Katrina Daschner. BURN & GLOOM! GLOW & MOON! Thousand Years of Troubled Genders

30/6 – 23/10 2022

PRESS CONFERENCE: Thu 30/6 2022, 10 am
OPENING: Thu 30/6 2022, 7 pm

CURATOR: Övül Ö. Durmuşoğlu
ASSISTANT CURATOR: Andrea Popelka
HEAD OF PRODUCTION STUDIO DASCHNER: Monika Rovan
EXHIBITION VENUE: kunstHalle wien Museumsquartier

BURN & GLOOM! GLOW & MOON! Thousand Years of Troubled Genders is the most comprehensive exhibition to date of Vienna-based artist and filmmaker **Katrina Daschner**. The exhibition, carefully put together by guest curator **Övül Ö. Durmuşoğlu**, encompasses works from the 1990s to the present.

Daschner works with various closely interrelated media, ranging from sculpture, textile, music, performance, community-based work, and, most prominently, film, which sits at the heart of *BURN & GLOOM! GLOW & MOON!*, as does collaboration, an integral and long-standing focus of her practice.

Daschner is part of a hardworking generation of artists and makers who have been responding to the major conceptual shifts and gender upheavals happening in contemporary art since the 1990s, especially in New York and London. Her chosen home of Vienna may have been slow to respond to these performative new awakenings, but she and her friends felt their pull after graduating—in **Daschner**'s case, from Angewandte. In 2001, **Daschner**, together with **Johanna Kirsch** and **Stefanie Seibold**, founded the performance space *Salon Lady Chutney* in a former Viennese hair salon. The *Salon*, which was always overcrowded and always meant to be temporary, offered a space for performance at a time when discussions around topics such as art or gender hadn't yet reached the Viennese academies, and when there

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were no (public) institutions dedicated to performance art in the city. WHW, **kunsthalle wien**'s artistic directors: "Engaging with **Katrina Daschner**'s work allows us a glimpse into where and how Viennese queer study—in the sense of learning together and producing knowledge outside of traditional academic avenues—took and takes place. Her show falls in line with an ongoing questioning at **kunsthalle wien**: What are the different legacies of queer-feminist communities and histories that remain hidden and unarchived, locally and beyond? How can intersecting generations of feminists be brought into dialogue, both to collaborate and to challenge each other?" **WHW** continue: "With *BURN & GLOOM! GLOW & MOON!* we are again presenting an outstanding local community-based practice at **kunsthalle wien**. **Katrina Daschner**'s focus on collaborative work, which allows works to emerge from the community and also reflects this process of creation, is an impressive addition to the program developed at the **kunsthalle wien**."

Daschner's work has tirelessly challenged patriarchal mores and their everyday norms in Western society. Through various proposals of corporeal fluidity, she scripts and enacts her works herself and with the help of Vienna's queer community. Since starting her film work, she has continued to work with the same team and protagonists, strengthening queer kinship. All of these eyes, bodies, and minds involved in her films enrich their dreamscape.

With stylized performances and video works, **Daschner** plays with the boundaries of human and non-human, and what is socially defined as the norm, exposing the artificiality of the gendered binary—the dualism of men* and womxn—and the prejudices it generates, freeing the body. In doing so, the stage becomes the setting for a precarious desire for visibility and, at the same time, an endless yearning for rebirth. The bodies that perform and the potential audience that follows them mutate and embody different emotional cycles again and again. These artistic acts function like threads attaching her stories, stages, and characters together. In **Daschner**'s textile-based works, threads are minimal yet highly visible, akin to the pinch needed to wake up from a dream. These works—as well as her collages— merge with her confronting yet inviting image politics: she cuts and pastes stories of love and pleasure, violence and resilience, death and rebirth.

Threading, circling, and wandering are the strategies through which the exhibition moves, enacting new connections among **Daschner**'s works. In response to her dreamy settings, certain powerful components of films and performances become evocative installations themselves and touch each other in a new way. In addition, new textile collages and sculptures wrap themselves around a core of filmic work, including *TANZ2000* [DANCE2000] (2000) and her latest film *Golden Shadow* (2022). A unique and sensuous journey takes place among these threads, its glamorous and dark moments melting into each other not only for those who meet **Daschner**'s practice for the first time, but also for those who have been part of its making. *BURN & GLOOM! GLOW & MOON!* thus creates an immersive environment of senses, textures, and feelings. It is a setting in which the monuments of white patriarchal heteronormativity are dismantled stone-by-stone with pain and joy.

BURN & GLOOM! GLOW & MOON! Thousand Years of Troubled Genders confronts, touches, embraces, and dreams of transforming "femme"-ness, transforming bodies, and transforming genders. It arrives at a critical time of public empowerment for womxn (cis and trans), LGBTQIA+, crip, and BIPOC communities in the contemporary art world and continues to propose different avenues for queer-feminist political action.

Biography Katrina Daschner

Katrina Daschner grew up in Hamburg. She has lived and worked as an artist and filmmaker in Vienna for more than 25 years, where she founded numerous performance salons. Most recently, she hosted the queer *CLUB BURLESQUE BRUTAL* (2009–2014) in brut Wien.

In her works, which she presents at international exhibitions and film festivals, **Katrina Daschner** deals with (gender-specific) power structures and the representation of queer sexuality as well as the transfer of stage language to the exhibition and film context.

From 2005 to 2010, **Katrina Daschner** taught at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. In 2010, she was awarded the Otto Mauer Prize. In 2016, she received the first prize in the screenplay competition IF SHE CAN SEE IT, SHE CAN BE IT and the Diagonale Prize for Innovative Cinema in 2017. In 2018, she was awarded the Outstanding Artist Award for Experimental Film from the Federal Chancellery of Austria. From 2017 to 2019, she was a member of the theory curatorial team at Tanzquartier Wien.

