

Galeria Plan B moves to a new space in Berlin-Mitte

Strausberger Platz 1

Inaugural Exhibition by Adrian Ghenie

1 April – 13 May 2023

Opening: 1 April, 4 – 8 pm

Press Preview 31 March, 10 am

After ten years on Potsdamer Straße, Galeria Plan B moves to one of the iconic towers on Strausberger Platz, also known as Haus Berlin. Based in the German capital since 2008, the Romanian gallery takes a leap forward and expands with new exhibition and office spaces spread across the ground and first floor of the 14-storey building. On April 1st, Adrian Ghenie will inaugurate the renovated location with a presentation of his most recent figure paintings series, continuing his pursuit of isolating and abstracting the human condition. With this exhibition, Plan B celebrates his growth in the city, which is also home to the artist's studio.

Designed by the chief architect of East Berlin Hermann Henselmann and built during 1953-1956, Haus Berlin together with Haus des Kindes form the entrance to the Magistrale. The architectural complex, starting in Strausberger Platz and stretching down all along Karl-Marx-Allee, is on its way to become a UNESCO World Heritage-listed monument. Galeria Plan B resettles in close proximity to emblematic sites such as Kino International, Cafe Moskau, or Babette and joins the galleries Capitain Petzel and Peres Projects in breathing new life into the culturally acclaimed neighborhood.

With views to preserving the spirit of the historical building, Plan B undertook a six-month renovation to enhance the space's original character in lieu of turning it into a generic white cube. An architecture of varying ceiling heights gives shape to three different spatial atmospheres: a large and luminous hall, a cabinet-like room and a video-screening area. Indoors, the 350 sqm exhibition and working space dynamically changes and offers varying perspectives as viewers move through the lower and upper floor, connected by a mezzanine. This spatial dialogue continues outside too, as passersby sneak a peek through the exterior walls, most of which are in fact windows.

The inaugural exhibition will feature Adrian Ghenie's (b. 1977) newest cycle of middle and large-sized figure paintings as well as charcoal drawings and preparatory studies – their central theme being what curator Mihnea Mircan described as time-travelers. "Time travels through them, affecting their very constitution, their capacity to enunciate presence and biographical continuity. Inspired by the apprehensive stillness of pandemic lockdowns, the works depict quasi-protagonists – figures in the process of becoming grounds, their ribcages undone and reconfigured as baroque spatial enclosures. Their obstinate gesticulation, as they flail, in space and time, to signify or to make sense, is less an occasion to recompose movement as futurist elongation but to decompose their appearance as a swirl of expansions and contractions, inhalations and exhalations where nothing really begins and nothing ever ends."

SAVE THE DATE

The press preview of the new location and exhibition by Adrian Ghenie will take place on March 31st at 10 AM at Galeria Plan B (Strausberger Platz 1). We look forward to your registration via email to katharine.spatz@bureau-n.de.

ABOUT PLAN B

Initiated in 2005 by Mihai Pop and Adrian Ghenie in Cluj (Romania), Galeria Plan B was founded as a production, research and exhibition space for Romanian contemporary artists such as Ciprian Muresan, Serban Savu or Victor Man. Permanently based in Berlin since 2008, along with a second exhibition space run by Mihai Pop and Mihaela Lutea, the gallery has grown to international recognition with artists such as Becky Beasley, Israel Hershberg, Navid Nuur, Achraf Touloub, Ran Zhang. Plan B participates in major art fairs such as Art Basel, Art Basel Hong Kong, Art Basel Miami Beach, Paris + par Art Basel, frieze London, frieze New York, The Armory Show, Artissima Torino, Art Singapore and Art Cologne.

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