

WHISPERING VOID

JOAKIM ENEROTH
SOLO EXHIBITION

VERNISSAGE 19.APR.2017, 5–9PM, IN PRESENCE OF THE ARTIST

20.APR.2017 — 18.JUN.2017

THURSDAY TO SUNDAY, FROM 10 AM TO 6 PM

BRUSSELS

BELGIUM | GALLERY

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SUBJECTIVE VEIL #1 2013
lambda print mounted on glossy Diasec®, 119x100 cm, edition of 3

WHISPERING VOID SERIES

Since time immemorial, long has man sought an answer to the question, « What is a void? », whether from a scientific, philosophical or artistic perspective, without finding the true answer.

In 1958, the French artist Yves Klein made an impact by coming up with an exhibition on the Void. The artist theorised that thinking of an artwork is what made it exist, that its material existence was not even possible. Klein's aim with this exhibition was to awaken the awareness and collective participation of the art-viewing public.

« The image of the Void » has since intrigued many artists and had a lasting impact on contemporary art.

The new series by Joakim Eneroth (born in 1969 in Stockholm, Sweden) *Whispering Void*, presented at ifa gallery this spring might appear to be an echo of its predecessors, *Swedish Red*, *Alone with Others*, *Hide and Seek*, *Testimony*, *Without End*, and most especially, *Short Stories of Transparent Mind*, which pauses to consider the nature of the human mind from an oriental philosophical point of view. In 2010, Bill Viola* described this series as being « the vivid record of a personal journey to uncover the fundamental emptiness that lies beyond and beneath our day-to-day experience of the world. [...] The result is a profound meditation on the key Buddhist concepts of Impermanence and Emptiness in contemporary life, and the fullness that emerges within us when our inner mirror is finally polished and the clutter long blocking our vision is cleansed. ». Although *Whispering Void* explores the same theme, it is through a western psychological perspective and experimentations in neuroscience.

Having started this new series, Joakim Eneroth experienced a period of exhaustion and slowed down his work. During this period, Joakim volunteered for a research project in collaboration with the department of neuroscience at the Karolinska Institute (Solna, Sweden), where he experienced a variety of neurological and psychological tests on his brain and his body. They carried out both cognitive aptitude tests and electrooculography analysis during moments in which the brain was reacting to disturbing images and sounds.

Joakim's aim became the exploration of the subconscious, as far as might be possible.

An X-ray radio scan of Joakim Eneroth's brain led him to analyse the relation between the specific content of the mind, constantly shifting and changing, in contrast with the open background of awareness that is never changing, always silent and still. The exploration was about the way in which they co-exist, momentarily merge and take something from the other (inspired by David Chalmers work, Australian philosopher and scientist).

Joakim's urge to reveal deepening levels of the subconscious layers came from his early interest of western psychology. Joakim Eneroth grew up with a mother who was psychotherapist and psychoanalyst. He recalled

in his mind sessions through hundreds of cassette records, filled with stories of the patients who visited their home. He remembered the fascination and the fear each time he saw *Wolf Man* by Sigmund Freud on the bookshelf. Knowing the book was about a patient, Joakim had many images about what a wolf man could be. Thus, *Whispering Void* has become a journey back to recapture memories of his childhood and Joakim used them as tools and objects for his investigation.

This process came to include the question about the origin of the sense of self. Is the sense of self based on memories and ideas about ourselves from the past, childhood and other times, up to the present moment or, is our sense of self in fact based on an identity projected into the future regarding what is expected to happen? And what exactly is the notion of sense of self? Is it mental like a belief, a thought, an idea, or is it emotionally based like a feeling or a sensation? These are some of the interesting questions that fascinated Joakim and are explored in his most recent artworks.

It is through both scientific research and the resulting journey through his childhood, as well as a true dedication to reflection and meditation, that Joakim Eneroth has created his new series.

