MEYER RIEGGER

Korpys/Löffler 21.06.2013 – 27.07.2013

Heading towards a Potential Origin Notes on Korpys/Löffler

Korpys/Löffler sound out history in terms of its relevance for the present, as is stated in several passages of "Organisation"1, the nearly 1000-page anthology of their artistic practice in the period of 1990 to 2005 - and this can also be affirmed through observation. Working with topics that attribute our current modes of thought to an engagement with the traces of National Socialism or the RAF, that recall radical utopias in the Soviet Union or focus on more current developments by investigating contemporary centres of political power in America, content takes shape that proceeds from the artists' personal connections to these themes. These crystallized points of contact within an incomprehensible whole simultaneously offer the viewer access to a still unlimited, yet specified manner of thought - by means of a progressively unfolding recapitulation.

Korpys/Löffler's handling of political issues, which thus generally form the point of departure for their work, leads to a situative reconstruction or a type of visual report that examines the events and is based on dialogical orientation. In their work the artist duo also addresses the question of trust in mediated information, including the fear of the invisible: searching for truth, or for whatever is able to present itself as presumably true. With this, Korpys/Löffler not only focus on visualisation through images, although the eye of one in search of truth is for its part subject to the temptation of placing the answer to the inexpressible in images or image sequences. Often photography and in consequence film seems to function as a medium of memory. Korpys/Löffler work with these media, film and photography, but also with drawing, painting, occasionally sculpture, and they amend their recorded observations with text. Furthermore they construct installations, which in turn function as spatial notes on their previously enacted projects and collected visual moments.

Seeking and exploring places - whose respective traces of social occurrences they aim to specify - is the foundation of their research. Korpys/Löffler thereby designate situations which take our breath, even our capacity to speak, by means of their mere existence. They make these situations sensually and analytically comprehensible and in the best case, they lend us observers and participants a sense of what it means to be existentially touched, to head towards a potential origin through this inner animation, in order to effect change ourselves.

Christina Irrgang, translation by Zoe Miller, June 2013

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Korpys/Löffler: Organisation, 1990-2005, Ed. Christoph Keller, Revolver, Frankfurt/Main, 2005.