



INGNAHL MAGADAN

Ingnaahl Magadan, *20.08.2018 in Düsseldorf

Ingnaahl Magadan is a German conceptual artist. Using the mediums of photography, videography, video performances, clothing, objects and luminous installations as well as poetry and sound pieces, Magadan's artworks explore the infinity of being and transcendence from the dualistic illusion of "life" and "death".

"Love is at the heart of my work. It is the energy from which all that exists emerges and all that exists returns into. It is so strong and unconditional that it knows nothing of what we call 'death'. Love does not cause blindness. On the contrary, it empowers us to see, and can lead to a deep realization that life and death are indistinguishable. Love completely dissolves this dualistic idea that exists only in our consciousness. For me, however, art is the only possible form to express this non-dualistic principle, and make it visible and tangible."

The birth of Ingnaahl Magadan coincides with a deep spiritual experience through her late soulmate, the artist Ingolf Timpner (1963 - 2018). According to Ingnaahl Magadan, spirituality is hard for modern man to accept. Theoretical physics, especially quantum physics is able to open the gate to "metaphysics", but, according to Ingnaahl Magadan, the purpose of art is to give space to this "sentient intuition" of such a dimension. The work is not concerned with doctrines of faith, even though Christian iconographic ciphers and narratives are frequently invoked in her current work. Ingnaahl Magadan understands these as evidence of a fundamental human capacity for awareness.

"I work again and again with Christian iconographic allusions, which, incidentally, characterize Western culture all the way into pop culture. But it's not about religions for me. I myself am drawn to the practice of ZEN. Why I return to these ciphers and narratives is because they enable the best visual representation of my spiritual

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Abbildung: „Us“, 2019, 50 x 50 cm



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experience, from which I, with my perspective on life, can no longer step back from. For me, these ciphers and narratives have unexpectedly become an experienceable fact. Yet the core of this experience is not limited to a religion. One doesn't even need a religion for it. These ciphers have become my artistic language. That's all."

At the same time, the artist persona Ingnahl Magadan refers to the fact that through the unbreakable love of two people, an existential dimension can be achieved that transcends space, time, life and death. With her artist name Magadan, she refers to one of the old place names for today's town of Migdal in the West Bank, and thus, also in a broader sense, to her genetic origin. Even the name and her date of birth are part of her conceptual art, transforming her biography into art itself.

"At present, I need this variety of expressive forms and have a desire to explore them. There is no reason to restrict myself to one specific medium. Each medium allows me to discover a manifestation for everything I'm about. But at the end of this path there must be a pure "so-sein", a mere presence that has the power (unconditional love) to move people. My greatest delight would be if my last work were to consist solely of a very specific glance. Then I can leave."

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