

TOBIAS BERNSTRUP

South of Heaven

From **May 20th, 2017** until **August 11th 2017**

Opening: **May 20th** at 12pm



ADN Galeria is pleased to present **South of Heaven**, an installation by artist **Tobias Bernstrup** (Sweden, 1970). The Swedish artist takes as a starting point the painting *Monastery Graveyard in the Snow* (*Friedhof im Schnee*), by romantic painter Caspar David Friedrich (1770-1840). The painting was destroyed in 1945 in the bombing of Berlin by the allies in the last stages of World War II. The only remaining evidence of the painting is a black and white photograph. Along with the installation Bernstrup will display some sculptural works, including *Belief*, a scaled model made by Bernstrup that features the grounds of several bombed buildings. The ruins evoke the destruction of a fictive place that acts, at the same time, as a kind of memory.

Bernstrup shows how time shapes memory and oblivion. Friedrich's *Monastery Graveyard in the Snow* unsettles because it represents a place that is both familiar and unknown. As with his painting *The Abbey in the Oakwood* (the most similar to *Monastery Graveyard in the Snow*), it situates the viewer outside of a defined place and time, and introduces an unnatural, oniric and sinister landscape. The painting captures an old and deteriorate cemetery, marked by silence and loneliness, under the inclement winter snow. The work evokes the romantic concern towards death and transit. In *Monastery Graveyard in the Snow*, mankind is somehow circumstantial. It is also present in its absence. The graveyard path, representation of corporeality, is accompanied by oaks, symbol of death but now lifeless under the winter lethargy. *Monastery Graveyard in the Snow* represents the connection between world and nature in a wholesome way, where materiality decays, part of an endless cycle.

Bernstrup takes the essence of the painting to meditate, as the German painter, about death, transit and disparition. *Monastery Graveyard in the Snow* does not represent the beauty or majesty of the landscape. Whoever watches it is forced, instead, to face an isolated self in a void amidst the ruins. The painting shows what remains after it is forgotten, outside of society and its original use. Bernstrup takes this concept of "remains" and extends it to the action of man and the weight of history, in a similar manner to Paul Klee's *Angelus Novus*. *Monastery Graveyard in the Snow*, incarnation of the romantic dream, was destroyed in the bombing of Berlin in 1945. After the painting's annihilation, its significance has been linked inevitably to this fact, and to memory. Now it invites us to think beyond its pictorial meaning, being linked to war, violence and disparition. The video *South of Heaven* captures this wholeness by adding special effects to the painting and adding some scenes. For the video, Bernstrup recreated the model and type of planes used during the bombing that destroyed the painting. The outcome is a transformation of the instant captured by Friedrich into a process -similar to history-, and we, as spectators, are invited to join it.



There is a certain uncanniness regarding the buildings of Bernstrup's scaled model, *Belief*. These are unrecognizable, but we can identify with them. As Klee's angel, pushed forward to the future without knowing what will happen, *Belief* also looks at the past. And, as the progress mentioned by Walter Benjamin, *Belief* is also sustained in destruction. We don't know what the ruins represented or what they were, but we know what they represent and are now. As Marc Augé says in *Le Temps des Ruines*: "this lack, this void, this distance between the old perception and the current perception". *Belief* shows the vestiges of a building that *was* -a home, a house, a place that had a use and a habit-, defined by what is *left* of it. A reminder about what archeology tells us: ruins are, in essence, the degradation of some values that are not contemporary anymore.

The difference between what Augé says and Bernstrup's installation is that *South of Heaven* does not show the splendor of an ancient time, but the opposite of that. As it does not restitute any past, Bernstrup poetically strays his gaze to human acts and the nonsense of destruction. This is, in turn, something that our current context explains by itself in light of the EU's critical fragmentation. There is no delight in contemplating *South of Heaven*, as it tells of a devastating experience in time, marked by devastating human action. Bernstrup pushes for an awareness of history instead; he makes us remember that what remains is what we haven't destroyed yet. *Belief* looks into the future without revealing what is yet to come: this is more a matter of faith.

