

KW

Pause: Tobias Spichtig *Die Matratzen*

19–23 January 22

Swiss artist Tobias Spichtig (b. 1982) presents *Die Matratzen* as part of KW's ongoing *Pause* series. The artist's practice predominantly consists of paintings and sculptures, which become installations through the dramaturgy of their arrangement. Spichtig works with objects that, although ubiquitous in our consumerist society, tend to be overlooked or tend to get given up on. They can be old refrigerators, used furniture, or other vestiges of everyday life; artefacts made of recycled materials or motifs from advertising, fashion, art, and music. The objects he chooses often implicate intimate narratives that stem from their immediate connection to his social network but also from references to pop culture. This results in works and constellations in which Spichtig creates conflicted experiences between abundance, emptiness, and familiarity.

For *Die Matratzen*, the entire main hall of KW Institute for Contemporary Art is covered with various second-hand and different-sized mattresses that are fitted with used bed sheets from the artist's as well as the curator's personal networks. They function as carriers and catalysts for stories that give reference to the most intimate of moments, the subconscious, and dreams. At the same time, their expanse makes us aware of the absence of those who have left their marks on them. Anonymous and repeated many times, the marks



Tobias Spichtig, *Die Matratzen*, 2016. Courtesy the artist

are evocative of private experiences of the kind that most of us tacitly share. The many colorful bedsheets make the installation resemble an abstract painting, one that is increasingly altered the more the visitors engage with it.

Every evening, the eponymous mattresses will be the site of readings that are curated by Spichtig. Writers presenting their works as part of the exhibition include Rosa Aiello, Eric D. Clark, Calla Henkel, Karl Holmqvist, Pablo Larios, Elisa R. Linn, Ariane Müller, Tomás Nervi, Theresa Patzschke, Kristian Vistrup Madsen und Pippin Wigglesworth-Weider. Much like a bedtime story of sorts, the authors will fill and transform the room with their stories, creating an intimate atmosphere amidst the massive installation. *Die Matratzen* is part of a series of Spichtig's sculptural works that traces the movements of a sleepless night through an apartment: from the mattress to the table, to the refrigerator, and, finally, to the sofa.

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Opening hours

19 January 22, 7–10 pm
20 January 22, 11 am–7 pm
21 January 22, 11 am–6 pm
22 January 22, 11 am–7 pm
23 January 22, 11 am–3 pm

Admission

5 € / reduced 3 €

Team

Artist: Tobias Spichtig
Artist assistant: Delf Reumann
Curator: Krist Gruijthuijsen
Curatorial assistant: Linda Franken
Authors: Rosa Aiello, Eric D. Clark, Calla Henkel, Karl Holmqvist, Pablo Larios, Elisa R. Linn, Ariane Müller, Tomás Nervi, Theresa Patzschke, Kristian Vistrup Madsen, and Pippin Wigglesworth-Weider
Public Program and Outreach Coordinator:
Linda Franken
Head of Production: Claire Spilker
Technical Management: Wilken Schade
Head of Installation and Media Technology:
Markus Krieger

Readings

Wednesday, 19 January 22

Karl Holmqvist, 9 pm

Thursday, 20 January 22

Rosa Aiello, 9 pm

Pablo Larios, 9:45 pm

Friday, 21 January 22

Theresa Patzschke, 8 pm

Ariane Müller, 8:45 pm

Calla Henkel, 9:30 pm

Saturday, 22 January 22

Eric D. Clark, 9 pm

Kristian Vistrup Madsen, 9:45 pm

Sunday, 23 January 22

Tomás Nervi, 5 pm

Pippin Wigglesworth-Weider, 5:45 pm

Elisa R. Linn, 6:30 pm

Installation team: KW Installation Team
Event technician: Paolo Combes
Press and Marketing: Marie Kube
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Margarita Hermann
Text: Krist Gruijthuijsen, Linda Franken
Proofreading and Translation: Tina Wessel,
Simon Wolff
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Mareen Linsner

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The *Pause* series is envisioned as a platform to punctuate the program by presenting singular artworks for a short period of time in order to bridge relationships between the past, present and future.

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