

Johnen Galerie

Robert Kuśmirowski – *Träumgutstrasse*

7 February - 21 March 2015

Opening: 7 February 2015, 6 - 9 pm

“Träumgutstrasse” is the name of a fictional street and a phonetic combination of the words: Traugutt, Trauma, Träum gut (en.: sweet dreams), and Strasse (en.: street). The entrance to *Salon Galeria Akademii*, where the exhibition was on view last year, is located on Traugutt street, named after Polish general Romuald Traugutt. Robert Kuśmirowski wrote a manifest on this work, its chapter headings give a first impression of the subject matter, like “The truth of deception”, “The fascination of the ruin”, “To dream lucidly”, and “Mirror”.

The work revolves philosophically, emotionally, and visually around the destroyed *Czapski Palace*. The *Krasiński Library*, situated in a wing of the palace, just where the *Salon Galeria Akademii* can be found today, was a centre of social, political, and cultural life in Warsaw between 1862 and 1913. It was destroyed in a hail of bombs in 1939. *Träumgutstrasse* represents a quiet image of lost life. Through the imitation of the pornographic strategy of visualisation, Kuśmirowski encourages us to dream and project our subconsciousness into the past.

Robert Kuśmirowski (b. 1973 in Łódź, Poland) studied sculpture at the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin and spent a year on a scholarship at the University of Rennes. His works were shown at Center for Contemporary Art Warsaw, Kunstverein Hamburg, Stedelijk Van Abbe Museum Eindhoven, Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Zurich; Bunkier Sztuki, Krakow, Barbican Art Gallery, London and Galleria Civica, Trento, to name a few.

Robert Kuśmirowski lives and works in Lublin.

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