



Vienna, 21 June 2017

**21er Haus**  
Museum for  
Contemporary Art

Quartier Belvedere  
Arsenalstraße 1  
1030 Vienna, Austria

Museum Hours  
From 1 July 2017  
Wed and Fri: 11 am – 9 pm  
Thurs, Sat, and Sun:  
11 am – 6 pm  
Open on public holidays

Press Downloads:  
[21erHaus.at/21h\\_en/press](http://21erHaus.at/21h_en/press)

Press Contact:  
Irene Jäger  
Press 21er Haus  
+43 1 795 57-185  
+43 664 800 141 185  
[ijaeger@21erhaus.at](mailto:ijaeger@21erhaus.at)

*Isa Rosenberger, Espiral, 2010/13 (dancer: Amanda Piña, set image: Reinhard Mayr) © Artothek des Bundes*

## Specular Windows

### Reflections on the Self and the Wider World

22 June 2017 to 14 January 2018

**Windows mark the threshold between private and public. They are openings that frame our view of the outside from the inside, whereas from the outside we see ourselves reflected in them. Both motifs – the mirror and the window – are known metaphors for the perception of the World and the Self in the visual arts. This view of the internal, the external, and their interaction is the focus of this group exhibition at the 21er Haus.**

Our present is described and felt as a crisis on almost every level. The economic, social, and psychological pressure on the individual grows as a result of the consequences of the global economic crisis, geopolitical conflicts, migratory movements, terrorist threats, ecological disasters, and increasing political instability. These omnipresent diagnoses of crisis leave nothing untouched – including the field of culture. The old question of what art can do in terms of society and politics appears more topical and relevant than ever before.

According to General Director Stella Rollig, 'If we understand art as a means of knowing one's self and the world through dialogue between the work of art and the viewer, a political dimension and potential for art is made clear. Although art cannot directly change social conditions and individual living conditions, it sharpens our view of them, strengthens our willingness to critically address complex issues and, last but not least, our discernment.'

Around 50 works from the collections of the Belvedere and the Artothek des Bundes comprise various thematic complexes. These tell of utopias and crises, the horrors of the everyday, spiritual phenomena, the politicization of the body, as well as of sociophysics and psychonautics, of surreal worlds and individual mythologies.

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'The exhibition, as the sum of its parts, makes the present tension between the individual and society tangible and reflects – fully in line with the specular window – effects on body and mind,' says curator Severin Dünser.

Curator Luisa Ziaja adds: 'The selected works come together to create a new context of meaning and open up a negotiating space in which the viewers can take up the narrative threads themselves and continue weaving. The contemporary portion of the exhibition is combined with individual historical works, which have lost nothing in their topical relevance. This testifies to the possibilities of such an exhibition format, bringing the past and the present into a productive, illuminating relationship.'

## With Works By

Marc Adrian, Martin Arnold, Vittorio Brodmann, Georg Chaimowicz, Adriana Czernin, Josef Dabernig, Gunter Damisch, VALIE EXPORT, Judith Fegerl, Michael Franz / Nadim Vardag, Padhi Frieberger, Bernhard Frue, Walter Gamerith, Bruno Gironcoli, Samara Golden, Judith Hopf, Alfred Hrdlicka, Iman Issa, Martha Jungwirth, Jesper Just, Tillman Kaiser, Johanna Kandl, Joseph Kosuth, Susanne Kriemann, Friedl Kubelka/Peter Weibel, Luiza Margan, Till Megerle, Henri Michaux, Muntean / Rosenblum, Walter Pichler, Tobias Pils, Arnulf Rainer, Ugo Rondinone, Isa Rosenberger, Gerhard Rühm, Markus Schinwald, Toni Schmale, Anne Schneider, Richard Teschner, Simon Wachsmuth, Rudolf Wacker, Anna Witt

## Catalogue

The exhibition will be accompanied by a publication in German and English that elucidates the curatorial concept and, through short texts, provides insight into all of the artistic perspectives on view.



### **Specular Windows**

#### **Reflections on the Self and the Wider World**

Editors: Stella Rollig,

Severin Dünser, Luisa Ziaja

Authors: Véronique Abpurg, Severin Dünser,

Alexander Klee, Michaela Köppl, Naima

Wieltschnig, Claudia Slanar, Luisa Ziaja

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## General Information

<b>Exhibition Title</b>	<i>Specular Windows. Reflections on the Self and the Wider World</i>
<b>Curators</b>	Severin Dünser and Luisa Ziaja
<b>Duration</b>	22 June 2017 to 14 January 2018
<b>Works</b>	50
<b>Location</b>	<b>21er Haus</b> Museum of Contemporary Art Quartier Belvedere, Arsenalstraße 1, 1030 Vienna
<b>Opening Hours</b>	<b>Until 30 June 2017</b> Wednesday 11 am – 9 pm Thursday to Sunday 11 am – 6 pm <b>Opening Hours Change from 1 July 2017</b> Wednesday and Friday 11 am – 9 pm Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday 11 am – 6 pm Open on Public Holidays
<b>Tickets</b>	General Admission   7 euros 21er Haus Annual Ticket   21 euros Reduced   5.50 euros Under 18   free
<b>Web</b>	21erhaus.at facebook.com/21erHaus twitter.com/21erHaus instagram.com/21erHaus  <b>#reflections21</b>

The press release and high-definition press photos are available for download under the following link: [http://bit.ly/21erHaus\\_Reflections\\_Press](http://bit.ly/21erHaus_Reflections_Press)