Whispering Void brings together a group of photographic compositions and sculptural works that Whisper a quest of an uncertain and surrealist Void. The project has also brought Joakim Eneroth to develop techniques and explore new forms of artistic expression, such as 3-D photography and levitating sculptures, on view in this exhibition. The atmosphere evoked in the images is peaceful and gives a sense of time suspended.

The result is a feeling of timelessness, floating and contemplation.

The photographs and installation of Joakim Eneroth illustrate the practice of meditation to dissolve the fluctuations of the spirit. The technique and levitation used by the artist evoke the state in which the spirit manages to detach itself from superficial desires and ceases to wander aimlessly.

Thus fascinated by all subjects relating to the mind, Joakim Eneroth attempts to detach the superficial layers of the individual that obstruct our interior vision, distinguishing the mental projection from reality. Through means of observation and reflection, the integration of meditation into the work aims at a radical change of the world and of ourselves.

The works of Joakim Eneroth have been exhibited throughout the world and form part of numerous collections such as the Tate Modern in London, the Brooklyn Museum of Art in New York, as well as the Maison Européenne de la Photographie in Paris.

Joakim Eneroth lives and works in Stockholm, Sweden.

* Bill Viola, *Short Stories of the Transparent Mind*, Powerhouse Books, 2010

EVENTS DURING THE EXHIBITION

19.APR.2017

VERNISSAGE IN PRESENCE OF THE ARTIST

RELEASE & SIGNING OF THE BOOK «WHISPERING VOID» PUBLISHED BY ARVINIUS + ORFEUS PUBLISHING.



17.MAY.2017

CONVERSATION WITH JOAKIM ENEROTH ON *THE SOURCE OF CREATIVITY* IN COLLABORATION WITH IFA LABORATORY.

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SUBJECTIVE VEIL #2 2013
lambda print mounted on glossy Diasec®, 119x100 cm, edition of 3

'WHISPERING VOID' SERIES



DUALISTIC NOTION 2012
lambda print mounted on glossy Diasec®, 55.5x79 cm, edition of 3

'WHISPERING VOID' SERIES



POINT OF INTERSECTION #1 2013
lambda print mounted on glossy Diasec®, 145x60cm, edition of 3

'WHISPERING VOID' SERIES



UNTITLED WV02 2013
lambda print mounted on glossy Diasec®, 100x169 cm, edition of 3

'WHISPERING VOID' SERIES



PROJECTIONS IN THE VOID 2015
mixed-media installation, 138.5x23 cm, edition of 6

'WHISPERING VOID' SERIES

1969 STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

Joakim Eneroth is multi-disciplinary artist, born in Stockholm in 1969. His varied and experimental techniques propose artworks that are both contemplative and poetic. This young artist grew up in an environment of a political protest, within a family of anarchists and socialists, a far cry from consumer society and the influence of publicity. An adept of meditation, Joakim Eneroth conceives the photographic medium as a transcription of mental reflection.

The emblematic series that brought the Swedish artist to fame is titled *Without End* (1999-2003). It illustrates his multiple journeys, like an intimate photographic diary. The work is unified through the theme of awareness of the world, which the photographer declines according to the different meanings that it may take on. This work, honored by the Voies Off Prize 2005 at the festival of Arles, has brought him international recognition.

In this same year, at the Noorderlicht Photofestival in the Netherlands, Joakim Eneroth presented simultaneously *Waiting and Testimony*, an anti-torture piece, the works of which form part of the Moderna Museet collection in Stockholm and the Deichtorhallen collection in Hamburg.

The series *Testimony* was published by Art and Photographs UK in 2008.

In 2009, Joakim Eneroth began his series *Swedish Red* illustrating the facades of traditional Swedish houses, windowless and fenced off by a hedge. Joakim Eneroth creates a visual barrier and proposes an inaccessible image, with no possible opening to the outside world. The artist depicts our need for security and our desire for control in a world that is globalised and encircled by news reports that force us to open our eyes to a planet threatened by crisis and war. Eight works in this series are in the Tate Modern collection in London, two in the Dallas Museum of Art collection, and also part of the Franks-Suss collection.

