

mika rothenberg

COSMIC GENERATOR

Usa-Messico-Cina/USA-Mexico-China, 2017, HD, 27', col.



L'installazione esamina il rapporto tra corpo, lavoro e processi produttivi. Da un ex negozio di merce asiatica – colorato, luminoso, pacchiano, insostenibile – si dirama un tunnel sotterraneo che collega le vicine città di Mexicali, sul versante messicano, e Calexico, in quello americano. Annoiate lavoratrici siedono sommerse da prodotti di plastica, led abbaglianti illuminano a giorno enormi mercati, l'alienazione del lavoro coinvolge la mente e il corpo. Ogni muro, però, implica un tunnel, cioè una via di fuga, la paura della vicinanza e al tempo stesso il desiderio di contatto. [cg]

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The installation examines the relationship between body, work, and productive processes. There is an old Asian store on the Mexico-United States border: on the surface it is full of lights, bright, colorful, kitsch, and overwhelming. Below it, though, there is an underground tunnel that joins the neighboring towns of Mexicali and Calexico on both sides of the border. Bored clerks working at the counters surrounded by plastic objects, cold bright LEDs lighting the giant marketplace, the alienation of work affecting mind and body. Every wall, however, implies the existence of a tunnel and, thus, a way out. The fear of proximity and also the desire for contact.

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Mika Rottenberg (Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1976) si diploma alla scuola d'arte di HaMidrasha del Beit Berl College, in Israele e nel 2000, si trasferisce a New York per continuare la sua formazione. Si laurea alla Scuola d'arti visive nel 2000 e si specializza poi alla Columbia University nel 2004. Le sue opere sono connotate da donne con eccentricità fisiche – o troppo alte, o particolarmente corpulente e muscolose –, che fungono da allegoria della condizione umana nella società postmoderna. Alcuni temi che affronta in cortometraggi, installazioni architettoniche e sculture riguardano il lavoro, i rapporti tra il corpo e l'ambiente e i meccanismi della finzione. La sua opera è stata mostrata in tutto il mondo, in importanti musei e gallerie come il Palais de Tokyo a Parigi, la Andrea Rosen Gallery a New York, l'Israel Museum a Gerusalemme e l'Sfmoma a San Francisco.

Mika Rottenberg (Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1976) graduated from HaMidrasha School of Art, Beit Berl College, Israel. Rottenberg moved to New York to continue her education, receiving a bachelor of fine arts from the School of Visual Arts in 2000, and a master of fine arts from Columbia University in 2004. Her video works feature women with physical eccentricities, such as being very tall, large-bodied, or muscular, performing physical acts that serve as an allegory for the human condition in post-modern times. Through film, architectural installation, and sculpture, her works deal with labor, the relationship between bodies and the environment, and fictional logic. She exposed her art worldwide, in galleries and museums such as Palais de Tokyo, Paris, Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, the Israel Museum, Jerusalem, and San Francisco's Museum of Modern Art.

filmografia essenziale/ essential filmography

Julie (cm, 2003), *Time and a Half* (cm, 2003), *Tropical Breeze* (cm, 2004), *Mary's Cherries* (cm, 2004), *Dough* (cm, 2005-2006), *Fried Sweat* (cm, 2008), *Cheese* (cm, 2008), *Squeeze* (cm, 2010), *Sneeze* (cm, 2012), *Cosmic Generator* (cm, 2017).

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regia/director
Mika Rottenberg

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contatti/contacts
Rosen Gallery
Andrew Kachel

a.kachel@rosengallery.com
www.rosengallery.com