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isa genzken

april 27 - june 1, 2013

exhibition opening
april 26, 6-9pm

We are pleased to inform you of Isa Genzken's fourth solo exhibition at the gallery, opening April 26 on the occasion of Gallery Weekend Berlin and on view in our space until June 1. Created for Sculpture Projects Münster 07 and counted amongst Genzken's most important works from the past decade, this large-scale spatial installation will be shown indoors for the first time at neugerriemschneider.

Since 2003, Genzken's sculptural work has comprised bits and pieces of everyday life out of which she conceptualizes diorama-like assemblages, as with the series *Empire/Vampire, Who Kills Death* (2003-2006), which entails dystopian scenes from mostly found materials displayed on pedestals. With these, Genzken produces a materially pictorial narration that later becomes expanded in larger spatial installations. This was the process out of which the twelve-part installation for Sculpture Projects Münster 07 came into being, with a crowd of baby dolls scattered in individual vignettes. Genzken arranged the dolls under open sun umbrellas in a rather protected location, which the artist transformed through intentional interventions into a tableau of helplessness and injury. For Sculpture Projects Münster 07, Genzken chose to present the work in the Überwasser church square, which curator Carina Plath describes as follows: "this triangular, tree-lined, cobblestoned square, in the shadow of a former nunnery and one of the oldest churches in Münster, offered the necessary idyll to take in the stranded dolls beneath colorful parasols. Arranged in part between the buttresses on the wall of the church and in part on the square, it resulted in a colorful yet abandoned collection of beings and things."¹ At the time, Genzken decided to place the installation in the public space of Münster, unprotected and accessible twenty-four hours a day, thus exposing the work to the natural elements as well as to unfiltered reactions from exhibition visitors and passersby. Throughout the history of Sculpture Projects Münster, there were very few works that caused such controversial reactions from the public or led to such deliberate destruction. Throughout the duration of the exhibition, several of the dolls in Genzken's installation were damaged, while other were enhanced or added to. In addition to this, the weather over the course of the exhibition left behind clear traces that gradually emerged on each child figure as signs of neglect, reinforcing their overall battered appearance. At the end of the exhibition, Genzken decided that the changes would become a part of the installation. At neugerriemschneider, the artist is showing this central work again for the first time since its presentation in Münster.

We would also like to take the opportunity to inform you of Genzken's retrospective exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, which will open on November 12, 2013, and remain on view through March 10, 2014. This will mark the first comprehensive exhibition of the artist's work in the USA and will include 200 works from the last 40 years. Following the presentation in New York, Genzken's retrospective will be shown at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (April 4 - August 3, 2014) and the Dallas Museum of Art (September 14, 2014 - January 4, 2015).

For further information or press images, please contact Jan Salewski: Tel +49 30 288 772 77, mail@neugerriemschneider.com.

¹ Plath, Carina "Wiener Secession 2006 and skulptur projekte münster 07", in: Isa Genzken. Open Sesame!, Cologne 2009: 197.