- Augé, Marc. *El Tiempo En Ruinas*. Barcelona: Gedisa, 2003.

- Benjamin, Walter (1940). *On the Concept of History*. En *Selected Writings*, vol. 4, ed. Howard Eiland and Michael W. Jennings, trans. Edmund Jephcott et al. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2003.

Tobias Bernstrup (1970, Sweden)

Lives and works in Sweden. Bernstrup investigates the tyranny of the image, used as a technology of control and repression. He subverts the medium and uses it to claim artificiality as a parallel dimension or integrated aspect in our daily lives. Part of his search is based on the interaction between reality and fiction, and how both interact and mimize.

Tobias Bernstrup has exhibited in different institutions such as Sigtuna Museum in Switzerland, Berlin's Feinkost, Rothko in New York, Centre d'art Contemporain in Geneva, Museum fur Gegenwartskunst in Sweden and Moniquemeloche in Chicago, USA. He has been present in institutions such as Norway's Vestfossen Kunstlaboratorium, the KUMU Art Museum in Estonia, Utah Museum of Contemporary Art in the USA, or London's Tate Modern. He has also taken part in cultural events such as Art Basel Miami Beach and Venice Biennial.

Exposicions individuals:

- 2017 Tobias Bernstrup's new single – Utopia Digital release and Streaming
- 2016 South Of Heaven, Galleri Underlandet, Kulturhuset, Estocolm.
Unbounded / Gränslöst. Eighteenth Century Mirrored per the Present Göteborgs Konstmuseum, Goteborg, Suïssa.
- 2015 Romanticism, Sigtuna Museum.
South Of Heaven, Ängelholms Flygmuseum.
Tobias Bernstrup performance at Spritmuseum during opening of Powerful Babies commissariat per Arning and Rick Herron. Estocolm, Suècia.
South Of Heaven Mk. II exposició individual a Konsthallen Bohusläns Museum. Uddevalla, Suècia.
- 2014 *South of Heaven*, Galeria Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Estocolm, Suècia.
- 2012 *Sing my body electric*, Uppsala Konstmuseum, Uppsala, Suècia.
- 2010 *Body 5 Arrives*, ADN Galeria, Barcelona, Espanya.
Almost Human, commissariat per Johan Sjöström, Gothenburg Art Museum, Gothenburg, Suècia.
Almost Human, Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Estocolm, Suècia.
- 2009 *ASFR*, performance commissariat per Adriana Rispoli & Eugenio Viola, MADRE Museum of Contemporary Art, Nàpols, Itàlia.
- 2008 Performance at Feinkost, Berlín, Alemanya
- 2007 YAMA, Hotel Marmara Istanbul, commissariat per Mark Aerial Waller, Turquia.
The Hall, Istanbul, commissariat per Derya Demir, Turquia.
Mantis City, White Project Arte Contemporanea, Pescara, Itàlia.
Enemies of the Earth, ADN Galeria, Barcelona, Espanya.

