

Call for Artists

The good / the bad / the ugly

Defining beauty and by extent its evil partner in crime is a question bound to disappoint. Trying to chart whatever falls into each category and why, understanding what it is that made beauty so beautiful and the beast a mere monster of his time, seems next to impossible. But that precise impossibility is what makes the case for a though provoking critical dialogue around questions of beauty, ugliness and everything trapped in between.

The beauty would be nothing without her beast, the ugly duckling would never know what it means to be truly loved, and the elephant man was only human after all. Rabelais' perversions obscured the dullness of his time, the Neue Sachlichkeit and Dada incidences led the way against the dominance of clear skin and melancholic gazes that could kill you with boredom, while modernity's everlasting identity crisis put a new series of vital aesthetic questions in the forefront, defiling whatever we used to call beauty.

Whether positioned in the chaotic media landscape of our times, in the heart of performance practices, a

simulated digital environment or as a necessary horrible truth holding on against aesthetic definitions of the past, the spiral dance connecting beauty and ugliness becomes a tool of great proportions.

On the occasion of HÄSSLICH, the 95th art historical student congress that takes place 15.11-18.11.2018 at the University Of Cologne (DE) we are really excited to announce that we are putting together a group show, as part of the congress' parallel program. Within this context, of addressing the impossibility of its definitions, its transdisciplinary / interdisciplinary spectrum, its unavoidable aesthetic connotations and political impact, we hope to motivate you to be a part of our conversation.

The show is to take place at the KHI (the art history institute of the University of Cologne) and is scheduled to run in parallel with the congress. Applications deadline: 10.09.2018

Curatorial Team: Natascha Frieser; Haris Giannouras; Carolin Loosen; Elisa Mosch; Sandeep Sodhi; Martin Wevand

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Coding the ugly:

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