



DANIEL & GEO FUCHS: “FORCES & EXPLOSIONS”

12 June 2015 – 17 January 2016 Hall

Media preview: 11 June 2015 at 11.00 am

Artist/curator talks: 12 June 2015 at 12.00 noon

Opening night: 12 June 2015 from 6.00 to 8.00 pm

The photographic series “FORCES” by the artist duo Daniel and Geo Fuchs interrogates the phenomenon of military and armed forces. One part of the series consists of photographs of fighters and combat aircrafts in unlikely or improbable situations and locations, impenetrable forests, deserts or impossibly parked in urban environments.

The other part of the series comprises staged scenes that feature soldiers, army helicopters in intriguing landscapes, grenades and bombs positioned like colorful sweets. The pictures present an appealing surface at first glance, but on closer look there is something disturbing and threatening about them. The pictures of explosions have a striking presence, they exude strength and energy released through a transformation of material.

Ever since Gulf War I, the conflicts in the Balkans and the beginning of the war in Iraq, we have been overwhelmed by pictures of war in television, newspapers, magazines and the internet; live broadcasts of hails of bombs in the night sky that look like fireworks. On the one hand, the newsfeed makes viewers part of the war, on the other, it makes us infinitely distant and geographically removed from the war zones. What do the media show to us? We cannot evaluate the reality of the pictures. As viewers we need to distinguish between reality and falsification in order to reconstruct the true story and reality.

The photographs in the “Forces & Explosions” series play with the viewer’s memory. They refer to familiar elements that belong to our reality, or to things we have experienced through TV and/or films. However, these “produced” images do not belong to what we usually consider as the real world. Beyond the play between reality and fiction, the pictures present a combination of power and fascination that questions the power of military and armed forces.

Daniel Fuchs (b. 1966) and **Geo Fuchs** (b. 1969) were both born and raised in West Germany. Since 1995, they have worked together on several conceptual projects, including “STASI - Secret Rooms” (2004–2007), “Toygiants” (2004–2008) as well as “Famous Eyes” (1999–2002), a documentation of contemporary celebrities posing with close-ups of their own eyes. Their works have been shown worldwide at a number of solo and group exhibitions as well as art fairs, including Kunsthalle Wien, Museum Villa Stuck Munich, Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt, Norton Museum of Art Palm Beach, Andy Warhol Museum Pittsburgh, CAC Malaga, Kunsthal Rotterdam, and Biennale of contemporary Art Thessaloniki.

Additional information:

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