

Pirelli HangarBicocca presents the exhibition

Eva Kot'átková
The Dream Machine is Asleep

Curated by Roberta Tenconi

From 15 February to 22 July 2018

Press preview and conference: 13 February 2018

Opening: 14 February 2018



Eva Kot'átková, *Stomach of the World*, 2017. Video still
Courtesy of the artist and Meyer Riegger, Berlin/Karlsruhe

Pirelli HangarBicocca presents “The Dream Machine is Asleep”, from 15 February to 22 July 2018, the solo show by artist Eva Kot'átková, conceived as investigation on childhood dreams, fantasies and fears and where children protagonists.

The work of Eva Kot'átková (born 1982 in Prague) investigates the internal and external forces that influence human behavior, in particular the institutional rules and educational systems that can manipulate and produce situations of control.

For her exhibition at Pirelli HangarBicocca, “The Dream Machine Is Asleep,” Kot'átková has developed an immersive new project that combines installation, sculpture, collage, and

performance. Inspired by the notion of the human body as a machine, an organism that needs tune-ups – periods of regeneration and rest – in order to function, and the idea of sleep and dreaming as a time for creating new visions and parallel worlds, the exhibition explores our innermost thoughts and projections, the anxieties and phobias of contemporary life.

It brings together a wide selection of works, including the installation and video *Stomach of the World*, 2017, and the series of sculptures *Theatre of Speaking Objects*, 2012, in addition to new projects such as the installation *The Dream Machine Is Asleep*, 2018, which invades the space with a giant bed, an oneiric generator of stories and ideas.

Evoking the aesthetic of the Eastern Europa Dada and that of the Surrealism exhibitions, the show also includes live moments, staged performances, lectures and oral narrations held by different characters inhabiting the show. Among them, a peculiar role is played by children – recurrent protagonists of Kot'átková's works—inhabiting a dedicated space, the “children office,” where they will create an archive of dreams.

Curated by Roberta Tenconi, the exhibition is accompanied by a publication fully illustrated with works on show and installation views. Structured as a diary of the body, the catalogue further investigates the concept of struggle and anxiety as productive forces and beside critic and theoretical essays it includes conversations about daydreams, fantasies and fears between the artists and the children participating to the project.

Eva Kot'átková

Eva Kot'átková (Prague, 1982) lives and works in Prague. She studied at the Academy of Applied Art of Prague and at the San Francisco Art Institute. She has exhibited in several institutions, among the others: Haus 21 - Museum of Contemporary Art, Wien (2017); K21, Düsseldorf, Migros Museum, Zurich and Ming Contemporary Art Museum, Shanghai (2016); MIT List Visual Art's Center, Cambridge, Massachusetts (2015); Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Baden-Baden, and Schinkel Pavillon, Berlin (2014); Wrocław Museum of Contemporary Art, Wrocław (2013). She also took part in different international group shows: 55th Biennale of Venice and 5th Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art (2013); 18th Biennale of Sidney (2012); 11th Biennale of Lyon (2011). In 2018 she will participate at the 47th International Film Festival in Rotterdam.

Exhibition Program

The exhibition “The Dream Machine is Asleep” is part of the 2018 exhibition program, conceived by the Artistic Director Vicente Todolí together with the Curatorial Department: Roberta Tenconi, Curator; Lucia Aspesi, Assistant Curator; Fiammetta Griccioli, Assistant Curator.

The programming will continue with exhibitions by **Matt Mullican**, “The Feeling of Things” (12 April – 16 September 2018), and **Mario Merz**, “Igloos” (25 October 2018 – 24 February 2019) in the Navate space and by Leonor Antunes (14 September 2018 – January 2019).

Since 2013 under Vicente Todolí's artistic direction several exhibitions were presented: Ragnar Kjartansson, Dieter and Björn Roth, Micol Assaël, Cildo Meireles, João Maria Gusmão and Pedro Paiva, Joan Jonas, Céline Condorelli, Juan Muñoz, Damián Ortega, Philippe Parreno, Petrit Halilaj, Carsten Höller, Kishio Suga, Laure Prouvost, Mirosław Balka, Rosa Barba, Lucio Fontana (until 25.02.2018) and the group show *Take Me (I'm Yours)* (until 14.01.2018).

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Pirelli HangarBicocca is a non-profit institution dedicated to promoting and producing contemporary art which reflects Pirelli's enterprise culture and its commitment to research, innovation and the spread of contemporary languages. With its rich and intense programming, Pirelli HangarBicocca includes solo exhibitions by leading international artists who stand out for the experimental nature of their work, and a parallel calendar of talks and cultural events, all in a space that is open to the public free of charge.

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General information

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| Institution | Pirelli HangarBicocca |
| Artist | Eva Kot'átková |
| Title | “The Dream Machine is Asleep” |
| Curated | Roberta Tenconi |
| Press conference | 13 February 2018 |
| Opening | 14 February, 7 pm |
| Exhibition dates | 15 February – 22 July 2018 |
| Address | Via Chiese 2, Milan |
| Opening hours | Thursday – Sunday, 10 am – 10 pm |
| Entry | Free |
| Catalog | Mousse Publishing |
| Workshops | Weekdays for school groups Weekends for families |
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