

## Group show of seminal female artists “Eau de Cologne” at Sprüth Magers, Hong Kong



Installation view: 'Eau de Cologne: Jenny Holzer, Barbara Kruger, Louise Lawler, Cindy Sherman, Rosemarie Trockel'  
Sprüth Magers Los Angeles, 2016

(Photography: Joshua White )

A group show of seminal female artists “Eau de Cologne” is on view at Spruth Magers, Hong Kong, through April 12, 2019.

“Eau de Cologne” commenced as a series of exhibitions and three publications, organized by Monika Spruth between 1985 and 1989, which sought to create a new dialogue around Contemporary art.

According to the gallery, the exhibitions introduced a select group of young women artists, each of whom individually represented powerful attitudes and practices.

“Through Eau de Cologne, they established a discourse around art, feminism and power that continues to be profoundly relevant. Then, as now, their work tackled questions of authority, messaging and influence in society in subtle and expansive ways, and today they count among the best-known artists working internationally. It is with great pleasure that Spruth Magers stages a new iteration of this celebrated project in Hong Kong at H Queen’s — Eau de Cologne’s very first presentation in Asia,” says the gallery.

“Eau de Cologne” features five of the artists who participated in the original project in 1985 in Cologne, Germany, and who have been represented by the gallery ever since — Jenny Holzer, Barbara Kruger, Louise Lawler, Cindy Sherman and Rosemarie Trockel.

Holzer’s text-based works, in the form of signs, plaques, and posters, as well as Kruger’s iconic blend of text and image, often presented in stark black and white, challenge viewers with statements about life and society that demand we rethink concepts as essential as truth, power, love, and belief.

The exhibition includes work by three equally potent artists, all of whom are closely connected to the project either via their inclusion in past iterations or through their close affirming with the gallery and the artists in the exhibition. Like them, Astrid Klein has been working since the late 1970s in a broad range of media, creating images that question notions of gender and power structures in society.

It further clarifies that among the most powerful voices in Contemporary art are those of women, who each present compelling messages about the social, political and cultural environments in which we all live. Today, the context for art made by women has improved significantly since the 1980s: more women artists receive attention from arts institutions and collectors and are able to sustain their careers. Yet there are still gaps between the support given to male and female artists, and obstacles to overcome in the effort to include more voices and approaches within the Contemporary art discourse. This exhibition continues this ongoing discussion, while presenting some of the most formidable art being made today.

The exhibition is on view through April 12, 2019, at Spruth Magers, H Queen’s, G/F, 80 Queen’s Road Central, Central, Hong Kong.

For details, visit: <http://www.blouinartinfo.com/galleryguide/spruth-magers/overview>