- 2006 *Mantis City*, Duolun MOMA, Shanghai, Xina.
Killing Spree, Performance, Artium D2, Salamanca, Espanya.
Killing Spree, Performance, Stockholm, presentat per Andrehn-Schiptjenko, Suècia.
- 2005 *Killing Spree* Performance, organitzat per Loop Barcelona 2005 and ADN Galeria, Espanya.
Killing Spree Performance i llançament del CD, organitzat i coproduït per Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Alemanya.
Performance at Rothko, Nova York, Estats Units.
- 2004 Art Basel Miami Beach, Art Positions, Andrehn-Schiptjenko, Miami, Estats Units.
Performance at Centre d'art contemporaine, Ginebra, Suïssa.
Cosmic Galerie, París, França.
Andrehn-Schiptjenko, Estocolm, Suècia.
- 2003 Galería Sogospatty, Rome, comissariat per Mauro Bianchini, Itàlia.
Animated Me No.2, Museum fur Gegenwartskunst, Basilea, Suïssa.
- 2002 *Artissima, Present Future*, Cosmic Galerie, Torí, Itàlia.
Nekropolis, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, comissariat per Laurence Dreyfus, França.
Re-Animate Me, Performance/CD-release, Färgfabriken, Estocolm, Suècia.
In the dead of night, Moniquemeloche, Chicago, Estats Units.
- 2001 Performance, Sparwasse HQ, Berlín, Alemanya.
- 2000 Performance, Bukowskis, Estocolm, Suècia.
- 1999 *Super Twins*, Galleri Axel Mörner, Estocolm, Suècia.
Museum Meltdown, Moderna Museet, Estocolm, Suècia (amb Palle Torsson)
- 1998 Galleri Mejan, Estocolm, Suècia.
Dancing Boulevard Café Symphony, Galleri FC, Malmö, Suècia.
- 1996 Galleri Moment, Ängelholm, Suècia.
- 1995 *Lovely Me*, Station Skelderhus Magasinet, Munka Ljungby, Suècia.
Electric Boogie, Gallery TRE, Estocolm, Suècia.

Exposicions col·lectives:

- 2017 Nordic Contemporary Art Collection - NoCo, Vestfossen, Noruega.
- 2016 Manifesta 11, Performance, Zurich.
- 2015 *Death and Beauty*, Group show at KUMU Art Museum, Tallin, Estònia.
- 2012 *Musique Plastique*, agnes b. Gallery, Nova York, Estats Units.
- 2011 *Revólver*, comissariat per Garbiel Mestre, Casino Metropolitano, Ciutat de Mèxic, Mèxic.
You Are Free, Kunsthalle Exnergasse, Viena, Àustria.
Intervalli, comissariat per Eugenio Viola. Palazzo Mezzopreti, a Montepagano Roseto degli Abruzzi, Itàlia.
Stockholm Diaries, comissariat per Jan Walaker. Steen & Strøm Magasin, Oslo, Noruega.
Market Stockholm, Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Estocolm, Suècia.
- 2010 12th Cairo Biennial, Cairo, Egipte.
Fame Family Vaudeville, comissariat per Power Ekroth. Darb, Cairo, Egipte.
Home & Origin, comissariat per Rodrigo Mallea Lira, Bukowskis, Estocolm, Suècia.
New Gravity/Interesting Thing, National Centre of Contemporary Art (NCCA), Moscou, Rússia.
No Soul For Sale, comissariat per Maurizio Cattelan. Tate Modern, Londres, Regne Unit.
- 2009 *Narcotica*, Forgotten Bar Project, Nova York, Estats Units.
Embassy of Piracy, Internet Pavilion, Collateral Events a la Biennial de Venècia, Venècia, Itàlia.
Northwave, Overview of Video Art in The Nordic Countries, Venècia, Itàlia.
Forgotten Bar Project, ALP Gallery, Estocolm, Suècia.
- 2008 *Crossing*, Centro de l'Arte Contemporanea, Prato, Itàlia.
Avatar, Australian Centre for Photography, Paddington, Austràlia.
The practice of Everyday Life, Feinkost, Berlín, Alemanya.
Try Again, Mitxelena, comissariat per Juan Antonio Álvarez Reyes, Espanya.
Eastern Standart – Western Artists in China, MASS MOCA, Massachusetts, Estats Units.
Pop! Goes the weasel, Badischer Kustverein, Karlsruhe, Alemanya.
- 2007 *An evening with K48*, The Kitchen, Nova York, Estats Units.
Acceleration, CAN / Karting, Neuchatel, Suïssa.
+Insects, Centre d'art la Panera, Lleida, Espanya.
Art Feminism, Gothenburg Art Museum, Suècia.
Meme: Romanticism, EFA Galery, comissariat per Michele Thurzs, Nova York, Estats Units
Switch on the Power!, Centro Cultural Montehermoso, comissariat per Xabier Arakistain, Vitoria.
- 2006 *Switch on the Power!*, CAAM, comissariat per Xabier Arakistain, Las Palmas, Espanya.
Valencia. Art, ADN Galeria, Espanya.
Torpedo, comissariat per Geir Haraldseth, Oslo, Noruega.
Art Feminism, Liljevalchs, Estocolm, Suècia.

