

## Press release

October 30, 2018

### Videart at Midnight Festival '18

Opening: December 14, 2018

Videart at Midnight #100 Ed Atkins: December 14, 2018

Artists' Film Days: December 15 + 16, 2018

Symposium: December 13 + 14, 2018

Exhibitions: November 7, 2018 – March 11, 2019

**Videart at Midnight (VAM)** is celebrating its ten-year anniversary with a video art festival and a diverse accompanying program with a symposium and four exhibitions at partner institutions in Berlin. Taking center stage in this anniversary is the two-day artist film and video program at **Kino Babylon** in Berlin Mitte. One hundred international artists will be showing their works at the Artists' Film Days on December 15 and 16, 2018, at the Babylon cinema. Artist number 100, the British video artist and poet Ed Atkins, is receiving carte blanche for the night before (Dec. 14, from midnight).

In a **symposium**, together with the **Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum für Gegenwart** and the **Neuer Berliner Kunstverein (n.b.k.)**, VAM will be examining the history, present, and future of video art under the title "Future Continuous Present(s) – 'Video Art' through Time."

Four **exhibitions** accompany the program: the archive of Wulf Herzogenrath will be presented by himself at the **Akademie der Künste**, the **Berlinische Galerie** will be showing a work by Raphaela Vogel, **KW Institute for Contemporary Art** will be presenting works by Christian Friedrich, and the **Galerie Pankow** will present the filmic oeuvre of Barbara Metselaar Berthold.

With the artists' film and video days at Babylon and the networking with renowned institutions in the city, Videart at Midnight is underlining the international importance of Berlin as a production site, especially for the artistic mediums of film and video. Berlin is one of the most attractive places in the world for national and international artists to develop their projects, to exhibit them, and to open them up to discussion. As a result, the artistic production in this city is both broad and at a high level, which is precisely what the Videart at Midnight Festival '18 seeks to show.

## ARTISTS' FILM DAYS

The Festival is primarily dedicated to the artists who were guests of Videoart at Midnight over the last ten years. All of them have been invited to Berlin and to the **Babylon** cinema again, and not just to show their films. They were also invited to take part in broader festival activities. The majority of the artists live in Berlin, but there are also some who have moved on, to London, Paris, or New York, and will be coming back (Dec. 15–16).

Ulf Aminde | Yuri Ancarani | Julieta Aranda | Marc Aschenbrenner | Ed Atkins | Michel Auder | Yael Bartana | Bewegung Nurr | John Bock | Pauline Boudry/Renate Lorenz | Martin Brand | Ulu Braun | Klaus vom Bruch | Erik Bünger | Candice Breitz | Filipa César | Chicks on Speed | Chto Delat | Christoph Draeger | Phil Collins | Pauline Curnier Jardin | Keren Cytter | Antje Engelmann | Antje Ehmman/ Jan Ralske | Shahram Entekhabi | Köken Ergun | Annika Eriksson | Theo Eshetu | Simon Faithfull | Christian Falsnaes | Omer Fast | Fischer & el Sani | Christian Friedrich | Dani Gal | Gintersdorfer / Klaffen | Christoph Girardet & Matthias Müller | Niklas Goldbach | Delia Gonzalez | Douglas Gordon | Andy Graydon | Assaf Gruber | Isabell Heimerdinger | Benjamin Heisenberg | Kerstin Honeit | Christian Jankowski | Sven Johne | Hiwa K | Anja Kirschner & David Panos | Annika Larsson | Armin Linke | Dafna Maimon | Antje Majewski & Ginette Daleu | Melanie Manchot | Lynne Marsh | Bjørn Melhus | Almagul Menlibayeva | Barbara Metselaar Berthold | Eléonore de Montesquiou | Chris Newman | Bettina Nürnberg & Dirk Peuker | Marcel Odenbach & Lukas Marxt | Stefan Panhans | Mario Pfeifer | Oliver Pietsch | Agnieszka Polska | Ulrich Polster | Reynold Reynolds | Mario Rizzi | Mathilde Rosier | Anri Sala | Eran Schaerf & Eva Meyer | Erik Schmidt | Jeremy Shaw | Maya Schweizer | Amie Siegel | Pola Sieverding | Martin Skauen | Guido van der Werve | Joep van Liefland | Safy Sniper | Vibeke Tandberg | Mathilde ter Heijne | Rebecca Ann Tess | Wolfgang Tillmans | Raphaela Vogel | Clemens von Wedemeyer | Weekend & Plaste (with Alice Creischer & Andreas Siemann) | Ming Wong | Shingo Yoshida | Katharina Zdjelar | Stefan Zeyen | Tobias Zielony

## SYMPOSIUM

In an international **Symposium**, together with the **Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum für Gegenwart** and the **Neuer Berliner Kunstverein (n.b.k.)**, VAM will be examining the history, present, and future of video art under the title “Future Continuous Present(s) – ‘Video Art’ through Time” (Dec. 13–14). We will discuss questions around the discrepancy between the continuously evolving digital techniques and the aesthetic implications linked to this, as well as the artistic approach to linear and non-linear narration (with, among others, Orit Halpern, Claus Pias, Erika Balsom, Inke Arns, Siegfried Zielinski, and Frédéric Neyrat).

