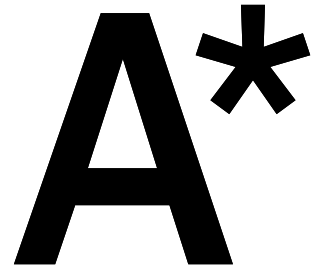


Media Release

Aarau in January, 2010



2010 JUBILÄUM

150 Jahre Aargauischer Kunstverein
50 Jahre Aargauer Kunsthaus
15 Jahre Kunstvermittlung

CARAVAN 1/2010: Nathalie Bissig

Series of Exhibitions of Young Art

30 January – 18 April, 2010

Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aarau

At the Aargauer Kunsthaus Nathalie Bissig presents a selection of intricate, filigree-like drawings which have developed intuitively and spontaneously under the hands of the young draughtswoman and photographer. Fascinated with the masterworks by Caspar Wolf and John Henry Fuseli, she is looking to juxtapose her most recent works with selected works from the collection of the Aargauer Kunsthaus.

Nathalie Bissig (b. 1981) has chosen to present her most recent works in one of the galleries devoted to the display of the permanent collection. She executes her drawings spontaneously, using quick brush strokes. Usually the works are produced in series, as the artist graphically explores, if not downright researches, a particular motif or theme. When drawing, Nathalie Bissig is after unmediated expression, trying to achieve a state in which the mind blanks out and is detached, as it were, from the hand that draws. What she captures in ink, oil or coloured pencil are intuitive bits of thoughts and slivers of form. Often it takes just a few strokes of the brush for the artist to create figures, faces or body fragments which, in their striking expressivity, contrast with the delicacy of the drawing. Those pictorial elements add up to an atmospherically intense realm in which irritation, melancholy, seduction and a feeling of oppression lie close together.

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Nathalie Bissig's creativity expresses itself both in photographic works and drawings, with the artist frequently combining the two media. In her drawings she contrasts photography, as a reflection of the external world, with images of an inner world. Fascinated with the mountainscapes of Caspar Wolf (1735-1783) and the fantastic paintings of John Henry Fuseli (1741-1825), the artist decided, in planning the CARAVAN exhibition, to juxtapose her works for once not with her own photographs, but rather have them enter into a dialogue with works from the museum's collection.

Born and raised in the Swiss Canton of Uri, **Nathalie Bissig** lives and works in Zurich. She attended the Zurich Hochschule für Gestaltung und Kunst, majoring in photography and graduating in 2004. Selected exhibitions to date: *Jahresausstellung Zentralschweizer Kunstschaffen*, Kunstmuseum Luzern (2009/2005); *Werk- und Atelierstipendien der Stadt Zürich*, Helmhaus, Zurich (2009); *88.15*, Binz39, Zurich (2008); *Kopfstand*, Galerie Widmer+Theodoridis contemporary, Zurich (2008); *ewz.selection*, ewz-Unterwerk Selnau, Zurich (2008); *Top of Central Switzerland*, Kunstmuseum Luzern (2008); *Urner Jahresausstellung*, Haus für Kunst Uri, Altdorf (2007); *Freitag der 13.*, station21, Zurich (2006); *Kritik und Protest laut und leise*, Haus für Kunst Uri, Altdorf (2004). Awards: studio grant from the City of Zurich (2009); ewz.selection, photography award in the category Fine Arts (2008); advancement award from the Kunst- und Kulturstiftung Heinrich Danioth (2007/2002).

CARAVAN - Launched in 2008, this series of exhibitions of young art offers visitors to the Aargauer Kunsthaus a chance to encounter young Swiss artists and to discover novel and as yet unestablished artistic practices. Its name, CARAVAN, is programmatic; several times a year, artists are given different galleries of the Aargauer Kunsthaus to work with. These "mobile interventions" engage in a discourse with the building, the collection and the programme of the Kunsthaus, opening up new ways of seeing for the visiting public. In this way, rather than creating a self-contained project space for recent art, the exhibition series promotes a link-up of recent artistic practices with everything else the Kunsthaus has to offer. Each time, CARAVAN will thus stop at varying and perhaps surprising locations in the Aargauer Kunsthaus.

Curator

Madeleine Schuppli

Preview for the Media

Thursday, 28 January, 2010, 10 am, Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aarau
Nathalie Bissig will be present

Exhibition Opening

Friday, 29 January, 2010, 6 pm

Artist Talk

Thursday, 4 February, 2010, 6.30 pm

Nathalie Bissig in conversation with Christoph Lichtin, Curator,
Kunstmuseum Luzern, and Madeleine Schuppli, Director, Aargauer Kunsthaus,
Aarau

Images for the Media

Images are available for downloading on our website
www.aargauerkunsthaus.ch under "Media." Please take note of the captions.

Opening Hours: Tuesday - Sunday 10 am - 5 pm, Thursday 10 am - 8 pm

Holiday Opening Hours: From Holy Thursday, 1 April, until Easter Monday,
5 April, the museum will be open every day from 10 am - 5 pm

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