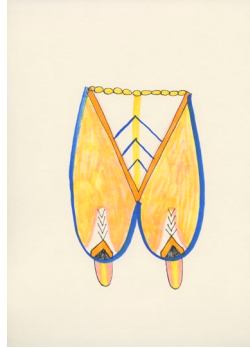
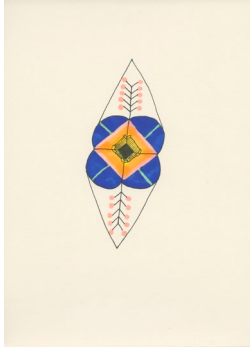
'What the Anus Has Got to Do with the Trousers' was also the title of a collectively planned exhibition. Yet, some of the artists involved in the exhibition wanted to withdraw their works because they regarded the title as unpoetic. Some of them said they immediately had to think of shit in the in-between:

1. Anus
2. Shit
3. Trousers

If poetry is something that leaves you behind with wondrous encodings, the saying surely does not count as poetry; yet, if the poetic is understood as something that concerns the relations between things, as something that unfolds between things, the clash of anus and trousers can be categorized as poetic, not least because there will always remain an in-between, in which spaces of thought might open up:

1. Anus
2. Space of Thought
3. Trousers

UNTITLED (selection), 2018



Untitled, Marker on Paper, 21x27.9, 2018



Untitled, Marker on Paper, 21x27.9, 2018

drawing series, marker on paper

My drawings position themselves in the undefined spaces in-between objects and thoughts, in between the two- and three dimensional. Just before the object might crystallize, becoming a symbol for something specific, I direct it towards other possible associations. My play with a constantly

shifting gaze might be seen as a kind of utopian exercise, opening a space for things to be seen/imagined differently, out of which new formations can evolve. My drawings also serve as a sort of score for my time-based works.

CRYSTAL PALACE GROUP, 2015



video still, performance video/performance, Crystal Palace Park, London, 2015

performance & performance video,
04:07

Four “promoters”, dressed in Victorian costumes (referencing the “original spirit” of Crystal Palace) and with a brassard bearing the original design of the Chinese communist flag, are travelling to Crystal Palace Park via Overground. After reaching Crystal Palace Park, the performers set up their corporate-style promotional site with a roll-up banner and start distributing flyers that are announcing a new development project at Crystal Palace Park. When asked about their costumes they refer to their role as promoters for the Crystal Palace Group, without disclosing any further information about the project or the rationale behind their outfits. Members of the public are redirected to a website advertised on the flyer, which is permanently “Under Construction”. Throughout the performance, a looped soundtrack, appropriating a promotional video by the Argentinian real estate company

Faena, fills the public space with a seductive narration about how “ideas are the most powerful tools we have to change the world”. The performance connects the Victorian imperialist project with the surreality of the present spirit of capitalism, which is capable of incorporating conflicting ideologies (as in the case of China capitalism + communism). The superficial engagement of the promoters with the project they advertise smoothes over any attempt at questioning the contradictions inherent in their costumes.

Crystal Palace Group was a performance that took place in 2015 between New Cross and Crystal Palace Park, London as a collaboration between Athanasios Anagnostopoulos, Jacquie Rosenbach, Michelle Salomons, Johanna Maj Schmidt, and Florence Stencel-Wade.

[LINK PERFORMANCE VIDEO](#)
(no password)



video stills, performance video, Crystal Palace Group, 2015

OSTERSPAZIERGANG VON JOHANN WOLFGANG VON GOETHE, 2018



performance, NSK (Neue Slowenische Kunst) Folk Art Biennale, Trbovlje, Slovenia, 2018

performance

Five performers stand in a circle/pentagram throwing a neon-green raw egg in clockwise direction from person to person. Whenever an egg breaks, without delay, an AI generated voice recites the final line of Goethe's Osterspaziergang, Faust I: „Hier bin ich Mensch, hier darf ich's sein!“ (transl.: „Here I am human, here dare it to be!“). Thereafter, a Faux Queen

(female/diva queen) that is standing in the middle of the circle/pentagram on a plinth and who is dressed in a traditional German Dirndl and carrying a basket full of green eggs, throws a new egg to the person who dropped the previous one. The performance finishes when all eggs from the basket are broken.

„Hier bin ich Mensch, hier darf ich's sein!“

„Here I am human, here dare it to be!“



performance & post-performance impressions, NSK Folk Art Biennale, Trbovlje, 2018

GREY IN GREY, 2017

First published in Archipelago Magazine (4), "Melancholia", London.