## EXHIBITIONS

Many of the artists working with video as a medium produce their works not for the “dispositive cinema,” but rather see their work positioned in an exhibition space. For this reason, Videoart at Midnight is also seeking to explore the installational possibilities of the mediums of film and video, together with Berlin-based institutions.

**Wir wären so gerne Helden gewesen:** Gallery Pankow presents the filmic work of **Barbara Metselaar Berthold**. The show not only presents a different, essential body of work by the artist, but also ties in with current societal and media-related discourses. From Metselaar Berthold’s experimental video *Das Haus* (The House, 1989/90) to the documentary *Wir wären so gerne Helden gewesen* (We Would Have Loved to Have Been Heroes, 1995/96) to the photo-film *Urban Messages* (2018), the works reveal her aim to enable the viewer to participate in the experience of socially explosive stories and histories. (Nov. 7, 2018 – Jan. 13, 2019)

**Son of a Witch:** Berlinische Galerie will present the expansive video and sculptural work of **Raphaela Vogel** in her first solo institutional exhibition in Berlin. Her own feminine corporeality and often male-influenced technique are themes that Vogel addresses and re-addresses in her post-apocalyptic, Frankensteinian worlds, and not without humor. Everything is turned inside out, twisted, transformed, deconstructed, and reinterpreted in a refreshingly irreverent manner. (Nov. 30, 2018 – Mar. 11, 2019)

**Are You Warm? Did You Have Trouble Getting Here? Have They Treated You Well?:** KW Institute for Contemporary Art are showing two works by **Christian Friedrich**, each a darkly playful prism for the other. A highly rhythmical and accelerating video mixing footage from a sex dungeon with touristy imagery of New York and aquatic life flickers into an ominous audio-visual installation involving dripping water. Toggling between modes including video, sculpture, audio, and even scent, Friedrich’s work frequently employs elements of the sexually outré—e.g., bodily endurance and violence, foot fetishism—but plays them against formalism, aestheticism, and structural contradiction. (Dec. 8–16)

**Wulf Herzogenrath-Archive:** As an art historian and curator Wulf Herzogenrath decisively contributed to the establishment of video art in Germany. In addition to documentation on video art, the exhibition shows some early works, accompanied by photos, letters, and installation designs from the exceptional study collection in the Herzogenrath Archive. The focus of this review is on “documenta 6,” for which Herzogenrath curated a new, independent section of

video art in 1977. His collection of artist's books with original dedications, which are living testimonies to his numerous professional as well as private encounters since the late 1960s, are being presented to the public for the first time. (Dec. 13–16)

## **CAMPUS**

During the Festival, the Campus, initiated by four art schools (HGB Leipzig, KH Braunschweig, KH Kassel, and UdK Berlin), serves to provide students with opportunities to engage with individual artists present at the Festival in the form of backstage encounters and arranged seminars. (Babylon Kino 2 + 3, Dec. 15–16)

## **ABOUT VIDEOART AT MIDNIGHT**

Videoart at Midnight is an international forum dedicated to the promotion of contemporary art in Berlin, with a focus on film, media art, and video art.

Once a month, on a Friday at midnight, the two initiators—Olaf Stüber and Ivo Wessel—invite artists to show their works on the big screen at Kino Babylon. Each night is dedicated to an individual artist. The artists are always present. It is their night. Often, premieres are shown, sometimes accompanied by live acts, such as performances, concerts, or artist conversations.

The aim of Videoart at Midnight is to offer a platform for a medium that continues to become more important in contemporary art production and, at the same time, to provide insights into the international art scene in Berlin. To this end, both renowned artists and new discoveries are invited.

Videoart at Midnight is a non-profit and a no-budget project. Entrance is free. Everyone is welcome!

Videoart at Midnight has been recognized internationally and was, for example, a guest at the Kunstverein Salzburg, at the Goethe Institute Seoul, at the Hirshhorn Museum Washington, D.C., and at various film festivals.

**For further information, see: [www.videoart-at-midnight.de/festival-18/](http://www.videoart-at-midnight.de/festival-18/)**