Publication released by the STEIDL publishing house in 2013.

In 2010, *Short Stories of the Transparent Mind* is exposed for the first time in Paris. This work, articulated around images and texts, explores the nature of the mind from a philosophical point of view. The striking series of photographs illustrates the visual experience in our perception, before our mind becomes influenced by its own judgment of good and bad, virtue and evil.

This series is in the collection of the Maison Européenne de la Photographie (MEP) in Paris, of the Houston Museum of Fine Art and the Brooklyn Museum of Art in New York.

Published by Powerhouse Books New York in 2010.

The recent photographic work *Whispering Void*, inspired by this same theme, proposes photography works, tridimensional photographic installations and levitating sculptures. Each of them questions the distinction of the mental projections and reality.

Book published by Arvinus + Orfeus in 2017.

Joakim Eneroth lives and works in Stockholm in Sweden.

EXPOSITIONS PERSONNELLES

2017 - Whispering Void, ifa gallery, Brussels, Belgium
2016 - Whispering Void, Opus 1, Stockholm, Sweden
2015 - Whispering Void, L'Artothèque, Caen, France
2015 - Whispering Void, School Gallery - Olivier Castaing, Paris, France
2011 - Short Stories of the Transprent Mind, Christian Larsen Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden
2010 - Short Stories of the Transprent Mind, School Gallery, Paris, France
2010 - Swedish Red, Musée des Beaux Arts, Pau, France
2010 - Alone With Others / Swedish Red, Christian Larsen Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden
2010 - Alone With Others, Peter Law Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
2010 - Swedish Red, Gallery Ikon, Berlin, Germany
2010 - Swedish Red, Next Level Gallery, London, England
2009 - Swedish Red, Arbetets Museum, Norrköping, Sweden
2008 - Testimony, Gallery Art and Photographs, London, England
2008 - Testimony, Gallery KG 52, Stockholm, Sweden
2008 - Without End, Galerie Le Lieu, Lorient, France
2008 - Swedish Red / Alone With Others, School Gallery - Olivier Castaing, Paris, France
2008 - Swedish Red/ Comfortably Secure, PDNB Gallery, Dallas, USA
2007 - Seing Reality Behind My Projections, Guandong museum of modern art, China
2006 - Without End, Usine Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
2006 - Without End, The institution Noorderlicht, Groningen, The Neatherlands
2006 - Reactive, Official exhibitor at the american photo biennial Foto Fest, Houston, USA
2005 - Without End, Official exhibitor at the Spanish photo biennale
2005 - Foto Noviembre '05, Santa Cruz, Spain
2005 - Waiting/Testimony, Noorderlicht Photo Festival, Groningen, The Neatherlands
2005 - Without End, Transphotographic, Lille, France
2003 - Watching, Liljevalchskonsthall, Stockholm, Sweden
2006 - Without End / Waiting, Les Caves de Babylone Gallery, Paris, France
2006 - Swedish Red, Gallery Dansk, Paris, France
2006 - Without End, Gallery Vrais Rêves, Lyon, France
2006 - Dalarnas Museum, Falun, Sweden
2005 - Without End, Po'Art, Paris, France
2005 - Waiting/Turn Around/Without End, Backlight Gallery, Tampere, Finland
2005 -Without End, Galerie Lichtblick, Cologne, Germany
2005 - Without End, College for Creative Studies, Detroit, USA
2003 - Without End, Stockholm Culture House, Stockholm, Sweden
2000 - Kathmandu Project, Svenskt Tenn, Stockholm, Sweden
1999 - Iceland project, The Nordic House, Reykjavik, Iceland
1998 - Kathmandu Project, Berwaldhallen, Stockholm, Sweden