Republished in Freie Assoziation – Zeitschrift für psychoanalytische Sozialpsychologie, "Utopie", Gießen.

When my grandfather taught me how to swim he stood next to me and held my abdomen so I could move my arms and legs on the surface of the water mass without feeling the gravitation. Before I was able to swim, I had dreamt how my body was swimming. My arms and legs found a common rhythm and started to move forward calmly in transparent water.

As I was able to swim without my grandfather's support I spent many summer afternoons with a friend in the centre of the lake, trying to dive as long and as deep as possible. The deeper we got down the darker and colder turned the water and the more we felt the pressure on our ears and eyes. Whenever we got back to the surface we recharged our lungs floating on a voluminous inflatable mattress that started to smell plasticky in the heat of the glaring sun. We rested on the flat surface until we could not bear the light anymore. Then we went back down. Only when the sun was about to set we started to paddle back to the shore. Taking the first steps on firm ground made my head swim. Before leaving the shore, we deflated the air that had filled our giant mattress into the evening breeze.

When philosophy paints its grey in grey, one form of life has become old, and by means of grey it cannot be rejuvenated, but only known. The owl of Minerva takes its flight only when the shades of night are gathering.

I recently went to an exhibition, which encircled the issue of boundaries. Most of the pieces showed liquidity, waves or the sea. The exhibits conveyed a vertiginous feeling. Maybe it was a light form of naupathia. But I think that the opposite was the case. What caused my uneasiness was that the idea of water had become solid. – Some weeks later, I learned about Hegel's owl of Minerva, which only starts to move after dusk: "Only one word more concerning the desire to teach the world what it ought to be. For such a purpose philosophy at least always comes too late. Philosophy, as the thought of the world, does not appear until reality has completed its formative process, and made itself ready." – As topical perspectives on water merge and turn into an image that seeks to reflect reality, it can only be known. It paints its grey in grey. Metaphor is always delayed.

Surrounded by what I regarded to be solidified water, I got impatient. As any kind of impatience, my eagerness rested on the idea of a time lag: The image of water was merely expressing something that had already crystallized. I could not see it as anything but a manifestation of an abstract thought related to a given process. Against the backdrop of the global flow of capital and increasing flexibility, mobility, precarity and porosity, the image of the liquid might still be able to reflect an analysis of this time. It is a sad, unnerving image though because it cannot be rejuvenated, but only known.

In order to gain some distance to my impatient perspective on the exhibits, I tried to focus on water for its own sake, asking myself how it would possibly reveal itself as l'eau pour l'eau. It would come into view as an element that existed long before humans could relate to it in mediated ways. Its potential to nurture or dehydrate plants, animals, and humans, carve out stone and let islands or even continents disappear would leave an uncanny feeling.

With a more detached gaze, I returned to the image of water, to its solid shape in the mediated present. It stayed current but could not point beyond mere reflection. Perhaps, I thought, it belonged to the "cold stream" that Ernst Bloch identified as the unmasking of ideologies and the disenchantment of metaphysical illusion. The cold stream comprises the useful analysis of economic conditions and the resistance against ideological deception as implied in Marxist materialism. Yet, according to Bloch, there is a "warm stream" of Marxism as well, which refers to the hope that underlies all liberating intents, the goal towards which all disenchantments are undertaken.

When philosophy paints its grey in grey, one form of life has become old, and by means of grey it cannot be rejuvenated, but only known. The owl of Minerva takes its flight only when the shades of night are gathering.

THE PLURAL TEMPORALITY OF THE NOTION OF “THE PRIMITIVE”, 2016

lecture performance

Starting from “Santhal Family”, the first modernist sculpture in India, and the specific relationship to primitivism characteristic of the “Contextual Modernism” at Santiniketan where it emerged, the lecture performance moves on to ask what the notion of the Primitive might mean in the context of globalisation. The outdated notion of “the Primitive” might remind us of the unevenness that only seems to be erased on the surface of the globalised world. Further, it raises the question if the Other of a global self might refer to epistemological alterity (different ways of knowing), rather than to real people(s) – as the notion of “the Primitive” suggested.

