

Tanja Roscic

noon moon

1 November – 24 December 2008

After Tanja Roscic's works have been presented last spring in the group show „L' Éducation sentimentale“ we are exceedingly pleased to announce her first solo show at Freymond-Guth & Co Fine Arts.

As former works, the works especially developed for this exhibition show figures and forms that are staged mask-alike between drama and obscure spectacle. These auratic characters disclose their strength on one hand in their sensible haptics and at the same time in their introverted emotionality. Although the drawings and sculptures use an aesthetic loaded with aspects of glamour, occultism and protest-culture they remain always enigmatic and fey.

For her exhibition „noon moon“ Tanja Roscic has created a cycle of works in reference to the title „The Witch And The Philosopher's Egg“, which continue her examination with occultism and the mystic. Drawings and sculptures have been generated referring to alchemical practices and symbols, based on the idea of transformation of material into another. Following the alchemical theory of quaternity or rather, the quartering of a process that attributes matter not only qualities but also principles, ignoble substances can be reclaimed from all ignoble principles, and this „prima materia“ thus made susceptible to all noble principles. The four levels of this process themselves have been geared to the antique device of the four elements earth, water, air and fire.

Roscic's sculptures that in this regard are put on as stage-like installations, trace these different levels while the correspondent drawings in display-cases, approach the look-alike of scientific notes-diary. They are mostly anthropomorphic, animalistic and botanical at the same time and remind in their chemical artificiality, that does not protect them from sorrows and agonies of a human soul, also of fantastical figures as Gustav Meyrink's „Golem“ or Mary Shelley's „Frankenstein“.

The egg of the philosopher to which Roscic alludes with the group of work's titled „The witch and the philosopher's egg“ can be understood as well as reference to the historical precedent of the contemporary test glass in which the alchemists tried to mix the elixir, the universal remedies against illness and age. Simultaneously it can refer to the philosophic-existential primal-question of the causality of things. In Roscic's artistic work these questions of origin and effect seem to build a mystic circular whole. Enigmatic buds, eggs or heads that sometimes more, sometimes less bear human traits, are floating in the room.

With her recent works Tanja Roscic foremost achieves an astounding artistic translation of alchemical work methods and images of transformation as symbols for psychic processes. C.G. Jung saw parallels in those to the dream worlds of modern humans during their identification process of biographies. This „transmutation of the psyche“ seems to be the most accurate description of the latest works of the artist. The characters that we encounter however seem to be trapped in different states of a development and are beset with a number of signs and symbols that cannot and mustn't be interpreted.

Among other things the alchemist are ascribed to the (re)-discovery of porcelain and gunpowder in Europe. In context with the mystic works of Tanja Roscic's this anecdote receives an amazing brisance: they connect these two different matters formally and as regards content.

Roscic's drawings and sculptures are of a seldom material rawness and coevally highly sensible converting. Faces like dolls or mystic heroines moribund and theatrical, in a emotional power that yet, beeing cryptic mythical creatures, rejects a distinct legibility.

For further questions and images please contact the gallery
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Tanja Helena Roscic (*1980) studies in the last semester „visual arts“ at the Zurich University of Arts. In 2008 she was awarded with a work grant of the canton of Zurich.

Exhibitions and projects (selection):

2008: Spleen- the flowers of evil still bloom (g), Cueto Project, New York, USA (Vernissage 6. November), L'Éducation sentimentale (g), Freymond-Guth & Co Fine Arts, Zürich, CH, Zoo Art Fair (g), London UK, Walking on Thin Ice (g), Artnews Projects, Berlin, DE

2007: Stupid Blue Eyes (s), Wartesaal, Perla Mode, Zürich, CH, Stadt Zürich Werk- und Atelier Stipendien, Helmhaus, Zürich, CH

heart and soul, one will burn (p), Park, Zürich, CH,

2006: Saufen & Schiessen (Boozing & Shooting), value, Zürich, CH, (i, p) m. Cristian Andersen

2004: Second Girls, World's End, Zürich, CH (s, mit Athene Galiciadis), 4. International Dada Festival, Bliss, Zürich, CH

2003: Der Tod und das Mädchen (Death and the Maiden) (s, mit Athene Galiciadis), World's End, Zürich, CH, Nieves (g), Rocket Gallery, Tokyo, JP

Publications:

NY/ Istanbul Diary

Edition Wartesaal, Zürich, CH

Cry me a ghost, collaboration w. Diana Kaleicli
New York, USA

Out of time, collaboration w. Cristian Andersen
Nieves, Zürich, CH

Awards, grants:

Kantonales Werkstipendium, Zürich, CH

Städtisches Werkstipendium, Zürich, CH

(s)= solo show, (g)= groupshow, (p)= performance