

Press Release

Exhibition

A World Not Ours

Azra Akšamija (1976, Bosnia/Herzegovina) / Taysir Batniji (1966, Palestine) / Tanja Boukal (1976, Austria) / Ninar Esber (1971, Lebanon) / Aslan Gaisumov (1991, Chechnya) / Mahdi Fleifel (1979, UAE) / Stine Marie Jacobsen (1977, Denmark) / Sven 't Jolle (1966, Belgium) / Sallie Latch (1933, USA) / Eleonore de Montesquiou (1970, France) / Giorgos Moutafis (1977, Greece) / Marina Naprushkina (1981, Belarus) / Juice Rap News (established in 2009, Australia) / Somar Sallam (1988, Syria/Algeria) / Mounira Al Solh (1978, Lebanon) and Diller Scofidio & Renfro, Mark Hansen, Laura Kurgan, and Ben Rubin in collaboration with Robert Gerard Pietrusko and Stewart Smith, based on an idea by Paul Virilio (international)

Curator: Katerina Gregos

June 1st – August 27th 2017

Press conference: Wednesday, May 31st at 5 pm at La Kunsthalle

Opening Reception: Wednesday, May 31st at 6.30 pm

During Art Basel: Reception at La Kunsthalle, Friday June 16th at 7 pm

(Shuttle from Basel to Mulhouse: Departure at 6.15 pm -Corner Iseinerstrasse –Bleichstrasse Return to Basel at 9 pm)

La Kunsthalle Mulhouse is pleased to present *A World Not Ours*, a group exhibition focusing on the current refugee crisis and issues of forced displacement related to the war in Syria as well as other conflict zones. The exhibition, which began last summer at the Schwarz Foundation's Art Space Pythagorion, on the island of Samos, Greece, aims to counteract the standardised, simplified and one-dimensional portrayal of the refugee crisis, often reduced to images of rickety boats and the perilous sea crossings from Turkey and Libya. Instead, it looks into the *before* and *after* of these dramatic moments. While the first chapter of the exhibition focused on the experience of flight, the precariousness of the journey and the clandestine economy that fuels the plight of the refugees, this iteration at La Kunsthalle Mulhouse will extend its focus to what happens once refugees have reached the 'promised land'. The exhibition also looks into how European citizens experience the migration crisis, and explores problems of the representation of suffering, the 'ownership' of refugee images and who has the right to represent them. The exhibition includes a group of artists, photographers, filmmakers and activists who mostly come from the Middle East or South-Eastern Europe, from countries that have experienced war, exodus and perilousness first hand. They have a proximal and intimate relation to trauma and communal experiences of suffering. Deploying diverse practices such as installation, photography, film, video and direct action, the work of the participating artists provides deeper insight into the plight of the refugees and points to the complex roots of the situation, while contextualising it within the larger global picture.

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This exhibition is co-produced with Schwarz Foundation.

Greek-born curator, writer and lecturer, Katerina Gregos was invited to curate the summer exhibition at La Kunsthalle. She has curated numerous large scale exhibitions and biennials including the Belgian and Danish Pavilions at the 2015 and 2011 Venice Biennale, respectively, the 5th Thessaloniki Biennale, 2015; *No Country for Young Men: Contemporary Greek Art in Times of Crisis* at BOZAR, Brussels, 2014; *The Politics of Play* for Göteborg International Biennial for Contemporary Art, 2013; Manifesta 9 and *Newtopia: The State of Human Rights*, 2012. Recently she was also on the curatorial team for *Uncertain States: Artistic Strategies in States of Emergency*, Akademie der Kunst, Berlin 2015-16. Over the years Gregos' curatorial practice has been particularly concerned with issues of human rights, democracy, economy and global geopolitics, highlighting critical issues of our time.

Opening hours

Open Wednesday to Friday, noon to 6 pm

Saturday and Sunday, 2 pm to 6 pm

Late-night opening Thursdays until 8 pm, in June

Thursday 14th July, 2 pm to 6 pm

During Art Basel week (June 13th to June 16th): open Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 6pm

Closed Mondays, Tuesdays

Free admission

Coordonnées

La Kunsthalle Mulhouse - Centre d'art contemporain

La Fonderie

16 rue de la Fonderie - 68093 Mulhouse Cedex

tél : + 33 (0)3 69 77 66 47

kunsthalle@mulhouse.fr / www.kunsthallemulhouse.com

Enquiries/Press office: Clarisse SCHWARB

Tél. +33 (0)3 69 77 66 28

clarisse.schwarb@mulhouse.fr

La Kunsthalle is a City of Mulhouse cultural establishment.

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