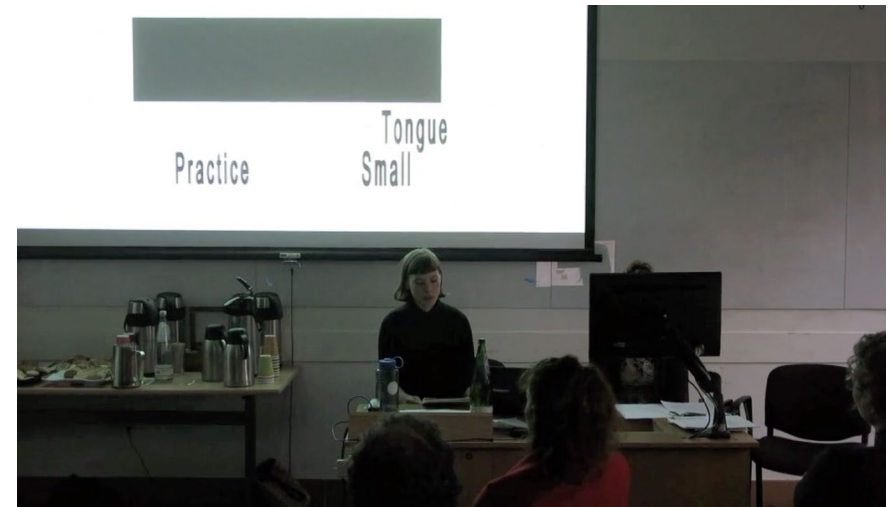
The lecture is accompanied by a Powerpoint presentation, which starts off in a formal way, summarizing the text, then moves further and further away from the content, and finally turns into visual metaphors, disrupting the lecture poetically.

The Plural Temporality of the Primitive was a lecture performance based on

my MA thesis that I realised together with Katie Pickerell. It was shown at the Fine Art department of Goldsmiths University of London as well as at a Conference on Comparative Political Thought at SOAS, School of Oriental and African Studies, London, in 2016. Presenting the lecture performance both in an art- and an academic context was an attempt at experimenting with diverging forms of knowing within different (disciplinary) fields.



