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Unconscious Lens

12. AUG. 2014

ART

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Curated by Roya Sachs

Unconscious Lens

August 27 – 30, 2014

Opening Reception: Wednesday, August 27, 6-9 pm

BOSI Contemporary is pleased to announce the opening of Unconscious Lens, a group exhibition curated by Roya Sachs, featuring works by New York based artists Najib Aschrafzai, Rosanna Bach, Mike Fernandez, Gabriele Giugni, Alison Nguyen, and Anh Thuy Nguyen.

The show revolves around Freud's theory of the Unconscious – the source of our most instinctual desires that are repressed and released in our dreams. Each artist attempts to explore the different realms of the Unconscious and Conscious world, by demonstrating the different visions, techniques, and concepts of their optical lens.

Najib Aschrafzai's (b. 1968, Caboul, Afghanistan) Dada-influenced project takes a rather organic approach to the Unconscious, by representing the unpredictability of our emotions through collage. One is brought to question the confusing lines between our dreams and reality.

Rosanna Bach's (b. 1990, Geneva, Switzerland) use of analogue experimentation in her large-scale double-exposure series brings to light poetically melancholic juxtapositions of nature and the human body.

Mike Fernandez's (b. 1985, Lima, Peru) video and photographic works create a subtle and intrinsic duality between human and animal behaviour, encouraging the viewer to re-evaluate their identity.

Gabriele Giugni (b. 1980, Rome, Italy) evokes his perception of the Unconscious through the use of light boxes and silhouettes, allowing you to enter the mind of individuals through the positions and movements of their body. By focusing on individuals within the crowd, it enables him to isolate their trajectory and create an intrinsic link between the observer and the subject.

Alison Nguyen's (b. 1986, Wilmington, Delaware) in-camera multiple exposures create vastly evocative, lively, and gestural textures in her photographs. Treating the film negative as an entire image, Nguyen's improvised, intuitive approach explores the complexities of what theorist Walter Benjamin termed the "optical unconscious."

Anh Thuy Nguyen's (b. 1993, Hanoi, Vietnam) Faceless series enters a painterly-esque dream world, by using multiple exposures and capturing blurred faces. Through these the viewer is left with a ghostly separation of a dream-like state, and a reality. Her photographic and chemical experimentations reveal only certain spontaneous aspects of her identity, and appropriately repressing the rest.

The opening night, 27th August, will include a unique performance at 7.45pm, of La Mamma Morta, an aria from Umberto Giordano's Andrea Chenier, performed by opera singer Mithra Mastropiero and dancer Katherina Tsirakis. Contextually, the opera first premiered in 1896, one year after Freud's first big publication, Studies on Hysteria. Katherina is the subject in Rosanna

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Bach's photographs, bringing her works to life through the performance. Its purpose will be to stress the dual existence of the Unconscious dream world, which Mithra sings about in the aria, and the reality of the Conscious world, which Katherina's movement and physical presence will represent.

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