

On Authenticity

Authenticity is a dynamic process of endless becoming in an innately changing environment, rather than a fixed state of being. We do not wish to consider authenticity and inauthenticity as mutually exclusive states, but rather as mutually dependent concepts. „Authenticity“ as a concept, is a human construct, as such it has no reality independent of minds.

Is authenticity possible, or even desirable? Is there a distinction between „true“ authenticity and a mere display of authenticity? Can authenticity be, publicized, declared, marketed, or exchanged as some sort of commodity or must it be unpretentious and understated? In this year end exhibition, by intentionally revealing the inherent un-authenticity of the mischievous mechanical image in the post-industrial age, the photography class investigates the most fundamental questions of their practice; how to realize the true aim of any single photograph - to disclose the logic of being produced and reveal the immanent question of the effects of the information society on the basic structures of human existence and freedom.

It is our most urgent mission to analyze our own intentions and raise photographic practice to the level of consciousness by exposing this crisis of representation and thereby transmuting it into actual power by revealing the innate inauthenticity of the photographic masquerade, one dominated by the camera's game, a strangeness we have become blind functionaries of.

The realization of the year end exhibition 2021 of the photography class concerns the establishment of a model of freedom, each work gives rise to a new consciousness of the effects and logic of the technological image, by pulling on the strings of authenticity's premeditated act.

From the testimonial image to the kitchen space, artists Anastasiia Batishcheva, Ilinca Fechete, Simon Hartl, Mathias Keitel, Shueh Oberschelp, Stephanie Rössing, Anna Schöbel, Igor Vrdoljak aka Unruh, Magdalena Welz, Shudi (Mimi) Yan, Sianza Zink and Natalie Zohner, masterfully dissect the un-truth of the photographic image further collectively exhibiting in *To be an Angular Something as a Round Nothing*, at the Kaulbachstr. 1, opening this September 2021.

Ilinca Fechete