

GALERIE KRINZINGER SEILERSTÄTTE 16 1010 WIEN
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HANAKAM & SCHULLER
COSMIC CATHEDRAL

OPENING: 18 February 2016, 7 pm

DURATION: 19 February 2016 – 26 March 2016

The artists will be present and will speak about their work.

Following the group shows *AIR – Sri Lanka / Hungary, Artists in Residence 2013/2014* and *AIR Ungarn 2011 – 2012*, Krinzinger Projekte (Galerie Krinzinger) will be featuring *Cosmic Cathedral*, the first single exhibition of this artist duo that has been working together since 2014.

“The foundation of alchemy is the work (opus). It consists of a practical part, the actual «operatio», which is to be grasped as an experimentation with chemical bodies. In my view it is completely hopeless to want to introduce order into the infinite chaos of the processed materials and the procedures used.”

C.G. Jung – Psychology and Alchemy

Typology and phantasy are elements of *Cosmic Cathedral*, a video piece by Markus Hanakam & Roswitha Schuller, in which the expressive repertory of alchemy, its systems of order and material ideas merge with seemingly surrealist imagery.

Two alchemists alternately make use of various apparatuses and generate sequences of actions related to the index of Fulcanelli's *Le Mystère des cathédrales* from the 1930, the last alchemist text written by a legendary Frenchman (to this day Fulcanelli's identity has not been fully clarified.) Fulcanelli interprets the sacral architectures of the Gothic period as expressing a secret language, borrowing from alchemist symbolism as well as esotericism.

Alchemy is the idea of changing the essence of a material by handling or processing it in a special way – which is basically a sculptural idea. The type of the alchemist has already appeared several times in the work of Hanakam & Schullers as the precursor of the photography adept in *INVASION* (2010), as an element of the video role-play *TRICKSTER* (2014), a 'fluidum' in the picture series *Profile* (2015-16). The concepts of Hanakam & Schuller are also informed by historical text sources dating from the 18th to the early 20th century.

The works by Markus Hanakam and Roswitha Schuller focus on certain aspects of popular culture and elaborate on the role that the artifact plays here – as a marketing instrument, as a game *device*, as apparatus, or as fetish. In the process they reflect and ironize various historical and contemporary artistic strategies as well as their means of expression. They work primarily in the realm of video, interactive computer applications, drawing and applied forms of art.

Roswitha Schuller * 1984 in Friesach, diploma and doctorate at the University of Applied Arts, Vienna. **Markus Hanakam** *1979 in Essen, University Essen, diploma at the University of Applied Arts, lives and works in Vienna. Since 2004 working as a duo, exhibition – and festival participation, as well as curatorial activities in an international context. exhibitions (selection): 2016: Gaité Lyrique, Paris (G), 2015: Austrain Cultural Forum, Prague (S), Fabrika, Moskow (S), AIR – Sri Lanka / Hungary, Artists in Residence 2013/2014, Galerie Krinzinger (G), 2014: DI∞G, Vienna (S), Artist Quarterly Sotheby's, Vienna (S), DEPO, Pilsen (G) 5th International Sinop Biennial, Sinop (G), 2013: Eyebeam Center for Art and Technology, NY (G), 2012: Museum Moderner Kunst Kärnten, Klagenfurt (S), International Festival, Palais de Tokyo, Paris (G), AiR Ungarn 2011-2012, Krinzinger Projekte, Vienna (G)

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cast

Ulrike Euteneuer
Stanislaus Deininger

voice over Artists

Kathy Tanner
Jim Libby

studio shots Amann Studios Wien

Location Support

PACT Zollverein, Choreographisches Zentrum NRW, Essen, NRW
Kunstraum am Schauplatz, Praterstraße 42, Vienna

With friendly support by PACT Zollverein, choreographic centre NRW, Essen, NRW.

2015-16