

**As You See**

With films by Isabell Spengler, Valerie Castan and Ex Machinis

Fr 26/04/13

20:30

€7/5

80 min.

DE spoken

EN subtitles

ENG

In three films programmed in *As You See*, invitations and instructions are handed out like scores to parents, friends and dancers. The way they carry them out influences your perception and guides your gaze. An interplay is created between the director's expectations and the reality ultimately constructed. The fourth film *La reine, c' est moi* short-circuits the biological physical conventions and presents a strange creature that is literally standing on its head.

**- Vater, Mutter, Was Soll Ich Heute Filmen?**

Isabell Spengler, 2012, 52', HD video, DE, German spoken, Eng subtitles

The idea for "Vater, Mutter, Was Soll Ich Heute Filmen" came to Isabell Spengler one summer, visiting her parents at their vacation house in France. While working in the garden, they would frequently call out to Spengler "Isabell, quick, there's a praying mantis/a snail/a flower, etc., you have to film it!" which she eventually did. Prior to filming, she conducted detailed interviews with her parents, challenging them to imagine and describe their visions as a film scene, a series of sounds and moving images unfolding in linear time. "Vater, Mutter..." juxtaposes Spenglers parents' descriptions with her own transpositions into film: wishes for films in words are followed by the wished-for films in images.

**- Mummy**

Isabell Spengler & Uli Ertl, 2006, 2'30", Super8/video, DE

A baby mummy escapes from an apartment building in Berlin and is captured by a ghost in white bedsheets. Meanwhile a woman in Islamic headscarf walks by with her family. A scene from a world in which there's no ban on wearing face coverings.

**- Drama**

Valerie Castan, 2009, 10', video, FR

In a split screen we observe four people in a white space. They follow a certain set of movements or instructions which oscillate between power relations and relations of desire. Their physical appearance and clothing hint at a narrative that is otherwise not revealed, neither by the chronology of situations and movements, nor by their expressions or (lack of) emotions. Castan deliberately suspends the 'dramatic tale' in favor of the spectators' own constructed fiction.

**- La reine, c' est moi**

Ex Machinis (Steffi Weismann, Stefan Vens, Barbara Loreck, Antonia Baehr) 1996, 15', video, DE, German Spoken, Eng. subtitles

The experimental performance "la reine, c'est moi" is centered around two

female figures and two complementary forms of movement, fighting for the limited space of a room. Distantly reminiscent of Oskar Schlemmer's figurines, they are stuck into bizarre costumes designed by Steffi Weismann. However, these costumes are anything but simple. Bodies are turned upside down: where the arms should be, there are legs and the head is covered under a skirt. Top and bottom, man and woman, it is ultimately a question of de/reconstruction.