Biography Övül Ö. Durmuşoğlu

Övül Ö. Durmuşoğlu is a curator, writer and educator living in Berlin. Her work across various geographies centers on counter-narratives of civilization and histories of intersecting contemporary political subjectivities from feminist queer perspective. **Övül Ö. Durmuşoğlu** was part of steirischer herbst curatorial team in 2018; curated programmes for the 10th, 13th and 14th editions of the Istanbul Biennale and coordinated many events for dOCUMENTA 13's public program among others.

She curated *Stars Are Closer and Clouds Are Nutritious Under Golden Trees* in the MMAG Foundation of Amman, realized *Soft Solidarity Assembly* with Galerie Wedding and co-initiated **Die Balkone**, a series of exhibitions, together with **Joanna Warsza** in Berlin. **Övül Ö. Durmuşoğlu** is currently a visiting professor at the Berlin University of the Arts' transdisciplinary Graduate School program and will be the professor for Art in Theory at Braunschweig University of Art together with **Ana Teixeira Pinto** from October 2022. She has recently curated the first monographic exhibition of the Berlin-based duo **Pauline Boudry / Renate Lorenz** in Spain for CA2M Madrid including an extensive publication.

Public Program

Exhibition opening
Thu 30/6 2022, 7 pm

Welcome: **What, How & for Whom / WHW**, artistic directors of **kunstHalle wien**
Introduction: **Övül Ö. Durmuşoğlu**, exhibition curator
DJ sets: **Vina Yun** and **sissyboy** (Club Fiorucci)

Curator's Tour with Övül Ö. Durmuşoğlu
Fri 1/7 2022, 5:30 pm, in English

Film screenings in the Austrian Film Museum
With **Katrina Daschner** and **Katharina Müller**, curator

In person: Katrina Daschner
TANZ2000 – Early Works
Thu 15/9 2022, 6 pm

Already in her early videos, **Katrina Daschner** dealt with various facets of sexuality and gender performances. In contrast to the later, more professionalized films, these works are characterized by a punky DIY style— including dogma-like rules: no rehearsals, no extra lighting, no added sound layers. Instead: action!

In person: Katrina Daschner
Hiding in the Lights
Thu 15/9 2022, 8 pm

Dazzling, pulsating, fluid, wet, powdery, revolutionary: in *Hiding in the Lights* (2020), **Katrina Daschner** weaves the performative queer cosmos of her eight-part film series based on **Arthur Schnitzler**'s *Dream Story* into a sonorously tranquil, visually opulent opera that makes queerness tangible in all of its identity-subverting power.

Artists' workshop with Sophie Utikal and Katrina Daschner
Touching with Your Eyes
Thu 29/9 2022, 3:30–7 pm

How can the tactile be grasped with the eye? What is the connection between acting and talking about it? **Sophie Utikal** and **Katrina Daschner** will develop a workshop, which draws from both the differences and commonalities in their artistic practices.

Café Fett+Zucker treats participants to cake during the break.

Performance with Denice Bourbon
PRUDE
Thu 29/9 2022, 8 pm, in English

Denice Bourbon takes the audience for a ride through her part of the history of the Viennese queer art and party scene: butts on fire, flopping mermaids, and really bad performance ideas that should never have been allowed on stage. What do you do with all those bad cringy memories of failing miserably? You turn them into comedy!

Because, sure enough, it's lovely when things go great and according to plan. But when things go wrong, it's hilarious!

Performance with Stefanie Sourial and Hyo Lee
Colonial Cocktail / Volume 2: SPIRITS
Fri 21/10 2022, 7 pm, in English

The *Colonial Cocktail* trilogy distills the last four hundred years of European colonial history and packs them into one-hour performances each. The series strikes out like a boomerang. It traces the origins of alcoholic (trendy) drinks in the colonial past to their persistence in the present. In the second part of the series, subtitled *SPIRITS*, **Stefanie Sourial** and **Hyo Lee** specifically describe the colonial-historical contexts of spirits and their impact on society.

My View

... with Vina Yun
Thu 1/9 2022, 7 pm

... with Philipp Fleischmann
Thu 13/10 2022, 7 pm

My View is a program series in which experts, non-experts and interesting people are invited to present their personal view on the exhibition. **Vina Yun** will kick things off. She is a freelance journalist, author and publicist based in Vienna. She writes about feminism/queer, postmigration, labor, (alternative) media, and pop culture. **Philipp Fleischmann**'s artistic practice resides at the intersection of visual art and film. Since 2014, he has been the director of the *School Friedl Kubelka for Independent Film*.

Sunday Tours
With Wolfgang Brunner • Carola Fuchs • Andrea Hubin • Michaela Schmidlechner • Michael Simku
Sun 3/7, 17/7, 7/8, 21/8, 4/9, 18/9, 2/10, 16/10, 23/10 2022, 4 pm

Every first and third Sunday at 4 pm, you can explore the exhibition *BURN & GLOOM! GLOW & MOON!* together with our art educators and discuss the context and background of the exhibited works.
The sunday tours are free with an exhibition ticket and will be held in German.

The exhibition at a glance

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CURATOR: Övül Ö. Durmuşoğlu

ASSISTANT CURATOR: Andrea Popelka

EXHIBITION VENUE: **kunsthalle wien** museumsquartier, Museumsplatz 1, 1070 Vienna

EXHIBITION DATES: 30/6–23/10 2022

OPENING HOURS: Tue–Sun 11 am–7 pm, Thu 11 am–9 pm

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