

PRESS RELEASE

Annette Wehrmann

Wir gucken fern, weil wir uns die Revolution nicht leisten können (We're watching TV because we can't afford a revolution)

11.07.-07.09.2014

Opening: Thursday, 10 July 2014, 7 pm

Badischer Kunstverein presents an extensive solo exhibition by Annette Wehrmann (1961–2010). Wehrmann's works can be located within the politicisation of art in the 1990s. Her drawings, sculptures, installations, performances, videos, and texts form an accessible language undermining normative structures. Wehrmann voiced her unease about the world in an idiosyncratic mix of anarchic prose, intellectual discourse and dry humour while reinforcing an autonomous position not only inscribed in her art, but also in her entire life.

This exhibition comprises a range of the artist's individual pieces and series of works, focusing particularly on Wehrmann's UFO architectures. The artist described these works, assembled from cheap materials and influenced by feminist science fiction literature, the jazz musician Sun Ra and the architectural group Archigram, as a "retreat into oneself" and a "desire for a better, different life". Wehrmann's installation *S.C.U.M. - ein UFO für V. Solanas* (2007), for example, reconstructed especially for the Kunstverein, references the eponymous manifesto by radical feminist writer Valerie Solanas.

Wehrmann's art also takes public space, in particular its increasing privatisation and commercialisation, as a main theme. In her photo series *Blumensprengungen* (1991–95), the artist literally exploded a number of flowerbeds arranged in urban locations. For her installation *DSB für die Zukunft* (1993–96), Wehrmann introduced a new currency, thus creating an alternative economic space. The show also includes her early sculptural work *Fußbälle/Kugeln* (1991) of balls built of bricks which she used as footballs in a performance piece. Annette Wehrmann's text-based and performative artistic practices are also evident in her texts typed on paper streamers that she presented in readings and installations.

Curated by Ort des Gegen e.V. and Anja Casser.

Ort des Gegen e.V. was established in Hamburg in 2011 to preserve the artistic estate of Annette Wehrmann. The association members are Erzsébet Ambrus, Hans-Christian Dany, Sabine Falk, Katharina Gerszewski, Jochen Möhle, Christoph Rauch, Holger Steen, Inga-Svala Thorsdottir, Laila Unger, Brigitte Wehrmann, Monika Wucher and Ina Wudtke.

Further details at: www.annettewehrmann.de.

Annette Wehrmann (1961–2010) lived and worked in Hamburg. She studied fine arts at the *Hochschule für bildende Künste Hamburg* (University of Fine Arts) and at the Städelschule in Frankfurt.

Solo exhibitions (selected): **2012** *Gehirn und Geld* / Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg / **2011** *Absolut der richtige Sport für mich*, Dorothea Schlüter Galerie, Hamburg / **2003** *raus! – ein Umbau*, Verein 88 at the Elektrohaus Hamburg / **2002** *Gegn*, SÍM Reykjavik, Iceland / **2001** *UFOrama*, plattform, Berlin / **1992** Künstlerhaus Weidenallee, Hamburg / **1991** *Spielfelder*, Produzentengalerie Kassel.

Group exhibitions (selected): **2014** *SOURCE AMNESIA*, OSLO10, Basel; *future history*, D21 Kunstraum Leipzig / **2013** *Feminist UFOs – Domestic Utopias in Berlin*, NGBK, Berlin / **2012** *The City That Doesn't Exist: Images of Global Spaces*, Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen; *Test Run*, Kunsthaus Dresden / **2010** *Hacking the City*, Museum Folkwang, Essen / **2007** *Skulptur Projekte Münster*, *Work Fiction*, Kunstverein Wolfsburg / **2003** *Ort des Gegen*, Künstlerhaus Stuttgart; *Mothers of Invention – where is performance coming from*, mumok, Vienna / 2001 *DER TURM*, Künstlerhaus Weidenallee, Hamburg / 1999 *mondo immaginario*, Shedhalle, Zurich.

In 2013, *Annette Wehrmann: Luftschlagentexte* was published by Starship Verlag, Berlin. www.starship-magazine.org.

Opening hours of the exhibition:

Tuesday to Friday 11 am–7 pm, Saturday, Sunday and holidays 11 am–5 pm

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www.badischer-kunstverein.de

For further details, press images, or individual guided tours, contact:

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