

Press release

EIKON Award (45+). Katrín Elvarsdóttir, Susan MacWilliam, Gabriele Rothemann

Exhibition: Künstlerhaus 1050, Stolberggasse 26, 1050 Vienna | February 16 – April 14, 2018

On the occasion of the 100th issue of EIKON – International Magazine for Photography and Media Art, the **EIKON Award (45+)** was launched under the patronage of **VALIE EXPORT** for European **women photographers and media artists aged 45 and over**. The aim of the award is not only to survey the current conditions in women's art production, but also to draw attention to and sensitize a broad public for the (biographically caused) delays in artistic development and practice of both late entrants and returning artists.

Following the idea of a European exchange in times of current splitting tendencies, the exhibition initiates an interdisciplinary dialogue between the three award-winning artists, **Susan MacWilliam, Katrín Elvarsdóttir** and **Gabriele Rothemann**.

In summer 2017 the call went out for the EIKON Award (45+), endowed with prize money of € 5,000 for the winning artist. In addition, the three best ranked artists (chosen by **Jürgen Klauke, Margot Pilz** and **Æsa Sigurjónsdóttir**) received an extensive contribution in the 100th issue of EIKON. The winners were selected from a total of 273 applicants from 23 different nations.

Winners:

1. Susan MacWilliam
2. Katrín Elvarsdóttir
3. Gabriele Rothemann

Prize money: 5,000 €

Patronage: VALIE EXPORT

Jury: Jürgen Klauke, Margot Pilz, Æsa Sigurjónsdóttir

Idea and concept: Marielis Seyler and Nela Eggenberger

EIKON Award (45+)

Katrín Elvarsdóttir, Susan MacWilliam, Gabriele Rothemann

Press-Preview: February 15, 2018 at 5.30 pm

Opening: February 15, 2018 at 7pm

Exhibition: February 16 – April 14, 2018

Where: Künstlerhaus 1050, Stolberggasse 26, 1050 Vienna

www.k-haus.at | www.eikon.at

With friendly support of **Wiener Städtische** and **Culture Ireland**.

+ + + Additional program + + +

Guided Tour – EIKON Award (45+) on International Women's Day: March 8, 6pm (in German/English)

On the occasion of International Women's Day, there will be a guided tour through the exhibition of the works by Katrín Elvarsdóttir, Susan MacWilliam and Gabriele Rothemann. **Free admission for all!**

WOMAN WHO WORRY: March 8, 2018, 7 pm (in German)

On the occasion of International Women's Day, the presence and participation of female middle-aged artists in the art scene and in exhibitions will be discussed.

Panel discussion with Margot Pilz and Ursula Maria Probst, **Moderation:** Nela Eggenberger

Gabriele Rothemann guides through the exhibition: March 22, 2018, 7 pm (in German)

Gabriele Rothemann offers a comprehensive insight into her artistic practice.

Exhibition tour with Susan MacWilliam und Peter Mulacz: April 11, 2018, 7 p.m. (in English)

Susan MacWilliam will discuss her work in the exhibition in conversation with Prof. Peter Mulacz, President of the Austrian Society for Parapsychology and Border Areas of Sciences (www.parapsychologie.ac.at) and Lecturer at Sigmund Freud University Vienna (www.sfu.ac.at).

Press contacts

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Biographies

Susan MacWilliam (b. 1969 in Belfast, Northern Ireland) represented Northern Ireland at the 53rd Venice Biennale in 2009 with her solo show *Remote Viewing*. She is an award-winning artist who uses video, photography and installation to investigate obscure and overlooked histories and cases of perceptual and paranormal phenomena. She has worked with prominent parapsychologists and psychical research institutions, including poltergeist investigator William G. Roll, the Dermo Optical Perception Laboratory of Madame Yvonne Duplessis in Paris, and the Parapsychology Foundation, New York. Her first film, *The Last Person* (1998), was shortlisted for the Irish Museum of Modern Art's *Glen Dimplex Artists Award* in 1999. MacWilliam was artist in residence on the PS1 International Studio Program, New York in 1999/00, and has had residencies in Ireland, France, Slovenia, Trinidad, USA and Canada. She has exhibited extensively with solo exhibitions in Ireland, the UK, Europe and North America. Her survey exhibition *Modern Experiments* toured venues across Ireland during 2016–17. MacWilliam is a lecturer in Fine Art at the National College of Art and Design, Dublin. Her films are held in the British Library Sound Archive, London. She is represented by CONNERSMITH. In 2017 she won the EIKON Award (45+).

Katrín Elvarsdóttir (b. 1964 in Isafjordur, Iceland) completed her BFA degree at the Art Institute in Boston in 1993. Elvarsdóttir's photographs are straight forward and clear and her subject matter is taken from real life. But instead of telling a story of the obvious, the narrative elements are hidden, fiction and reality are confluent. She creates an imaginary world that springs from reality itself, thus bringing out a peculiar quality in surroundings normally seen as everyday occurrences. She has held many solo shows in Iceland and abroad, including *Vanished Summer* at Deborah Berke in New York 2014 and ASÍ Art Museum 2013, *Nowhereland* at Reykjavík Art Museum 2010, and *Equivocal* at Gallerí Ágúst 2010. Katrín has participated in numerous group exhibitions such as *Human Nature* at Martin Asbæk Gallery in Copenhagen, *Anti-Grand* at the University of Richmond Museum in 2015, *Visible Iceland* at the Hillyer Art Space in Washington D.C. 2014 and *Nordic Art Station* at Eskilstuna Konstmuseum 2013. Elvarsdóttir has been nominated for several awards including the Deutsche Börse Photography Foundation Prize in 2009. In 2016 her book *Double Happiness* was published by Crymgea editor in Reykjavik in conjunction with the same titled exhibition at Gerðarsafn – Kópavogur Art Museum. The book is the last of a trilogy, the previous volumes being *Vanished Summer* (2013) and *Equivocal* (2011).

Gabriele Rothemann (b. 1960 in Offenbach / Main, Germany), studied Photography at the Kunsthochschule Kassel and continued her art studies at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf with Prof. Fritz Schwegler. 1987 she got the master-class title. Beside different prizes and scholarships, an academic year with John Baldessari and Michael Asher at the California Institute of the Arts in Los Angeles and a year at the German Academy Villa Massimo in Rome were very important for her. Her photographs and drawings associate a picture library that Rothemann compiles since 1984. In form and content succinct, press and magazine images become condensed versions or rather transformations of the collective memory. After teaching at the Zurich University of the Arts and at the Bauhaus-University Weimar, Rothemann has been Professor at the University of Applied Arts Vienna since 2011 where she founded the Departure of Photography. Besides she has had numerous solo exhibitions, in Austria and abroad, among others *Hab und Gut* at Fotoraum, Vienna, 2012, *DUCK and COVER* at Galerie Raum mit Licht, Vienna in 2015, *Quire. Twenty-four Birdcages* at MUSA in 2017. In 2016 she organized a series of get-togethers at Blicke Raum, Vienna, with an extensive program around her own oeuvre in collaboration with other invited artists.

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