



künstlerhaus bethanien gmbh : pressemitteilung

Berlin, 18th March 2008

Dear Colleagues,

Künstlerhaus Bethanien presents:

DAYDREAMS & DARK SIDES

Exhibition: **6th – 27th April 2008**

Wednesday – Sunday, 2 – 7 pm, Studio 1

Opening: Saturday, 5th April 2008 as from 7 pm

PAVILION & BB3: Temporary Structures

Presentation and live talk on the BUCHAREST BIENNIAL and its organisers,
PAVILION magazine.

Saturday, 5th April 2008, 5 – 7 pm, Clubraum (3rd floor)

OPEN STUDIOS

of the artists of the International Studio Programme

Saturday, 5th April 2008, 7 – 10 pm (1st + 2nd floors)

The exhibition *Daydreams & Dark Sides* pays witness to our indefinable age – smouldering and transitory moments as the counterpart to a reduction of art to simple functions and platforms of discourse that deliberate over the merely superficial.

Everyone probably has his dreams, every night, but they evaporate with his first look into the mirror next morning. The exhibition searches for those obsessive experiences between night and day, for dark inner images and scorching daydreams. The dream has always played a great part in the work of many artists, although it is rarely found in a directly narrated form. Their works celebrate material texture in painting, drawing and sculpture until it becomes a dream in its turn; in other words – it becomes a riddle, a mystery.

These artists distrust the customary process of shedding light on dreams by means of descriptive narration until the riddle appears to have been solved. They take the opposite approach, which makes their pictures ambiguous and fascinating. In this way, they pose questions rather than giving answers.

b.w.

Every artwork among these overlapping moods of *Daydreams & Dark Sides* is a dream in itself, revealing the unattainable quality of truth, but nonetheless expressing a truth of its own. *Daydreams & Dark Sides* is presented as the reverse side of (perhaps also a background, underground, counter position to) the Berlin Biennial 2008; rich in subtle, surprising insights, it appears as a textbook of emotions, deceptions and transformations.

The exhibition's visual language - with its specific spectrum - may sometimes appear cumbersome, uncomfortable or cryptic to the casual visitor; in this way, however, it displays a relaunch of art as art. This emerges from the position of the participating artists, who aim to resist the commonplace by asserting a select, personal language in the field of total communication.

Daydreams & Dark Sides presents works by:

ATAK (Georg Barber) (*1967, lives in Berlin)

Tilo Baumgärtel (*1972, lives in Leipzig)

Thomas Helbig (*1967, lives in Berlin)

Andreas Hofer (*1963, lives in Berlin)

Britta Lumer (*1965, lives in Berlin)

Bernhard Martin (*1966, lives in Berlin)

Sophia Schama (*1966, lives in Berlin)

Markus Selg (*1974, lives in Berlin)

Ruprecht von Kaufmann (*1974, lives in Berlin)

Ralf Ziervogel (*1975, lives in Berlin)

Daydreams & Dark Sides is being realised with kind support from the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Senate Offices – Cultural Affairs.

Prior to the opening of the exhibition on 5th April 2008, a **Presentation of the Bucharest Biennial** with subsequent discussion will be taking place in the Clubraum (3rd floor) as **from 5 – 7 pm**. Participants: Razvan Ion (RO), Eugen Radescu (RO), Felix Vogel (DE), Christoph Tannert (DE).

At this point, we would like to extend a warm welcome to the event (admission free), which is taking place in cooperation with the Rumanian Cultural Institute Berlin.

OPEN STUDIOS

Also on **5th April 2008 as from 7 pm**, the artists of our International Studio Programme will be opening their studios and looking forward to your visit: Jungju An (ROK), Daniel Barroca (P), Catherine Bolduc (CA-Québec), Libia Castro & Ólafur Ólafsson (ES/IS), Markus Degerman (S), Haris Epaminonda (CY), Anouk Kruithof (NL), Nathalie Latham (Australia), Pia Lindman (FIN), An Te Liu (CA), Søren Lose (DK), Ives Maes (BE), Christian Niccoli (I-Sout Tirol), Martin Skauen (Norway), Sophia Tabatazde (Georgia), Luca Trevisani (Italy) and Ming Wong (SING).

Best Regards

Künstlerhaus Bethanien