

Kasia Michalski Gallery is pleased to present

**Katarzyna Mirczak | ABYSSES**

Part of the Warsaw Gallery Weekend 2015

After digging deep into the archives of the departments of forensic medicine in Krakow and Wroclaw, Katarzyna Mirczak has delved into the cabinets of institutions specializing in examining and treating sleep disorders. In her new project, the author of the Special Signs and the Tools of Crime submitted herself to night-long polysomnography tests, conducted at the Sleep Disorders Center at the Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology in Warsaw. As a result of the medical analysis (EEG, EEA, EMG, ECG, blood oxygen saturation level, respiratory movements of chest and abdomen etc.), a detailed description – the sleep profile of the artist – emerged. In *AbysSES*, it is reinterpreted and inscribed into the field of music and visual arts.

A multi-channel medical documentation of one of the REM phases of Katarzyna Mirczak's sleep constituted a starting point for her new works. Together with Poznań-based composer Rafał Zapała, Mirczak has created a spacial sound installation, occupying almost the entire gallery space. The medical images of the eyeballs movement were also utilized in images which evoked the atmosphere of the artist's previous realizations. Fascinated by the mathematic structure of the world, Katarzyna Mirczak consciously catalyzes a cognitive tension between the objective and the scientific on the one hand, and the irrational and the subjective on the other. By combining science, new media and her individual experience, she searches for new order, tenderness in chaos.

**Katarzyna Mirczak** Born in 1980 in Wałbrzych, Poland, she graduated from the Institute of Archeology at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. Mirczak has been working with objects and images found in archives of obscure, hardly accessible institutions, exploring the fields of science and medicine, violence and death, and introducing elements of foreign visual language into the realm of contemporary art – displaying objects in a disciplined, cold way, always against a neutral, white background, blurring the boundary between the genre of still life and scientific proofs, samples or evidence of crime.

Her works have been exhibited at important exhibitions and fairs at the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw, Kunsthalles Bratislava, at the Paris Photo, the AIPAD Photography Show in New York, at the Archeology of Photography Foundation and Krakow Photomonth.

Katarzyna Mirczak is represented by Erick Franck Fine Art in London and Kasia Michalski Gallery in Warsaw.

Opening: September 25th, 5:00-9:00 p.m., as part of the Warsaw Gallery Weekend opening

Opening weekend: Warsaw Gallery Weekend, Saturday 11:00-7:00 p.m., Sunday 12:00-7:00 p.m.

The exhibition is open till November 5th, Tuesday-Saturday, 11:00-7:00 p.m.

High resolution images and press materials are available [here](#).