- 2005 *Switch on the Power!*, MARCO, comissariat per Xabier Arakistain, Vigo, Espanya.
Trouble with Fantasy, comissariat per Ellen Seifermann, Kunsthalle Nurnberg, Nunberg, Alemanya.
Art Feminism, Dunkers Kulturhus, Helsingborg, Helsingborg, Suècia.
Culture as Play, Microwave International Media Art, comissariat per Hector Rodriguez, Hong Kong, Xina.
- Future for cities*, Nancy 2005, Le temps de lumieres, Nancy, França.
Armory Show, Andrehn-Schiptjenko, Estocolm, Suècia.
- 2004 *Version 2004*, Centre pour l' image contemporaine, Ginebra, Suècia.
I need You, amb Palle Torsson, Kunsthalle, Biel, Suècia.
Live, Palais de Tokyo, organització per Jerome Sans, París, França.
Another Zero, GAMEC, comissariat per November Paynter, Bèrgam, Itàlia.
- 2003 *Fantastic Prophecy*, BAK, comissariat per Liutauras Psibilskis / Anne Fletcher, Utrechth, Holanda.
Art Digital Video, AFAA, comissariat per Laurence Dreyfus, París, França.
Attack!, Wien Kunsthalle, Wien, en col·laboració amb Palle Torsson, Viena, Àustria
Phantom of Desire, Neue Galerie am Landesmuseum Joanneum, comissariat per Peter Weibel, Graz, Eslovènia
NOWN, Wood street Gallery, Pittsburgh, Estats Units.
- 2002 Busan Biennale, Metropolitan Art Museum, comissariat per Kim Airyung, Busan, Corea.
Nouvelle Acquisitions, FRAC Champagne/Ardenne, Reims, França.
Game Over City, FRAC Champagne/Ardenne, comissariat per Laurence Dreyfus, Reims, França.
On the top of the world, Gio' Marconi, comissariat per Caroline Corbetta, Milà, Itàlia.
- 2001 9th Biennale of moving images, Centre pour l' image contemporain, Ginebra, Suïssa.
KIMAF, Centre for Contemporary Art, comissariat per Katya Stukalova/Natalia Manzhali, Kiev, Ucraïna.
- Tirana Biennale, organització de Giancarlo Politi, Albània
Connivence, Biennale de Lyon, Musée d' art contemporain, Lyon, França
Monitor Vol.1, Gagolian Gallery, Nova York, Estats Units.
Male, Galerija sodobne umetnosti, comissariat per Irena Cercnik & Nevenka Šivavec, Celje, Eslovènia.
- Berlin_London*, ICA, comissariat per Rüdger Lange & Antje Weitzel, Londres, Regne Unit.
Disco, Arena Gallery, comissariat per Monique Meloche, Chicago, Estats Units.
The Armory Show, Galleri Axel Mörner, Nova York, Estats Units.
- 2000 *Shivers*, Cesare Manzo Gallery, comissariat per Mauro Bianchini, Pescara, Itàlia.
Home Wrecker, Monique Meloche, Chicago, Estats Units.
And She Will Have Your Eyes... Galerie Analix Forever, Ginebra, Suïssa.
The Standard Projection, The Standard Hotel, comissariat per Yvonne Force Villareal, Los Angeles, Estats Units.
- Organising Freedom*, Charlottenborg, comissariat per David Elliott, Copenhagen, Dinamarca.
Art 31 Basel Art Fair, Galerie Analix Forever, Basel, Suïssa.
i-ART, Contemporary Art in TIME, ArtNode, Estocolm, Suècia.
Teleport Diner, amb C reative Time y Färgfabriken, Estocolm, Suècia.
Organising Freedom, Moderna Museet, comissariat per David Elliott, Estocolm, Suècia.

