Press Release Berlin, 28.7.22





Pilvi Takala In the IBB Video Space

3.8. - 29.8.22

Open Air: Artist talk and screening Pilvi Takala and Thomas Köhler, Director Berlinische Galerie

Wednesday, 17.8., 8:30 pm (admission from 7:30 pm) The event takes place in English Free admission Pilvi Takala's artistic practice centres on performative interventions. She tests the social norms that govern how various groups of people function together by exposing them to subtly disruptive situations. The three works being screened at the Video Space in the Berlinische Galerie address conditions in today's work environment.

"The Stroker" (2018, 15 min.) restages
Takala's intervention in a trendy London co-working space used primarily by start-ups. Takala poses as a "wellness consultant". She is extremely friendly towards the people working there, touching them slightly on the shoulder without being asked. Their reactions range from benign to uncomfortable or even outright rejection, with body language and exchanges between co-workers replacing direct verbal confrontation. In the glass architecture of this allegedly so laid-back new world of work, we witness how personal boundaries are negotiated.

"SLUSH" is a three-day event held in a party-like atmosphere that is designed to bring start-ups and investors together. In "If Your Heart Wants it (Remix)" (2020, 15 min.) Takala and her team document the proceedings and interact with participants. Takala probes the flamboyantly positive mindset and the neoliberal belief that success and failure depend entirely on individual commitment.

"Workers' Forum" (2015, 6 min.) is an animated chat rooted in Takala's experience as a microtasker in the United States. She worked for a service that charged users for sending them a message from a make-believe significant other. The video is based on conversations between on duty micro-taskers in a forum and shows that, despite working as dead-cheap labour for a system designed to downplay human connection, they act surprisingly empathetic.

The filmmaker

Pilvi Takala was born in Helsinki (Finland) in 1981. Her work has been shown, for example, at MoMA PS1, the New Museum, Palais de Tokyo, Kunsthalle Basel and Manifesta 11. She is representing Finland at this year's Venice Biennale.

Open Air: Artist Talk and Screening

On 17 August, as part of Kultursommerfestival Berlin, "Jung und Artig", the young Friends of the Berlinische Galerie, will present a talk with Pilvi Takala and Thomas Köhler, the director of the Berlinische Galerie. Afterwards, Pilvi Takala's works "The Stroker", "If Your Heart Wants it (Remix)" and "Workers' Forum" will be projected open air in front of the museum.



The event takes place in English with free admission. 19:30 – Music and drinks 20:30 – Artist talk

21:15 - Screening

IBB Video Space

The IBB Video Space is screening artists who work with time-based media. The programme, which changes every month, features not only established names in contemporary video art but also up-and-coming artists rarely seen in museums to date. For these, the Berlinische Galerie seeks to facilitate an institutional début.

Each month brings a new encounter with work that raises questions about the medium and about social or political issues. Importance is attached to including marginalised perspectives and to shedding light on the impact of power structures.

More video works online: bg.berlin/en/video-art-online

This project has been facilitated by Investitionsbank Berlin (IBB).

Press images

berlinischegalerie.de/en/press-release/pilvi-takala

Online tickets

bg.berlin/en/online-tickets

Social Media

#pilvitakala #videoartBG #berlinischegalerie

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Admission 10 €, concessions 6 € (prices may vary during temporary exhibitions)

Berlin's Museum Sunday On the first Sunday of every month free admission

Wed-Mon10am-6pm Tue closed