Santhal Family by Ramkinkar Baij
image: frieze



lecture performance,
School of Oriental and African Studies, London, 2016

FAKE LANDSCAPES, 2020-present

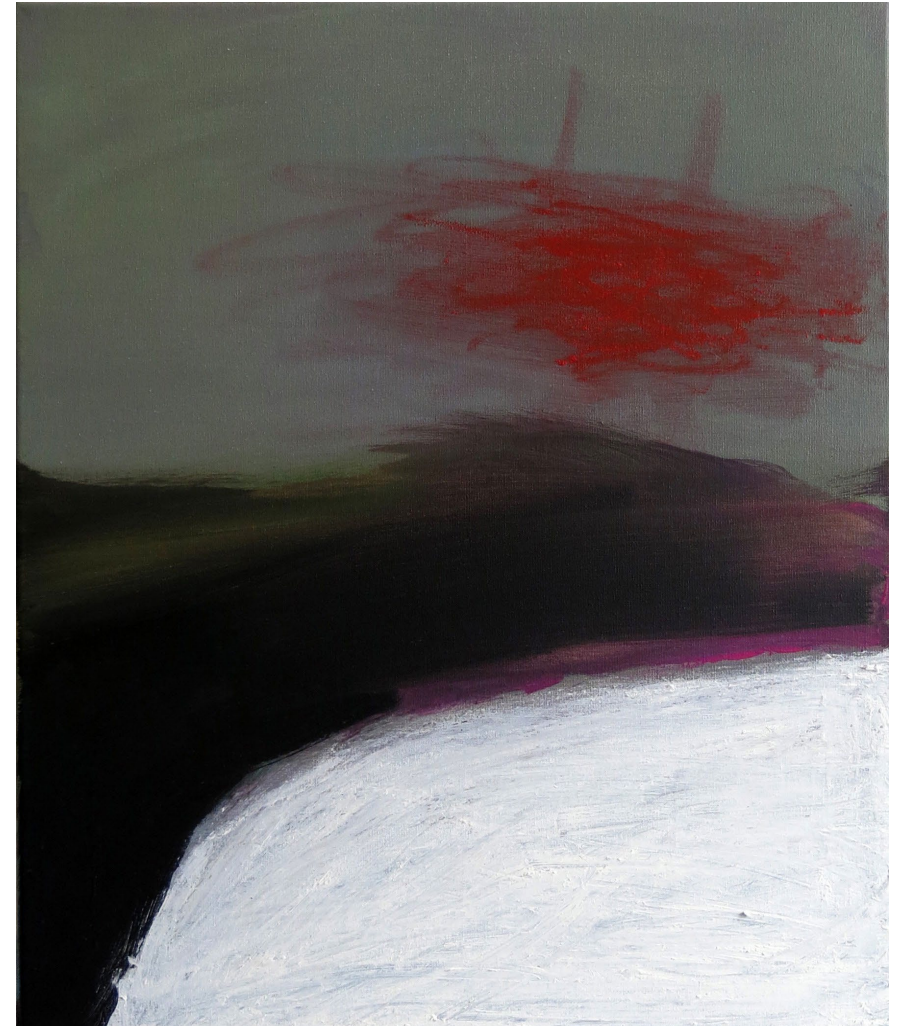


Fake Landscape #1 & #2,
acrylics & oil on wood & cardboard, 120 x 85cm & 80 x 60cm, 2020 & 2021

painting series, acrylics and oil on wood, cardboard & canvas

In my painting series Fake Landscapes, I explore atmospheric qualities of fictional spaces. I try to capture atmospheres of places, which only appear in the very process of painting, that lie at the boundary between outer and inner reality. The emerging landscapes result from a speculative tracing of (violent/joyful) actions that might have

occurred in those places. While the far right is spreading fake news that are denying planetary self-destruction, my painting series is reappropriating “fakeness” in order to create fictional, yet emotionally-charged landscapes. In this sense, my Fake Landscapes might be seen as a process of playfully grieving lost planetary futures.



Fake Landscape #3,
acrylics & oil on canvas, 50 x 40cm, 2021

CV JOHANNA MAJ SCHMIDT

SHOWS & SCREENINGS (selection)

2025	Etwas zwischen uns / Something between us, 15.3.-29.6.25, GfZK – Museum of Contemporary Art Leipzig
2025	POETICS OF TOGETHERNESS, 13.04.-01.06.25, Municipal Gallery at the Lauenburg Artists' House, Lauenburg
2023	SEDE VIRTUAL BIENALSUR 2023, Dec 23-March 24, Bienal Internacional de Arte Contemporáneo del Sur
2022	YUP – Young Urban Performances Festival, Museum of Fine Arts, Osnabrück
2022	Fugitive Knowledges, Ghent University, Belgium
2022	We Must Be Mistaken, Solo Show, Galerie KUB, Leipzig
2021	Conditions of a Necessity, State Museum of Fine Arts, Baden-Baden
2021	Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin for New Cinema & Contemporary Art, Paris/online
2021	Was das Gespenst nicht kennt – Specters of the Afternoon, Villa Esche, Chemnitz
2021	Plateau, 17th Lindenow Art Space Festival, Leipzig
2019	1937-2017: Von Entarteter Kunst zu Entstellter Kunst, curated by Adam Szymczyk, HGB Gallery, Leipzig
2019	Am Nerv der Demokratie, LOFFT, Leipzig
2019	Final Draft / Drift, Westpol Airspace, Leipzig
2018	3rd NSK (Neue Slowenische Kunst) Folk Art Biennale, Trbovlje, Slovenia
2018	Glam Slam!, Cabaret Voltaire, Athens
2017	6th Athens Biennale for Contemporary Art (DOCUMENTA – ΔOKOYMENA), Athens
2016	Lecture Performance, Goldsmiths University of London
2015	The Crystal Palace Group, Performance, Crystal Palace, London
2015	The Show Don't Tell Show, Solo Show, Bussey Building, London

EDUCATION

Since 2018	PhD candidate in the research training group „Rightwing Populism – Authoritarian Developments, Far-Right Discourses, Democratic Responses“, Universities Leipzig & Cologne
2022 – 2017	Diploma in Media Art (First), Class Expanded Cinema – Clemens von Wedemeyer, Academy of Fine Arts, Leipzig
2015 – 2014	MA „Art and Politics“ (Distinction), Goldsmiths University of London; Intercollegiate Student in the MSc „Comparative Political Thought“, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)
2014 – 2010	BA Politics, English-Speaking Cultures, Performance Studies (1,31), University of Bremen
2013 – 2012	ERASMUS Exchange Student, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Cracow

AWARDS, RESIDENCIES & SCHOLARSHIPS (selection)

