

BG

Press Release
Berlin, 25.2.20

Gernot Wieland, Thievery and Songs, 2016, © Gernot Wieland
Courtesy the artist and Belmacz



Gernot Wieland

In the IBB-Video space

4.3. – 30.3.20

Artist Talk: Wed 4.3.20, 6pm

Gernot Wieland's artistic practice in recent years has centred above all on video and lecture performance. His work often combines historical events with seemingly personal memories where fact and fiction blend. The resulting narratives are complex, beginning with private issues and almost accidentally outlining problems in society.

Thievery and Songs (2016, 22:40 min.)

Thievery and Songs is made up of several interlocking narrative threads with no discernible hierarchy. A narrator betraying little emotion recounts his session of psychoanalysis where the therapist was remarkable less for his professional expertise than for his obsession with his patient's Austrian origins. He tells the devastating story of a great aunt who, as a rural serf in the 1930s, suffered despotic treatment at the hands of a Nazi farmer, at the same time drawing parallels between Austrian post-war art and Catholicism and framing all this with a story about a Jewish dancer who fled to Mumbai in 1938. Apart from performances he filmed himself we see adapted photographs, clay models and drawings. These partly visualise what we hear and partly undermine

it in absurd ways. Apart from the reflections on Austria, the video encourages us to explore deeper issues about memory, about how history is written and how identity is formed. The tone is one of gentle wit hovering on the verge of melancholy.

Biography

Gernot Wieland was born in Horn (Austria) in 1968. He studied at the University of the Arts in Berlin and at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna. His films have been shown, for example, at the International Film Festival in Rotterdam, the Kunstverein in Kassel, the Kunsthaus in Graz and the Liverpool Biennial. Wieland has received a number of awards, most recently the EMAF Media Art Award 2019 from the German Film Critics. He lives in Berlin.

Press

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Press images

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Social Media

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Berlinische Galerie

Museum of Modern Art,

Photography and Architecture

Alte Jakobstraße 124–128

10969 Berlin

berlinischegalerie.de

Admission

8€, concessions 5€

(prices may vary during temporary exhibitions)

Opening hours

Wed– Mon 10am – 6pm

Tue closed

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