

**AGNES SCHERER**  
**«EIN SELTSAMES SPIEL»**

**4.11.2023 – 21.1.2024**

In her comprehensive solo exhibition, Agnes Scherer (\*1985) condenses life-size papier-mâché figures and paintings into stage-like settings. The title of the show, referencing the song *Die Liebe ist ein seltsames Spiel* (engl.: *Love is a strange game*) by the pop singer Connie Francis, explores the different conceptions of romantic love and the power relations that come with it. Common representations and narratives - including medieval rituals or wedding scenes - are dismantled through symbolic shifts to reflect on contemporary views of these images.

«Ein seltsames Spiel» builds on Scherer's research into cultural and art historical traditions. Overlapping and mutually exacerbating representations of historical and contemporary narratives intermingle to create a grotesque puppet theater. The different figures populate the exhibition spaces as if on a film set or in a wax museum, never fully emerging from the surface of the painted background. Manifestations of romanticised love - widely used archetypes and symbols as well as references to pop culture - intertwine: pictorial mechanisms are revealed as well as the reference systems of the artist and the viewer.

Whether through the representation of medieval jousting or a wedding in white, Agnes Scherer's spectacular and whimsical spatial settings are narrative and engaging. As if through a peephole or a diorama, she uses theatrical elements to give the viewer a glimpse into the process of her work. The separate, self-contained scenes merge into overarching moods and visual worlds throughout the exhibition. Status symbols of western capitalist societies (fast cars, smartphones, etc.) and bloodsucking vampires find themselves on the same stage here.

In the Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen, the German artist takes up common notions of heteronormative romanticism - thus the solemn occasion of a wedding becomes the basis for important interrogations: The rehearsed event is revealed in the socio-political contexts in which it inevitably takes place. Humorous and detailed, Agnes Scherer negotiates cultural customs and ritualised ideas, inviting the audience to look behind the scenes and their own habits.

## EVENTS & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

### PRESS PREVIEW

Friday, 3 November 2023, 10 a.m.

### OPENING

Friday, 3 November 2023, 6 p.m.

### INTRODUCTION FOR TEACHERS

Thursday, 9 November 2023, 6 p.m.

### GUIDED TOUR ON TUESDAY

Tuesday, 14 November 2023, 6 p.m.

### ART SNACK

Thursday, 23 November 2023, 12.30 p.m.

Thursday, 11 January 2024, 12.30 p.m.

Short guided tour and a snack

Admission: CHF 10/members CHF 7;

No registration required

### GUIDED TOUR ON SUNDAY

Sunday, 21 January 2024, 3 p.m.

### WORKSHOPS FOR SCHOOL CLASSES

From 10 November 2023 to 21 January 2024 we are offering workshops in the exhibition. For info see [www.k9000.ch](http://www.k9000.ch).

### PRESS

High-resolution images can be found in the press kit on our website under Info/Press. For further questions contact Giovanni Carmine ([carmine@k9000.ch](mailto:carmine@k9000.ch)) or Céline Matter ([matter@k9000.ch](mailto:matter@k9000.ch)).

**AGNES SCHERER** (\*1985 in Lohr am Main/DE) lives and works in Salzburg/AT and Berlin/DE. Solo exhibitions (selection): «Savoir Vivre», Heidelberger Kunstverein, Heidelberg/DE (2023); «Fancies», Page, New York/US (2022); «The Teacher», Cabaret Voltaire, Zurich/CH (2020); «The Notebook Simulations», Kunstverein Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf/DE; «The Very Hungry», Horse & Pony, Berlin/DE. Group exhibitions (selection): «Anté futur», CAPC Musée d'art Contemporain de Bordeaux, Bordeaux/FR (2023); «Mon palais», choir, Sans titre, Paris/FR (2022); «Spirits», Lore Deutz, Atelierhaus Kunstwerk Köln e.V., Köln/DE (2022); «Labor», CAL (Centre d'Archive Laïque), Charleroi/BE (2022); «Far Back Must Go Who Wants To Do A Big Jump», ChertLüdde, Berlin/DE (2020); «MASKULINITÄTEN», Kunstverein Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf/DE (2019); «Cupid and the Animals», TRAMPS, New York/US (2018), Museum Ludwig, Köln/DE (2017); «La Diabliesse», TRAMPS, London/UK (2017).

### KUNST HALLE SANKT GALLEN

Davidstrasse 40

CH-9000 St.Gallen

Tel. +41 (0)71 222 10 14

[info@k9000.ch](mailto:info@k9000.ch), [www.k9000.ch](http://www.k9000.ch)

Tue-Fri 12-6 p.m.

Sat/Sun 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

THE KUNST HALLE SANKT GALLEN IS SUPPORTED BY STADT ST.GALLEN, KULTURFÖRDERUNG KANTON ST.GALLEN, SWISSLOS, SUSANNE UND MARTIN KNECHTLI-KRADOLFER-STIFTUNG, ERNST UND OLGA GUBLER-HABLÜTZEL STIFTUNG, MARTEL AG, KULTURFÖRDERUNG APPENZELL AUSSERRHODEN. THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME IS MADE POSSIBLE BY RAIFFEISEN.