2024	ars viva prize for visual arts, Berlin, Finalist
2023	Residency, Kommunal Kunst og Teknik, Copenhagen
2023	Best Experimental Film, AltFF Alternative Film Festival, Toronto, Category Award Nominee
2022 – 2018	PhD-Scholarship, research group “Rightwing Populism”, Rosa Luxemburg Foundation
2015 – 2011	Scholarship, Heinrich Böll Foundation

MEMBERSHIPS (selection)

Since 2022	International Research Group for Psycho-Societal Analysis
Since 2022	Society of Psychoanalytic Social Psychology (GfPS)
Since 2019	Artist-run initiative „Kino in Bewegung“ that organises screening and discussion events in the Saxonian countryside

ACADEMIC & LITERARY TEXTS (selection)

- 2025 Limbless Warriors and Foaming Liberals: The Allure of Post-Heroism in Far-Right Memes. In: Berkeley Journal of Rightwing Studies.
- 2025 Far-Right Meme Warriors – Ironically Denied Longings Heroism in the Context of the “Great Meme War”. In: Rightwing Populism – Authoritarian Developments, Far-Right Discourses, Democratic Responses. Beltz Juventa (forthcoming).
- 2022 „Noooo You Can’t Just Vaporize My Entire Armored Division“ – Extrem rechte Meme-Reaktionen auf den russischen Angriffskrieg auf die Ukraine. In: Leipziger Autoritarismus Studie 2022.
- 2022 „Extrem rechte Meme Reaktionen auf den Angriffskrieg auf die Ukraine“. In: EFBI Digital Report 2022.
- 2021 „Saving Heroism in the Online Sphere – The Heroic in Far-Right Internet Memes“. In: Berkeley Center for Right-Wing Studies Working Paper Series.
- 2018 „The New Vertical“. In: PaperWork Magazine, London.
- 2018 „Kopfsprünge. Zwischen Nomadentum und Sesshaftigkeit – Ein Brief“. Wissen Formen. Performative Akte zwischen Bildung, Wissenschaft & Kunst.
- 2017 „World Heritage or Idolatry? – The Destruction of Cultural Heritage in Iraq by ISIS“. Polylog – Zeitschrift für interkulturelles Philosophieren.
- 2017 „Grey in Grey“. In: Archipelago Magazine, London.

PUBLICATIONS (EXHIBITION)

- 2021 Was das Gespenst nicht kennt – Specters of the Afternoon. Villa Esche, Kunstsammlungen Chemnitz. Published by: Frédéric Bußmann, Angelika Waniek, Clemens von Wedemeyer.

PANELS, (PERFORMANCE) LECTURES & ARTIST TALKS (selection)

- 2025 Meme Wars: Heldentum und Männerbilder in der extrem rechten Memekultur, Lecture/Workshop, Akademie für Politische Bildung, Tutzingen
- 2023 „AI versus Democracy? The fight against the far right in times of Deep Fakes, Social Bots and Fake News“, Panel, KompRex Salonreihe, Berlin
- 2023 „Fake History Memes in Honour of ‘Meme Warriors’ – Histrography and Heroes in the Context of the Great Meme War“, Workshop „Far-right Memory in Digital Age“, University of Leipzig
- 2023 „Far-right memes about Greta Thunberg“, Public Climate School, University of Leipzig
- 2022 „We Must Be Mistaken“, Artist Talk at the Conference „Fugitive Knowledges“, Ghent, Belgium
- 2022 „He Will Not Divide Us. Far-Right Memetic Warfare at the Limits of Liberalism“, international conference „Current Constellations - Perspectives on Critical Theory in Contemporary Capitalism“
- 2022 „Have you stolen my dreams and my childhood? - Tiefenhermeneutischer Workshop über extrem rechte Memes zu Greta Thunberg“, globe22 Science Festival, University of Leipzig
- 2021 Meme-Warriors and Far-Right Terrorists – Representations of Heroism in Far-Right Internet Culture“, lecture as part of a lecture series on the Halle synagogue shooting, Halle an der Saale
- 2020 „Altering Heroism – A Psychosocial Inquiry into Rightwing Internet Meme Culture“, Center for Right-Wing Studies and Institute for Research on Male Supremacism, University of California, Berkeley
- 2016 „The Plural Temporality of the Notion of the Primitive“, Lecture Performance, Conference „New Directions for Political Thought“, SOAS University of London
- 2015 „Worlding Heritage – The Politics of Objects“, Conference „Political Theory at the Margins“, University of Oxford

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