

[macro]biologies I: the biosphere

Katya Gardea Browne

The Center for PostNatural History

Mathias Kessler

Alexandra Regan Toland

Opening: Friday, 7 March, 2014, 8PM

Exhibition runs: 8 March – 4 May, 2014 (closed 18 – 20 April)

Opening hours: Fri-Sun, 2-6PM (and by appointment)

Instead of a unified conception of existence, such as »world« or »nature«, today, in the post-anthropocentric era, we find ourselves confronted rather with a multiplicity of structures, a blurring of boundaries, and a re-emergence of the object. This show is part of a series of exhibitions – **[macro]biologies** and **[micro]biologies** – dedicated to artistic reflection on current drastic changes to how we connect, relate and interrelate to the worlds around us.

For **[macro]biologies I: the biosphere** we have chosen four important international artists dealing with the structures and systems of our world. The exhibition focuses on the ecosystem and the biosphere with billions of life forms that interrelate with other systems, i.a. weather, geology and climate.

The recent works of Mexico City based artist, photographer and filmmaker **Katya Gardea Browne** have stressed the cultural and environmental tensions between urban and rural, for example in the megacity Mexico D.F. One of her new video works shows the fragility of ecosystems using the example of Xochimilco with new and old film footage, as »an urban archaeology of fossilized islands«.

More information: www.katyagardea.com/

The **Center for PostNatural History** is an art and research project (Director: Richard Pell, Learning Science Advisor: Lauren Allen, Designer: Mason Juday) dealing with the history of mankind's manipulation of life forms, from early agriculture to genetic modification. Art Laboratory Berlin will present the work *PostNatural Organisms of the European Union* a form of museum representing biofacts of living, preserved and documented organisms (e.g. tulip cultivation from the 17th century or dog breeding).

More information: www.postnatural.org

New York based artist **Mathias Kessler's** aerial photography and documentation of mountain top removal coal mining in the Appalachian Mountains focuses attention on the human ability to shape the very Earth around us, but also on the disastrous consequences of modern hubris. His special presentation for this show will combine its original rural context with Berlin's urban space.

More information: www.mathiaskessler.com/index.html

Berlin based artist **Alexandra Regan Toland** works on multiple levels to create social awareness about urban ecological systems. For the exhibition she will use cartographic documents, urban dust, and a collection of shoe profiles to examine the pressures of soil sealing.

(i.e. the widespread pavement of porous surfaces) on human and non-human biological communities in Berlin.

More information: <http://artoland.wordpress.com/>

Curated by Regine Rapp & Christian de Lutz

Cooperation partners: degewo, fotoscout, Genossenschaft PA58

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