



CONTROLOGY

With works by: Giulia Essayad, Marianne Vlaschits, Jana Sterbak, Sofia Durrieu, Martina Mächler, Ivan Mitrovic, Elise Corpataux, Emir Šehanović, Dudu Quintanilha, and Roeë Rosen

May 22–July 18, 2021

Opening: Friday, May 21, 2021, 3–8 p.m.

Concentrate, precise, balance, relax, manage your “flow”, and breath! The group exhibition *CONTROLOGY* at Kunst Raum Riehen presents the works of eleven contemporary artists that negotiate diverse practices, forms, and narratives of control. The title of the exhibition refers to the original term of an efficient set of rules for muscle control for internees during WWI, developed by physical trainer Joseph H. Pilates. While his set of rules was purely body-related, today’s questions about the “proper” posture exceed just physical faculties. In a world experienced as both over-controlled and uncontrollable, the individual body as well as the individual mind are often claimed as last places of refuge and self-determination. At the same time, the imperatives to control are always already registered into ideological structures and accompanied by specifically designed products and meticulously constructed self-optimizing strategies: Personal characteristics and abilities must be improved to the best possible personal condition with the help of self-awareness (mindfulness training, meditation), self-tracking (pedometers, heart rate monitors, sleep-apps), rational self-control and permanent feedback. Remarkably, these methods to increase production, performance, and efficiency not seldomly appear in close relation with pseudoscientific, metaphysical, or occult teachings and practices of self-knowledge. The group exhibition *CONTROLOGY* addresses this dilemma and maps a field of practices and theories of control on the way to (controlled) happiness by presenting artistic positions that investigate in phenomena between fetishized individuality, romanticized escapism, capitalist spirituality, and political cultism.

Curated by Deborah Müller and Martin Chramosta

Work list:

GIULIA ESSYAD (*1992, lives in Geneva)

Na'vi Study, 2021

Digital print on tarp, construction fence
350 x 200 x 50 cm

Na'vi Study, 2021

Digital print on tarp, construction fence
350 x 200 x 50 cm

Blueberry Study, 2021
Digital print on tarp, construction fence
350 x 200 x 50 cm

Blueberry Study, 2021
Digital print on tarp, construction fence
350 x 200 x 50 cm

Inflation Study, 2021
Digital print on tarp, construction fence
350 x 200 x 50 cm

MARIANNE VLASCHITS (*1983, lives in Vienna)

Installation with wall drawing (2021) and four paintings:

Primordial Mouth, 2020
Oil on canvas
60 x 75 cm

The Love Between Painting and Poetry, 2020
Oil on canvas
68 x 101,5 cm,
Loan by Matthias Schweiger

Portal, 2021
Oil on canvas
80 x 60 cm

Glowing Hole, 2020
Oil on canvas
68 x 101,5 cm

JANA STERBAK (*1955, lives in Montreal)

Proto-Sisyphus, 1990
Silver gelatin print
50 x 60 cm
Loan by Museum Lehmbruck, Duisburg

Artist as Combustible, 1987
Betacam SP PAL, color, sound, 38 seconds
Courtesy of the Artist

SOFÍA DURRIEU (*1980, lives in Basel/Buenos Aires)

Magenmund, 2019
Performative installation/situation in eight steps, Whiskey, Glasses, Incense sticks,
Metal, Latex, Nails, Paper, Instructions, Cotton cloths, Velvet, Satin, Clay, Vaseline
Dimensions variable

MARTINA MÄCHLER (*1991, lives in Zurich)

71 % (play), 2018
Four loudspeakers with audio loop, tripods, carpet, cushions
Dimensions variable

IVAN MITROVIC (*1985, lives in Basel)

Gaze (4–9), 2021

Oil on canvas
10 x 15 cm

Gaze 10, 2021

Oil on canvas
35 x 35 cm

Compromise, 2021

Cut-up bottle crates, Rivella bottles
Dimensions variable

ELISE CORPATAUX (*1994, lives in Basel)

The Present Moment, 2019

Acrylic on canvas
130 x 180 cm

ALL YOU HAVE IS NOW, 2019

Acrylic on canvas
23 x 30 cm
Loan by Stéphane Kropf

Untitled (From: ALL YOU HAVE IS NOW), 2020

Acrylic on canvas
23 x 30 cm

Untitled (From: ALL YOU HAVE IS NOW), 2021

Acrylic on canvas
23 x 30 cm

EMIR ŠEHANOVIĆ (*1981, lives in Belgrade)

Waiting for the New World, 2021

Elastic polyurethane fabric, fiberglass tubes, polypropylene tubes, fabric, ribbons
252 x 100 cm
Courtesy of the Artist/Galerie Eugster, Belgrade

Tight Moment, 2017

Digital print on fabric, silicone fiber filling, rope, eyebolts with rings,
70 x 130 cm
Courtesy of the Artist/Galerie Eugster, Belgrade

DUDU QUINTANILHA (*1986, lives in Frankfurt am Main)

Punk and Paleolithic, 2018

4K video, 15 minutes

ROEE ROSEN (*1963, lives in Tel Aviv)

Tse (Out), 2010

HD video, 34 minutes