

Andréhn-Schiptjenko

Hudiksvallsgatan 8, SE-113 30 Stockholm, Sweden

Tel: +46 8 612 00 75 Fax: +46 8 612 00 76

e-mail: info@andrehn-schiptjenko.com

www.andrehn-schiptjenko.com



Djurkyrkogården (The Pet Cemetery)
Anna Kleberg at Andréhn-Schiptjenko
January 9 – February 16, 2014

The pet cemetery Djurkyrkogården lies hidden on the island Djurgården in Stockholm. There are around 2000 graves for pets; dogs, cats, turtles and horses and new graves are continually added. The oldest is believed to belong to the author August Blanche's dog Nero, buried in mid 19th century.

With the pet cemetery as a starting point, and with support in the Attachment Theory, (developed by among others Bowlby and Ainsworth in the middle of the 20th century), Kleberg has made a new film in which she investigates questions concerning how attachment affects us in our close relationships and by the loss or lack of them and all that they incorporate; closeness, security and care. The film is built around conversations with people who have experienced a close human-animal relationship.

"I started thinking about things such as the relationship with a pet; the contact, and what happens with the relationship when the pet dies and so forth. Many of us probably have more physical contact with the computer's keyboard today. How does that affect us?"

The new film will be premiered in the exhibition, Kleberg's fourth at the gallery, and will be shown with a group of photographs also taken at Djurkyrkogården.

The new work refers to Anna's long-term interest in the act of seeing and how our perception of reality and our experience of our surroundings are dependent on our psychological, ideological and cultural baggage. In the film *Djurkyrkogården*, Kleberg dwells on the

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borderline between the staged and the documentary. She also comes nearer a wider and more explicit narrative than in her earlier work.

Anna Kleberg, born in 1970, lives and works in Stockholm. Her work has been shown in exhibitions in Sweden and abroad, in shows at Uppsala Art Museum, Malmö Art Museum, Kulturhuset, Stockholm, Contemporary Art Center of Thessaloniki, Greece, Sharjah International Biennial, Sharjah, Mori Art Center, Tokyo and Galerie Ilka Bree, Bordeaux. Kleberg 's work can be found in several public and private collections in Europe and the USA. Since 2010, she works with the exhibition programme Kamarade together with the art historian Amelie Edlund and the art director Maja Kölqvist.

The opening takes place on Thursday January 9th, 5 - 8 p.m.

For more information and images, please contact the gallery.

The film *Djurkyrkogården* is a co-production between Anna Kleberg, Mostfilm and Sweden's Television.