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2015 - Photo London, Sommerset House, Londres, stand School Gallery
2014 - Paris Photo, Grand Palais, Paris, stand School Gallery
Space Nature, Group show, School Gallery, Paris
2014 - YIA artfair, stand School Gallery, Carreau du Temple, Paris, France
2013 - Paris Photo Los Angeles, 1ère édition, stand School Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
2013 - Paris Photo Paris, stand School Gallery, Paris, France
2012 - Paris Photo, stand School Galler, Paris, France
2011 - School Gallery / Olivier Castaing, Paris, France
2009 - White Else, School Gallery, Paris, France
Not Seeing, Not Responsible, Liljevalchs konsthall, Stockholm, Sweden
2009 - Alone With Others, Spanish Photobeinnal Fotonoviemgre '09, Spain
2009 - Swedish Red, Fiac art fair Paris, School Gallery, Paris, France
2009 - Testimony, Host Gallery, London, England
2009 - Now, Philip De Pury, London, England
2009 - Testimony, Crane Kalman Gallery, Brighton, England
2009 - Da Capo, Abecita Corsettfabrik, Borås, Sweden
2009 - Da Capo, Ronneby Konsthall, Ronneby, Sweden
2009 - ArtParis artfair, Grand Palais, represented by School Gallery, Paris, France
2009 - Da Capo, Västerås Konstmuseum, Sweden
2009 - Alone WitAlone with Others, off de la Biennale de Lyon, France
2008 - Swedish Red, Christie's Auctionhouse, London, England
2008 - Turn Around, Show Off artfair, off FIAC, School Gallery, Paris, France
2008 - Water war, School Gallery, Paris, France
2008 - Without End, Official exhibitor at the international photo festival Photosoc, France
2007 - Da Capo, Bildens Hus Sundsvall, Sweden
2007 - Without End, the international photo festival Les Rencontres d'Arles, France

COLLECTIONS

Tate Modern, London, England
The Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York, USA
MEP - Maison Européenne de la photographie, Paris, France
The Museum of Modern Art Stockholm, Stockholm, Sweden
The Museum of Fine Art of Houston, Houston, USA
The Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, USA
The international Photography Institution Noorderlicht Nederland's
Musée des Beaux Arts de Pau, Pau, France
The Art Institution le Lieu, Brittany, France
The Nordic Museum, Stockholm, Sweden
The Frank-Suss Collection, London, England

ifa gallery is established by Alexis Kouzmine-Karavaïeff in 2006-2007 in a 700sqm converted textile factory space in Moganshan Road – M50 Creative Centre – Shanghai's contemporary art district. With a quality exhibition programme of principally Chinese contemporary art, and a supporting line-up of performances the gallery contributes to the dynamism of the area. Major exhibitions during that time include the solo shows of Park Sung-Tae (Korea) and sought-after young artist Liu Bolin (China). From summer 2008 to summer 2013, ifa occupies a charming residence built in 1923 for an official of the British Customs House, located in Shanghai at 621 Changde Road (Jing'An district). The gallery offers an innovative and artistic angle to the central part of the city and acted as an artistic meeting point for contemporary art in Shanghai.

Fall 2013, ifa gallery moves its premises to the heart and capital of Europe, Brussels. Located in the old central district of Marolles, the gallery offers a dynamic programme with its main artists from China and new artists from the region. At the meantime, a new exhibition space opens in March 2014 in the district of Jing'An in Shanghai, where ifa gallery continues to showcase some local artists.

ifa gallery exhibits contemporary art from China and Beyond, regardless of artists origin. We represent both established artists such as Dai Guangyu, a leading figure of China's avant-garde, the Gao Brothers and Wu Junyong; as well as emerging artists, including recent graduates of the fine arts schools in Beijing and Hangzhou such as Fan Jiupeng and Li Rui, or foreigners based in China, such as Zane Mellupe from Latvia or Christophe Demaître from Belgium.

CONTACTS

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open from thursdays to sundays • from 10am to 7pm

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open by appointment

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