

Press Release / Pressemitteilung

Collection Satellite #3: Ola Vasiljeva // the Werkbund Haus der F

Kaiser Wilhelm Museum 29 March 2019 – 22 September 2019

Collection Satellite #3 marks round three of a project series launched by the Kunstmuseen Krefeld in 2018. Accepting an invitation of the Kunstmuseen Krefeld, the Dutch artist Ola Vasiljeva (born in Ventspils, Latvia, in 1981, and now working in The Hague) has embarked on a detailed study of the collection of the German Museum for Art in Commerce and Industry. This work forms the basis for her installation at the Kaiser Wilhelm Museum. Alongside Ola Vasiljeva's works, the exhibition will also include 30 works by artists such as Peter Behrens, Lucian Bernhard, Hans Kalmsteiner, Rudolf Kalvach, and Clara Möller-Coburg.

To mark the Bauhaus Centenary, the Kunstmuseen Krefeld invited the artist Ola Vasiljeva to engage with the museum's Werkbund collection. The works from the German Museum for Art in Commerce and Industry have been in the museum's collection since 1923. The artist discovered an imbalance between male and female artists in the collection, which inspired her to research women in the Werkbund. During her work, Vasiljeva came across the Haus der Frau (House of the Woman), which was presented at the Werkbund exhibition in Cologne in 1914. This formed the starting point for her site-specific installation "Haus der F.", which showcases and references individual works from the collection of the German Museum for Art in Commerce and Industry. Inspired by the collection, she developed new works, including a neon work that is a new take on a jumping jack cut-out sheet created in 1903 by the designer Clara Möller-Coburg. In her installation, Ola Vasiljeva has produced a suggestive situation that offers considerable scope for different interpretations. It is reminiscent of a workshop or artist's studio. The artist consciously plays with dichotomies such as male/female and visual/applied arts and intentionally leaves them open, as she does the authorship of the works. "It is fascinating for us and for visitors to see how the artist Ola Vasiljeva adopts a new perspective on the Werkbund that was established in 1907 – and is the precursor of the Bauhaus. The subjects addressed by the Werkbund remain as topical as ever, and this engagement with female positions is becoming increasingly relevant given the current socio-political debate", explains Katia Baudin, Director of the Kunstmuseen Krefeld.

The artist Ola Vasiljeva

Ola Vasiljeva studied at the Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten (Amsterdam), the Hogeschool voor de Kunsten (Utrecht) and Croydon College (London). She was nominated

Kunstmuseen Krefeld

Kaiser Wilhelm Museum Haus Lange Haus Esters

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for the Prix de Rome in 2013. She has had solo exhibitions at the Kunstverein München, the Grazer Kunstverein, Art in General (New York) and the Contemporary Art Centre (Riga).

The German Museum for Art in Commerce and Industry

Established by Karl Heinz Osthaus, the sample collection assembled by the German Werkbund provides the Kunstmuseen Krefeld with a unique collection of applied art. In 1909, he founded this exemplary museum of outstanding works that were intended to foster collaboration between art, industry, and arts and crafts, thereby serving as a precursor of the Bauhaus, which was established in 1919. The collection encompasses a wealth of design forms, from applied arts to graphic reproduction, that were characteristic of this epoch shortly after the turn of the century. Designers such as Peter Behrens, Henry van der Velde, Josef Hoffmann, Lucian Bernhard, Max Klinger, Charlotte Frömmel-Fochler, and Clara Möller-Coburg are represented in the collection.

About the Collection Satellites series

For the new Collection Satellites exhibition and project series at the Kunstmuseen Krefeld, artists (artists, designers, choreographers, writers, etc.) are invited twice a year to explore individual or group works in the museum's collection and to access them in novel ways. The collection, which is at the heart of the museum and gives it its identity, serves as the starting point and catalyst for new artistic positions. The Collection Satellites are accompanied by a series of publications.

Curator: Constanze Zawadzky

To accompany the Ola Vasiljeva exhibition, post-1965 art from the collection of the Kunstmuseen Krefeld will be shown on the second floor of the Kaiser Wilhelm Museum. The exhibited works include those by Zvi Goldstein, Dan Graham, Andreas Gursky, Candida Höfer, Bethan Huws, Tracey Moffatt, Gary Hillberg, Richard Allen Morris, Sigmar Polke, Naufus Ramírez-Figueroa, Gerhard Richter, Thomas Ruff, Thomas Struth, and Allan Uglow.

Sparda-Bank West Foundation is the partner of the Collection Satellite series



Kunstmuseen Krefeld

Kaiser Wilhelm Museum Haus Lange Haus Esters





Königreich der Niederlande



Opening Hours Kaiser Wilhelm Museum Tue – Sun 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Haus Lange Haus Esters Tue, Thu–Sun 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Wed 3 p.m. – 9 p.m.

For special opening hours on holidays see www.kunstmuseenkrefeld.de

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