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ULRIKE LIENBACHER
o p t i m a l

OPENING: 29 May 2015, 7 p.m.

DURATION OF THE EXHIBITION: 29 May – 4 July 2015

Roland Nachtigäller, artistic director of the MARTa Herford, Herford will speak at the opening.

Ulrike Lienbacher will be present.

The body serving as a backdrop on which social phenomena are shown to make a strong statement – this is one of the basic assumptions on which Ulrike Lienbacher's oeuvre which comprises drawings, objects, installation-like arrangements, photographs and videos is based.

Optimization, increased output, discipline and perfection are the fetishes of society founded on efficiency and competition. In the exhibition *o p t i m a l* taking place in Galerie Krinzinger's showroom, Ulrike Lienbacher is presenting her most recent works – pieces that can be read against the background of our social and personal psyche.

Lienbacher, whose drawing work has always had a conceptual bent and became known for its inherent reductionism, is bringing a strong chromaticity to bear in her new paper works. Her characteristic ink drawings are a fixture of her work but they appear again and again with different colorful backgrounds or emotional space as she refers to them.

This space also plays a decisive role in the two large-format drawings in this exhibition on which two figures each carrying the other can be seen.

The *Hysteria* (2014) series shows hands in various affected movements – body poses in her understanding reflect a disturbance or are manifestations of an exceptional, hyped-up state accompanied by a loss of control.

In *Etüden* (2014) series, a group of works that goes from non-figurative to abstract, the theme is a repetition of a drawing gesture – the seemingly spontaneous, bold movement becomes visible as a rehearsed performance. In Lienbacher's oeuvre, repetition, also as related to athletic training, is a central motif.

Ulrike Lienbacher, who originally studied sculpture, is also showing new, playful objects. These are porcelain figures that with their different-sized pedestals create a homogenous group, either sunk deep into the surface or almost floating. These are dancers and galloping horses, porcelain figurines that given their exalted, euphoric movements, appear both tragic and comical.

Ulrike Lienbacher, born 1963 in Oberndorf near Salzburg, lives and works in Vienna and Salzburg. She studied at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, class for sculpture. Her works have been shown in numerous exhibitions. Solo shows: *Bricolage*, Kunsthalle Nexus, Saalfelden (2014), *Kartenhaus – schaufenster – public space karlsplatz*, Kunsthalle Wien (2012), *Interieurs, Modelle*, Krinzinger Projekte (2012), *Elitekörper // Revolte*, Salzburger Kunstverein (2010), *Galerie im Taxispalais*, Innsbruck (2007), *Galerie Krinzinger* (2007,2002,2000), *Aufräumen*, MAK-Galerie (2002), *Camera Austria*, Graz (2001), *Gefesselt - entfesselt*. Österreichische Kunst des 20. Jahrhunderts, Staatliche Kunstgalerie Zacheta, Warsaw (2001) and group shows, including *Vienna for Art's Sake*, Belvedere-Winterpalais, Vienna (still on until 31 May 2015), *Drawing into Three-Dimensionality*, Musée d'art modern et contemporain, St.Étienne (2015), *Reines Wasser* (Pure Water), Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz (2014), *At Your Service*, Tehnicki Muzej, Zagreb (2014), ALBERTINA CONTEMPORARY (2013), *Sport in the Arts*, Museum für Contemporary Art Krakow (2012), *Printed Matter*, Fotomuseum Winterthur (2009)