

PRESS RELEASE

ANNELIES ŠTRBA

Opening Saturday 8th December 2007
from **3.00 pm** to **8.00 pm**

Annalies Štrba will attend the opening

from 9th December 2007 to 6th January 2008
Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday 10.30 am – 7.30 pm
Wednesday and Thursday 10.30 am – 9.00 pm
Monday 3.30 pm – 7.30 pm

Galleria Carla Sozzani

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ANNELIES ŠTRBA

Annelies Štrba's magic and feminine world reaches the Galleria Carla Sozzani with its own fairy, intense and full-colored intimacy: a sort of digital Impressionism, a "*fin-de-siecle Symbolism rigged by the computer*" as Harald Fricke* said so well. The images of the idyllic Štrba's worlds are, in reality, such of long term studies of her own family: for over than two decades, in fact, her three children were her models and, until 1990- when firstly a gallerist friend of her proposed her to have an exhibit for the first time- the artist still to take photographs not realizing they were works of art.

Annelies was observing her children asleep, felt the sensation to simply capture the moment. People rarely photograph those who are asleep. People should be awake when they are photographed, so that they have an opportunity of determining and shaping the image themselves. There is always something enigmatic and intimate about photographs of sleeping people. As though it were possible to read their dreams. Maybe that's why Annelies Štrba doesn't stop to take picture of resting or sleeping people.

Deeply influenced by the only novel by Emily Brontë, *Wuthering Heights* (1847), with provided pictures by the painter Balthus in his earlier years, Annelies Štrba captures the world of Betlis, among the swiss mountains where she has her studio, creating another one, under enchantment and utterly symbolic: feminine ethereal characters, suspended into the romantic-drama and portraited with the typical calm of the painter because, as the artist says: "*The real world has always got me bored and my photographs are always about the real life, involving sadness and beauty as well*".

Sonja and Linda, Annelies Štrba's two daughters, who establish with her a sort of triumvirate, are retracted with their melancholy while picking flowers, taking a walk in the wood, resting in the grass: therefore the photographic works or videos in which they are the main characters are at the same time a kind of family album: giving portraits of the tender world of childish and later of the sensuality of their young motherhood.

These images have their roots in the field of emotions, so it's easy to feel their fascination and to perceive their general meaning however they really belong to a deep, personal, iconography, hidden and better translated by the recent videos of the artist. Actually, all her pictures are taken from the stuff recorded with the videocamera with a fluidity of language which makes her pieces even more precious and complete.

* Harald Fricke is an art critic of the german magazine Tageszeitung

BIOGRAPHY

Annelies Štrba was born in October, 1947.

She lives in Richterswil, among the swiss mountains, next to the lake of Zug. Her centre of the world.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Frances und die Elfen, Arnoldsche Verlag, Stuttgart, 2006
Nyima, Christophe Merian, 2003
Aya, Scalo, 2002
ÄN 1- ÄN 11, Ausstellung in Kunshaus Zug, 2001
Shades of Time, Lars Müller, 1997
Ware iri ware ni iru, Galerie Urs Meile, 1994
Aschwiese, Edition Howeg, 1990
Devon, Karbon, Perm, 62 ausgewählte Objekte, Edition Howeg, 1988

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (Selection)

2006

Frameprojects, Vienna
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Berlino
Galerie Alain Le Gaillard, Paris
Museum Valchava, Schweiz
Scalo/ Guye Gallery, Los Angeles

2005

Galerie Rudolfinum, Praga

2004

Galerie Almine Rech, Paris.
Galerie Anton Meier, Ginevra

2003

Shades of Time, La Filature, Mulhouse (with Claude Batho, Léa Crespi)
NYIMA, Helmhaus Zürich

2002

Galerie Eigen + Art, Berlin
Nadine Gandi, Praga
Gallerie Fabian & Claude Walter, Basel.

