

PRESS RELEASE

GUT GEKAUFT, GERN GEKAUFT Eine Geschichte vom Paradies

Photography & Installation by Lara Busch
Curated by Sonja Leboš, AIR

An exhibition organised under the auspices of the European Month of Photography

Opening reception: Friday, 29th October 2010, 7:00 – 11:00 pm
Special guest: DJ Karlhorst playing Eastern Bloc rock, 8:30 – 10:30 pm

Exhibition dates: 30th October – 13th November 2010
Opening times: Friday & Sunday, 3:00 – 6:00 pm
Other viewings by appointment: info@artillerie-projekte.org

artillerie is pleased to present "GUT GEKAUFT, GERN GEKAUFT – Eine Geschichte vom Paradies" ("WELL BOUGHT, HAPPILY BOUGHT – A story of paradise), an exhibition by the Berlin-based artist Lara Busch. Her work re-contextualises an advertising slogan from GDR paper grocery bags to underscore the after-effects of German re-unification on the capital's urban landscape. The project, which kicked off in the summer 2009 as part of photographic work commissioned by the Austrian Cultural Forum in Zagreb for the 20th anniversary of the collapse of the Berlin Wall, will be presented in this show for the first time as a site-specific installation.

As curator Sonja Leboš writes in her text for the exhibition's catalogue: "Lara Busch is getting lost in Berlin in the way that Walter Benjamin once pointed out while talking about his childhood there. And, as he emphasised, that kind of getting lost needs training.

Many of us are engaged in a similar quest for meaning in different cities around the globe. However, Berlin is a very specific case. Once, there was a wall. This wall was the symbol of the once dismembered Europe, of a world seemingly divided only into the East and the West. Right up to the present day, no other city in Europe has been so carefully documented as Berlin. In no other city in the world can we buy as many maps from different periods of urban development as in Berlin. But the artistic appropriation which captures the originality, authenticity and uniqueness of place has been very diverse in its ways of rendering the face of the capital.

Lara Busch's interest focuses on the semantically less saturated passages of the spatial manuscript of Berlin. By capturing these places in the medium of photography, Busch takes exclusive possession of Berlin's history – or perhaps we should say its historicity. Her pictures open up a dialogue between different places, and give the viewer the opportunity of looking more closely in order to find out what story a particular *mise en scène* is designed to tell."

artillerie

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Lara Busch – As versatile as the number of her pseudonyms, Lara Busch navigates between fact and fiction like art itself. Guerilla tactics have been her trademark ever since launching her career on the streets of Croatia.

Sonja Leboš is a Croatian curator, media artist and cultural anthropologist, who also heads up the Association for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Research (AIIR) in Zagreb. www.uiii.org

European Month of Photography is the biggest festival dedicated to the promotion of photography in Europe. It was first held in 2004 in Berlin, Paris and Vienna. Since 2006 Bratislava, Luxembourg, Moscow and Rome have been involved as well. For the 4th Month of Photography in Berlin more than 120 institutions, including museums, cultural institutes, embassies and federal state offices, as well as photographic colleges, galleries and project spaces, will be presenting over 250 exhibitions and events relating to historic and contemporary photography. www.mdf-berlin.de

artillerie is an interdisciplinary arts venue committed to experimentation in visual arts, performance, film, literature and music. Located in Berlin's gritty yet vibrant Wedding district, artillerie is a project run by a non-profit group of art activists and volunteers.

For more information or press photos, please contact us at 030 715 30 702 or info@artillerie-projekte.org

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