KATZ CONTEMPORARY

Patrick Graf

Das Volk der östlichen Hochebene von Tandoor

29 August - 26 October 2014

Opening: Thursday, 28 August 2014

KATZ CONTEMPORARY Gallery is delighted to present new works by **Patrick Graf** (*1981 in Zurich, Switzerland, where he also lives and works) in his first solo exhibition *Das Volk der östlichen Hochebene von Tandoor*. In the front and back room of the gallery space's ground floor, new pieces in oil and acrylic, etchings and woodcuts are juxtaposed with objects taken from Patrick Graf's fictitious world of the eastern plateau of Tandoor. The presentation of the spatial installation on the downstairs floor is set up in such a way that the visitor descends into the foreign world of the people of Tandoor much like an archeologist or an explorer who is discovering a previously unknown civilization. The fantastical landscape of the Tandoor plateau presents itself with its inhabitants and shamans who also occupy the two-dimensional works on the ground floor, invoking the wondrous world of the people of Tandoor.

Patrick Graf's work process is based on blending creativity and everyday life, fiction and reality. Since 1999, he has continually been working on documenting the history of the *Ypsilonia Age* revolving around mad Dr. Y., using drawings and texts that make up more than 4000 A4 sized pages so far. Graf develops an incredible narrative in the book and the art works inspired by it, which carries the viewers off into a new, unique world, fascinating and frequently inspiring them to reflect. The artist created the space-filling installation *Das auf der Karte westlich gelegene Meer [The Sea Which on the Map is Located on the West]* for Kunstraum Baden in 2012, which was performed as an opera, written and directed by Graf. It recounts the story of a sea landscape and its peaceful inhabitants who suffer from human civilization's thrown-out garbage falling into their world and man's urge to exploit new resources on the bottom of the sea. Only when finally one of the earthlings falls in love with the queen of the underwater world, peace is restored between land and sea inhabitants.

Such a parallel universe and thus a new chapter of the story of *Ypsilonia Age* will be staged in the Alter Botanischer Garten [Old Botanical Garden] as part of the Gasträume 2014 – Kunst auf öffentlichen Plätzen Zürich, a festival featuring art in public places in Zurich. The performance *Tandoor-Hohepriester-Besuch [Visit of the High Priest of Tandoor]*, solely developed for the occasion, manifests itself right in front of the viewers. During the performance, a group of people from Tandoor in lavish costumes, lead by a shaman, guides the visitors to the Palmenhaus [Palm House] of the Alter Botanischer Garten to perform a ritual there. The ritual involves the audience members, making them feel as though they are becoming a part of the people of Tandoor.

Stefanie Schneider

PERFORMANCE

Thursday, 28 August 2014, 7.30 pm
Saturday, 25 October 2014, 4.00 pm
Meeting point: KATZ CONTEMPORARY, Talstrasse 83, 8001 Zürich

GALLERY WEEKEND

Saturday, 25 October and Sunday, 26 October 2014, 11.00 am - 5.00 pm

For visual material and further information please contact the gallery:
Tel: +41 44 212 22 00 / info@katzcontemporary.com

PREVIEW

Florian Bühler in Collaboration with André Willimann and Tieni Burkahlter
HOMO
7 November 2014 - 10 January 2015
Opening: Thursday, 6 November 2014, 5.00 – 8.00 pm