

KASIA MICHALSKI

Gallery

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Kasia Michalski Gallery is pleased to present

Agnieszka Polska **Cuckoo**

For her solo show at the Kasia Michalski Gallery, Agnieszka Polska proposes a selection of her recent works consisting of a video, a set of collages on photographic paper as well as prints on textile.

The video piece, *My Little Planet* (2016), is the central piece in the exhibition, presented in Poland for the first time. It recounts an allegorical story of a society in which time is being measured by the movements of daily-use objects rotating around the planet: a Marlboro butt, a bottle cap and a sticking plaster. In a humorous fashion, the narrator describes the conventionality and arbitrariness of norms implemented on society.

To see the video, the viewers need to walk through a curtain, consisting of two prints on textile and functioning as a separate piece, entitled *Słonko* (The Little Sun). The work refers to a children's poem by the realist writer, Maria Konopnicka.

The exhibition also showcases a selection of new graphic works by the artist, printed on photographic paper and framed. Among them, the *Bitter Tears of Ayn Rand 1 and 2* (2017) directly point to the figure of Ayn Rand, and include an excerpt of her text. When working on the new series, Polska had a surreal vision of Ayn Rand regretting her writings and the situation they led to, and then shedding colorful tears over her texts.

Presenting the hidden traumas of the late-capitalist society, Agnieszka Polska balances the severe subject-matters with her poetic esthetics and a considerable dose of humor. The individual pieces are bound together by the sound of the cuckoo from the film, and by the title "Cuckoo", whose second, more metaphorical meaning describes a crazy, mad person.

Agnieszka Polska (b. 1985, Lublin) lives and works in Athens and Warsaw. In her multimedia practice encompassing video, animation and photo-based works, she employs found materials and historical imagery which she adapts and recontextualizes to create subtle, slow-paced narratives. Most recently, she has had solo exhibitions at the New Museum, New York (2016) and Nottingham Contemporary (2014); her videos have been included in screenings and group exhibitions at the 11th Gwangju Biennale (2016), the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, DC (2016); the Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow (2015); the Museum of Modern Art, New York (2015); as well as the 19th Biennial of Sydney (2014) and the 13th Istanbul Biennial (2013).

Opening: January 19th, 2017, 6 pm – 9 pm

The exhibition is open until March 23rd, Tue - Sat, 12 - 7 pm

The exhibition has been organized in collaboration with Zak | Branicka, Berlin

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