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Press Contact

KW Institute for Contemporary Art
Karoline Köber
Tel. +49 30 243459 41
press@kw-berlin.de

KW announces Berlin Art Week program 2018

As part of this year's Berlin Art Week, KW Institute for Contemporary Art is thrilled to announce the opening of two exhibitions: *What is he afraid of?* by **Evelyn Taocheng Wang**, taking place at KW's own premises; and **KW Production Series: Beatrice Gibson and Jamie Crewe**, as the last project from our *KW on location* program, which will be on view at the Julia Stoschek Collection Berlin. Both exhibitions highlight and press into KW's investigation of the body and its relationship to politics, identity, technology, and architecture.

Pause: Evelyn Taocheng Wang

What is he afraid of?

September 27–30, 2018

Opening: September 26, 2018, 7 pm

Press preview: September 26, 2018, 11 am

As part of the *Pause* series, KW presents a new commission by artist Evelyn Taocheng Wang (born 1981 in Chengdu, CH).

Wang's practice emerges from an interest in what constitutes identity and how one's own body is culturally relative to—and intertwined with—autobiographical structures. For the exhibition, Wang will present a completely new body of work, consisting of two films and an installation of large-scale fabrics. The new work is a result of Wang's reflection on differing versions of mythologies that derive from various origins, have been written, altered, edited, and retold over time in different cultural contexts. While focusing on the fairy tale of *The Princess and the Frog*, this project is closely related to questions of transformation and the fluidity of identity. Taking the notion of the fictionalization of characters as well as an actual architectural site, the exhibition becomes a space where narratives are translated into a spatial structure within KW's main hall. The institution's premises symbolize both the architecture of the body and its structure in the process of transformation.

Pause is envisioned as a short-term platform between KW's exhibition seasons, aiming to punctuate the program by presenting individual artworks that bridge relationships between the past, present, and future within the framework of the annual program.

The exhibition is curated by Cathrin Mayer and Maurin Dietrich, KW's assistant curators.

KW Production Series: Beatrice Gibson and Jamie Crewe

September 27–November 25, 2018

Opening: September 26, 2018, 7 pm

Venue: Julia Stoschek Collection Berlin, Leipziger Str. 60 (Entrance: Jerusalemer Straße), 10117 Berlin-Mitte

KW Production Series is a new commissioning project dedicated to artists' moving image works and organized in collaboration with the JULIA STOSCHEK COLLECTION and OUTSET Germany_Switzerland. Within this ongoing series, KW seeks to identify and support artists who are at a pivotal moment in their work and career—those who will benefit not only from the financial support and institutional visibility this opportunity provides, but also those who will be able to use *KW Production Series* to significantly contribute towards the depth and rigor of their artistic practice. *KW Production Series* is produced by Mason Leaver-Yap, KW's Associate Curator, and takes inspiration from KW's founding principles as a place for production, critical exchange, and thoughtful collaboration.

The first two commissions are by London-based artist and filmmaker **Beatrice Gibson** (born 1978 in London, GB), and Glasgow-based artist and singer **Jamie Crewe** (born 1987 in Manchester, GB).

Beatrice Gibson

I Hope I'm Loud When I'm Dead, 2018

Exploring ideas around gender, poetry, and disobedience, Beatrice Gibson's 16mm film, *I Hope I'm Loud When I'm Dead*, was developed with two of the USA's most significant living poets—CA Conrad and Eileen Myles. The filmmaker tersely distills material shot on the eve of the 45th presidential inauguration in January 2017 and blends moments of perilous public authority with more intimate scenes and tender portraits. The film uses poetry as a means to reckon with the present, and casts the figure of the poet as a guide in times of chaos.

I Hope I'm Loud When I'm Dead is a co-commission with Camden Arts Centre, London, Bergen Kunsthall (NO), and Mercer Union, Toronto (CA).

Jamie Crewe

Pastoral Drama, 2018

Over the course of a year, Jamie Crewe worked daily on the double-channel HD video *Pastoral Drama*. The piece comprises two parallel videos that use allegory and animation to think about progress. Through intricate drawings in ink and pencil, speckled clay, and encrusted plasticine, Crewe reflects upon the evolution of mythic narratives, (inter-)personal change, and collective political time. *Pastoral Drama* juxtaposes the ancient Greek legend of Eurydice and the Underworld with Agostino Agazzari's *Eumelio*, a 17th-century opera composed for the male inhabitants of a Roman seminary. *Eumelio*'s titular male figure stands in for Eurydice, and so achieves a different fate. In its double telling, *Pastoral Drama* envisions the collapse of mythic pasts with the dangerous after-world of the present.

Pastoral Drama is a co-commission with Tramway, Glasgow (GB).

Senate Department
for Culture and Europe



KW Institute for Contemporary Art is institutionally supported by the Senate Department for Culture and Europe.



Königreich der Niederlande

The exhibition *What is he afraid of?* by Evelyn Taocheng Wang is kindly supported by the Dutch Embassy and Galerie Fons Welters, Amsterdam.

JULIA STOSCHEK FOUNDATION outset.

KW Production Series is made possible with generous support by the JULIA STOSCHEK FOUNDATION and OUTSET Germany_Switzerland.