

68projects

You Don't Bring Me Flowers (+ The Mistress Project)

Exhibition Dates: 24 January – 7 March 2015

Venue: **68**projects, Fasanenstraße 68, D-10719 Berlin (Tue-Sat from 11 am–6 pm)

Artist Party & Opening: Saturday, 24 January, 6-9pm

68projects opens our third exhibition in frigid, wintry temperatures with three interlinked exhibitions devoted to flowers and love.

Exhibition 1: Much like still life paintings or individual portraits, flowers might appear too antique as a possible subject for art, especially during a period when art is generated from any idea or the absence of an idea. More than 20 artists affirm all the possibilities of the flower and demonstrate how to make one of the most academic assignments interesting and still relevant. Through paintings of a lone stem, a mixed bouquet, arrangements destined for a special occasion, Exhibition 1 reminds us how much we love flowers (and flower paintings) for their energy, emotion, communication, memory and sensual awakening of our senses.

Participating Artists: Tom Anholt, Kevin Baker, Donald Baechler, Amy Bessone, Maya Bloch, Matt Bollinger, Ann Craven, Jared Deery, Baris Gokturk, MacGregor Harp, Vera Iliatova, Max Janson, Egill Kalevi, Doron Langberg, Alissa McKendrick, Aliza Nisenbaum, Giacinto Occhionero, Nadia Haji Omar, Jennifer Packer, Jennifer Steinkamp and others.

Exhibition 2: The Garden of Eden represents innocence, a time before our existence and is lodged deep into western cultural consciousness. It is also a totally confusing, mythical place. Did Eve bite into an apple - or a quince? It would have been a barren place if apples were in season so why is it so verdant in our collective imagination? It is a place lost inside of details, theological discussions, The Book of Genesis, John Milton and random illusions across bottles of shampoo and fragrant soaps down aisle four in the health and beauty section. Enter Thomas Greb, an internationally-renowned and award-winning floral artist and innovator of interiors. Nestled in a cabin in the woods an hour from Berlin, Greb seems to be engaging in a project of individualism and reinvention of living, often taking found objects and offering them different contexts and purposes. The artistic director Quang Bao turns over entirely to Greb one of the exhibition spaces for an installation asking him to respond to this simple prompt: What does The Garden of Eden look like to you?

Exhibition 3: A mistress is a complicated figure. At first glimpse, she seems pathetic or delusional with the constant longing, undying patience and commitment to an unavailable man who schedules and habitually cancels visits. Society is too quick to judge a mistress and it is easy to take a high moral stance regarding other people's affairs. A mistress deserves better, she will only experience continued humiliation, he will never leave his wife. We may have her best interest at heart in pointing out the limitations of such a lopsided relationship but who else is she supposed to love? Exhibition 3 pays homage to the woman who gets out of bed everyday filled with hope that a floral bouquet will arrive on her doorstep with a happy-ever after note addressed just to her.

An interdisciplinary mixed media exhibition of artist designed t-shirts by Alberto Fregenal, sculpture by Esmeralda Kosmatopoulos with confessions streamed real time through **68**'s Web site, three broken hearted abstract paintings by Marton Nemes and text-based artworks including "dicKtionary - because men suck."