

KÜNSTLERHAUS BETHANIEN

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Berlin, 7th November 2019

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to the following events:

CHE-WEI CHEN

Spear

*

On the 14th November only, 7 – 10 pm

OPEN STUDIOS

Yurika Sunada (Japan), Anna Rún Tryggvadóttir (Iceland), Gülsin Ketenci (Turkey),
Hyelim Cha (South Korea), Rie Nagai (Japan), Hiromi Stringer (USA),
Badr Ali (Saudi Arabia), Kaja Leijon (Norway), Arthur Debert (France),
Rhys Himsworth (Great Britain), Gladys Kalichini (Zambia), James Nizam (Canada),
Che-Wei Chen (Taiwan), Emi Otaguro (Japan), Fermín Jiménez Landa (Spain),
Hajime Mizutani (Japan), Anika Schwarzlose (Netherlands),
Peter Flemming (Canada–Québec), Igor Vidor (Brazil), Talya Lubinsky (South Africa),
Aline Bouvy (Luxemburg), Katsuhiko Matsubara (Japan), Shoufay Derz (Australia),

Openings
and Open Studios:

THURSDAY, 14th November 2019, from 7 PM
Showroom at Kottbusser Straße 10

Exhibition:

15TH NOVEMBER – 15TH DECEMBER 2019
Tuesday – Sunday, 2 – 7 pm

ATELIERS UND BÜROS: Kohlfurter Straße 41-43 · 10999 Berlin · SCHAURAUM: Kottbusser Straße 10

TEL: +49 (0)30 616 903 0 · FAX: +49 (0)30 616 903 30 · info@bethanien.de · www.bethanien.de

RECHTSFORM: Künstlerhaus Bethanien GmbH · SITZ: Berlin · AG Charlottenburg

GESCHÄFTSFÜHRUNG: Christoph Tannert · Andrea Boche · HANDELSREGISTER: HRG 8089

KÜNSTLERHAUS BETHANIEN

P R E S S R E L E A S E

CHE-WEI CHEN

Che-Wei Chen's recent practice has focused on the subjectivity of people with mental disorders and reflected upon the complexity of contemporary conditions. He explores the boundaries between reality and fiction through multiple perspectives within complex structures and narratives. His work not only reveals the repressed collective unconscious but also re-examines the power and political structures underlying the social system. Besides, the artist also addresses issues such as postcolonialism, modernity, classification, biopolitics, etc.

Chen's new film *Spear*, which lends its title to the exhibition, will premiere at Künstlerhaus Bethanien. Chen collaborates with a friend, an actor with a dissociative disorder. The film starts with the individual experience and attempts to transform this fragment of traumatic memory into an artistic way. At the same time, it also involves hypnosis. The film unfolds a compound experience intertwined with reality and fiction, trauma's specter and fragmented memory. The trauma is the same as the moving image here; they are constantly intertwined and suddenly emergent.

The work *Spear* examines the situation of the human being under the state of violence and the mute condition of language. We gain an insight into the archetypes of trauma: violence, power, oppression, control technologies, etc. What we see is no longer just the bare life of the individual, but a microcosm of the collective trauma. Furthermore, it implies the disciplinary, power and domination exercised by the ideological state apparatus. | More info: www.cheweichen.com

CHE-WEI CHEN, born in 1986 in Taiwan, currently lives and works in Berlin and Taipei. He studied at the Taipei National University of the Arts, (Department of Fine Arts, MFA Programme 2008) and has participated in many exhibitions and residency programmes in recent years, such as Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin (2019) and Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris (2018); Exhibitions include: *The Vessel of Time*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei (2017); *Tropical Cyclone*, Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts, Taipei (2017); *RIVERRUN*, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei (2017); *Oblivion: Yang-Shen-Yuan*, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei (2016). Che-Wei Chen is currently a guest at Künstlerhaus Bethanien as a grantee of the **Ministry of Culture, R.O.C. (Taiwan)** and the **Taipei Representative Office in the Federal Republic of Germany**.