2001

Raffaella Cortese, Milano
The Paradise 1, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin (with Bernhard Schobinger)
Galerie Almine Rech, Paris
Paris – New York, Galerie 13 Quai Voltaire, Paris
Shades of Time, Centre national de la photographie, Paris
Gallery semina rerum - Irène Preiswerk, Zürich
Centre pour l' image contemporaine, St - Gervais, Ginevra

2000

Frith Street Gallery, London
Galerie Hubert Winter, Vienna
Gallery Bill Maynes, New York
Die Neue Sammlung, München
Berlin - Paris - New York, Scalo Galerie, Zürich

1999

Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago

Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin
Gallery Anton Meier, Ginevra
Karyn Lovegrove Gallery, Los Angeles (with Nan Goldin, Rineke Dijkstra)
Gallery Ars Futura, Zürich (with Crista Ziegler)
1998
Gimpel Fils, London
The Institute of Visual Arts - Peck School of the Arts, Milwaukee, USA
Bill Maynes Gallery, New York
Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris
1997
Galerie Eigen+Art, Berlin
Galerie Almine Rech, Paris
Galerie Ars Futura, Zürich
1996
Neben den Linden ist die Mitte. Fünf Berliner, Berlin
Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen, Düsseldorf
1995
Kunsthaus Glarus (with Bernhard Schobinger)
Galerie Bob van Orsouw, Zürich.
1994
Galerie Eigen+Art, Berlin
1993
Galerie Urs Meile, Luzern (with Bernhard schobinger) (cat.).
Galerie Bob van Orsouw, Zürich
1992
Galerie Eigen+Art, Berlin
Galerie Weisser Elefant, Berlin
Galerie van Krimpen, Rotterdam
1991
Kunst-Werk, Berlin (with Bernhard Schobinger)

GROUP EXHIBITION (Selection)

2006
European Photographers in the 20th century, Barbican Centre, London
2005
Image Forum Tokyo, Tokyo
Goethe-Institute Kyoto, Kyoto
City Public Library, Fukuoka
Aichi Arts Center, Nagoya
21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa
Yokohama Museum of Art, Yokohama
2004
Architekturbiennale Fotosektion, Venezia
2003
Nosotros y el mundo que nos rodea.
Arte fotográfico contemporáneo de Suiza en Arco'03, Madrid
2002

Mead Gallery, Warwick Arts Center, London
Claude Monet...bis zum digitalen Impressionismus, Fondation Beyeler,
Riehen/Basel
Balsam, Helmhaus Zürich.
2001
En pleine terre, Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Basel
Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin
Sense of Wonder, Herzliya Museum of Art Herzliya, Israel
Lindig in Paludetto - zeitgenössische Kunst Milchhof, Nürnberg
Wald/Explosionen, Helmhaus Zürich
Unter Wasser, Museum Bellerive, Zürich
2000
Art 31 und Art Unlimited, Basel
The Armory Show, New York
Home, Art Gallery of western Australia, Perth
1999
Trace, 1st Liverpool Biennial of Contemporary Art, Tate Gallery, Liverpool
New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York.
Paris Photo, Carrousel du Louvre, Paris
The Nude, The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art Ridgefield, Connecticut
1998
[ID]entiteit. 7 de Zomer van de Fotografie, Provinciaal Museum voor Fotografie,
Antwerpen
La Sphère de l' Intime, Le Printemps de Cahors
Swiss Contemporary Art Exhibition, Seoul, Korea
Underexposed, Stockholm, Sweden
1997
Antechamber, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London (with Francis Alÿs, Steven Pippin,
David Austen, Claude Heath)
Kunsthalle Krems, Kunststhal, Wien
Transit, Fotografia degli anni 90, Centro d'Arte Contemporanea, Bellinzona
1996
Prospekt 96, (Photography), Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt
The Eye of the Beholder, The Swiss Institute, New York
1995
Sourroundings, Museum Fridericianum, Kassel
1994
The Epic + the Everyday. Contemporary Photographic Art", Hayward Gallery,
London
Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Tokio
1993
Räume der Technischen Sammlung, Dresden
Galerie Rodolphe Janssen, Bruxelles
Galerie im Kabinett, Berlin
1992
Galerie Eigen + Art, Berlin
The boundary Rider, Biennale, Sydney
1991
Eigen + Art bei Kunst – Werke, Berlin