

Gazed and Confused **An Exhibition in Two Parts** **Biographies**

Chapter 2: 18.03.22 – 07.05.22

Opening: 18.03.22 from 18:00

John Berger, Alina Frieske, Dieter Hall, Milva Stutz and Grégory Sugnaux

John Berger

John Berger (born 1926, London, died 2017, Antony, France) was an art critic, poet, novelist, painter and author. As a novelist, he won the Booker prize for *G.* in 1972, donating half his prize money to the Black Panthers. As a TV presenter, he changed the way we looked at art with *Ways of Seeing*. As a storyteller and political activist, he defended the rights and dignity of workers, migrants, and the oppressed around the world. "Far from dragging politics into art," he wrote in 1953, "art has dragged me into politics." Before he was a critic and novelist, John Berger began his career as a painter. In the late 1940s he exhibited at the Wildenstein, Redfern and Leicester Galleries in London. Berger taught drawing at St Mary's teacher training college. He later became an art critic, publishing many essays and reviews. Along with painting, he formed associations with the Communist Party of Great Britain early in his career: although he never formally joined the party, he was closely tied to the broader communist movement, and his Marxist values would underlie his artistic work for the rest of his career. Berger moved from urban London to a small town in the Alps, Quincy in 1973, where he would live for the next 40 years of his life.

Alina Frieske

Alina Frieske (born 1994, Aachen, Germany) lives and works in Aachen and Berlin, Germany. From 2014 to 2017, she studied and graduated with a Bachelor in Visual Communication, from the Maastricht Academy of Media Design and Technology in the Netherlands. From 2017 to 2019, Frieske graduated with a Master in Photography from ECAL, University of Art and Design Lausanne, Switzerland. Recent exhibitions include *Can you see me better now?* Fabienne Levy Gallery, Lausanne, Switzerland (solo, 2021); *Resilience - a personal story*, Kunsthal Rotterdam, Netherlands (2021); *Biennale Images Gibellina*, Sicily, Italy (2021); *Plat(t)form Winterthur*, Fotomuseum Winterthur, Switzerland (2020). In 2021 she received the ING Talent Award.

Dieter Hall

Dieter Hall (born 1955, Zurich, Switzerland) lives and works in Zurich. In 1983, he completed his studies in art history and literary studies at the University of Zurich. One year later he moved to New York. Hall began painting in New York City in the 1980s and lived there for almost three decades. It was there that he became friends with people in the avant-gar-

de scene in the East Village such as artist Bill Rice, photographers Peter Hujar and Allen Frame, and ethnographer Hugh Raffles. Since 2011 Hall is based in Zurich. Recent solo-exhibitions include *Splendid Isolation*, Kupper Modern, Zurich (2021); *Zwischen Himmel und Erde – und Erde und Himmel*, Krematorium Nordheim, Zurich (2020); *Dieter Hall & Xenia Lucie Laffley*, Last Tango, Zürich (2018). Recent group-exhibitions include *Konstellation 11 – Dietrich & Co*, Kunstmuseum Thurgau (2020); *Problem gelöst? Geschichte(n) eines Virus*, Shedhalle, Zurich (2019); *Kantonale Stipendienausstellung*, Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich (2017); *Heimspiel 2015*, Kunsthalle St. Gallen (2015).

Milva Stutz

Milva Stutz (born 1985 in Zurich, Switzerland) lives and works in Zurich. In 2009 she completed her Bachelor of Arts at Lucerne School of Art and Design. In 2012 she received a Master of Arts in Art Mediation and in 2019 a Master of Fine Arts at Zurich University of the Arts. Solo exhibitions include *For Real, for Real, for Real this Time*, Barbara Seiler Gallery (2021); *Black Is the Color of My True Love's Hair*, Kunstraum Luke, Zurich (2021); *Good Boys*, König Büro, Zurich (2021); *One is too few and two is only one possibility*, with Magda Drozd, LOKAL14 (2018). Recent group exhibitions include *Werkschau 2021*, Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich (2021); *It's a ... Women's Women's Women's world!*, Karl der Grosse, Zürich (2021); *Loop Transformation*, Videofenster, Fachstelle Kunst und Bau Zürich and Kunstsammlung Stadt Zürich, Zurich (2021). Her filmic work has been shown at Annecy International Animated Film Festival 2020, at PÖFF Black Nights Film Festival, at Tricky Women Animation Festival and at DOK Leipzig-International.

Grégory Sugnaux

Grégory Sugnaux (born 1989, Fribourg, Switzerland) lives and works in Fribourg. After a stay at the Ecole d'Art de la Cambre in Brussels, he obtained a Bachelors degree from the Ecole d'Art du Valais (ECAV) in 2013 and a Masters degree in Bern (HKB) in 2017. His works have been shown in numerous exhibitions: *La réforme de Pooky*, Fri Art (2022); *Définitif, donc provisoire*, Fri Art (solo, 2019); *Fatigue c'est la vie*, Kunsthalle Marcel Duchamp (solo, 2018); *Cantonale Bern Jura*, Kunsthalle Bern (2016); *Bromance & Sisterhood*, Stadtgalerie Bern; *UNTER 30. Junge Schweizer Kunst XI*. Kiefer Hablitzel Prize 2015, Kunsthaus Glarus. In 2015 he received the Kiefer Hablitzel Prize.