- 1999
A & E, Chicago Project Room, comissariat per Michael Hall, Estats Units.
Blick, Moderna Museet, comissariat per Maria Lind/Cecilia Widenheim, Estocolm, Suècia.
Motion Studies, Galleri Tommy Lund, Copenhagen/Odense, Dinamarca.
Art Forum Berlin, Galleri Axel Mörner, Berlín, Alemanya.
I Var Sitt Rum, Vikingsbergs Konstmuseum, Helsingborg, Suècia.
Chelsea (Internet, Active Worlds), comissariat per Ginger Freeman, Regne Unit.
The Armory Show, Galleri Axel Mörner, Nova York, Estats Units.
Stockholm Art Fair, Galleri Axel Mörner, Estocolm, Suècia.
Nuit Blanche Nordic Video Tour, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de París, França.
- 1998
7th Mostra internacional de performance Ex-Teresa Art Actual, Ciutat de Mèxic, Mèxic.
Swedish Mess Arkipelag, Nordiska Museet, comissariat per Maria Lind/Sara Arrhenius, Estocolm, Suècia.
Pakkhus, Momentum, Moss comissariat per Daniel Birnbaum, Atle Gerhardsen & Lars Bang Larsen, Noruega
Gekko, Munchen Bryggeriet, Estocolm, Suècia
Pleasure and Commitment Galleri Index, Estocolm, Suècia.
Stockholm Art Fair, Galleri Axel Mörner, Estocolm, Suècia.
Nuit Blanche Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de París, França.
- 1997
Performance Festival, Odense, Dinamarca.
The Male of The Species, (with Palle Torsson), MUU Gallery, Helsinki, Finlàndia.
Liste-97, The Young Art Fair a Basel, Suècia.
Perish Duende, Rotterdam, Holanda
Funny vs Bizarre, The Contemporary Art Centre of Vilnius i Art Hall de Riga (amb Palle Torsson) comissariat per Kestutis Kuizinas, Riga, Latvia
Smart Show Goes To Sea, Gallery TRE, Stockholm-Helsinki, Suècia-Finlàndia
Projekt III, Gallery TRE, Estocolm, Suècia.
- 1996
The Scream Arken, Museum of Modern Art, Ishoj (amb Palle Torsson) comissariat per Kim Levin, Electronic, Ishoj, Dinamarca.
Undercurrents Statens Museum For Kunst, Copenhagen, Dinamarca.
Artgenda, Kulturhuset, Estocolm, Suècia.
Love All Färgfabriken, Estocolm, Suècia.
MUU Gallery, Helsinki, Finlàndia
Uthärda Kulturhuset, Estocolm, Suècia.
Offside-Nordic Natives in Global Village Bergen, Noruega.
Breaking Eyes Färgfabriken, Estocolm, Suècia.
Artgenda, Oksnehallen, Copenhagen, Dinamarca.
Stockholm Smart Show, Suècia.
Otto Plonk, Bergen (amb Lova Hamilton), Noruega
- 1995
Oslo-One Night Stand, Kunstnerernes Hus (amb Lova Hamilton), Oslo, Noruega.
Stockholm ArtHotel (con Palle Torsson), Estocolm, Suècia.
Re-View Gallery TRE, Estocolm, Suècia.
Stockholm Art Fair, Estocolm, Suècia.

adngaleria

Horaris d'obertura al públic :

Dilluns de 15 a 20h

Dimarts a divendres de 10h a 20h

Dissabte de 11h a 14h i de 17h a 20h30

Contacte de premsa i comunicació:

Carlota Surós

communication@adngaleria.com

t. +34 93 451 0064