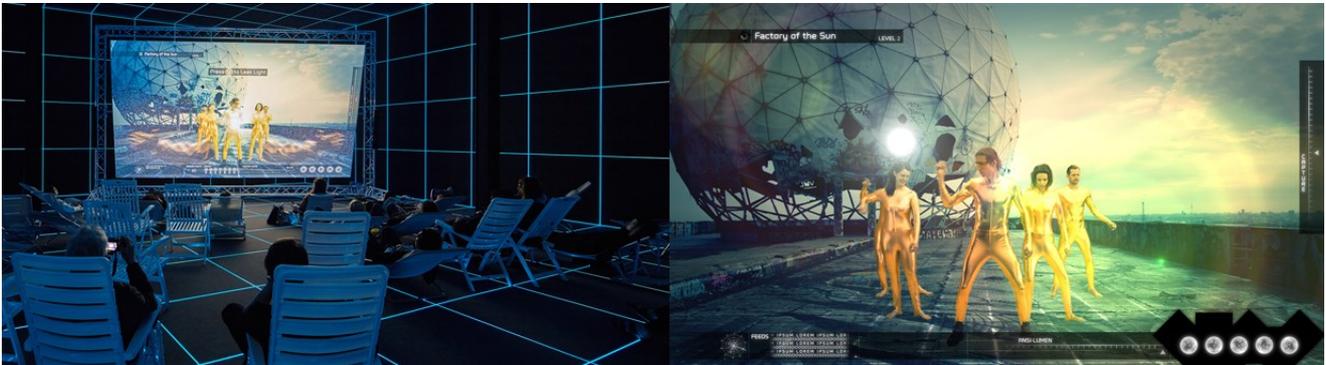


KUNSTHAL CHARLOTTENBORG

Scandinavian premiere of video installation by international star from Germany

When Kunsthall Charlottenborg on December 7 open the doors to Hito Steyerl's *Factory of the Sun* it is the Scandinavian premiere of the impressive video installation, which was the main attraction at the latest biennale in Venice. The installation has later been presented at MOCA L.A. and Whitney Museum in New York and after Kunsthall Charlottenborg it will be exhibited at Kiasma in Helsinki. The artist behind the video installation is one of the fastest rising stars on the international art sky.

Exhibition period: December 8 – February 19



Main attraction at the Venice Biennial

The video installation by German artist Hito Steyerl was presented for the first time at the 205 Venice Biennale. The visually powerful installation quickly became a big draw and probably was the most talked about piece at the significant biennale. After its triumphal progress in Venice, the installation has been exhibited at acknowledged exhibition spaces like Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles, HMKV in Dortmund and currently at Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. When the exhibition opens at Kunsthall Charlottenborg in the beginning of December, it will be the first time the highly praised installation is on view in Scandinavia. Later on the work will be exhibited at the highly respected art museum Kiasma in Helsinki.

An Immersive Video Installation

The reason why *Factory of the Sun* has created such excitement at exhibition spaces around the world is because the installation is much more than just a video on a screen. As a matter of fact, you're physically stepping into the art work, which is contained in black box specially build for the purpose, with a luminous grid as seen in the sci-fi classic *Tron*. From a deck chair you can watch the central part of the installation – a 23-minute-long movie – projected on a big screen and become enveloped by the soundtrack. *Factory of the Sun* is a total experience you can immerse yourself in.

Criticism of Surveillance

In *Factory of the Sun* Steyerl deals especially with how technology and pictures can be used for surveillance and to suppress a part of the population, but also to fight back against the system. Through an absurd story – created by a mix of news coverage, documentaries, video games and dance videos, a story about workers, who are forced to create sunlight by moving in a motion-capture studio is told. But the workers have a chance to fight back against those in power, by dancing instead of just performing the physical movements, they are instructed to in the game *Factory of the Sun*. However, the lines between game and reality are blurred, and the fight about light and energy take place not only in the game but also in the reality of the story.

Among the most influential artists in these years

Hito Steyerl (b. 1966 in Munich) is regarded as one of the most influential contemporary artists in these years. She has exhibited all over the World from Moderna Museet in Stockholm, Chisenhale Gallery, London and Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia in Madrid to Artists Space, New York, Institute of Modern Art in Brisbane and the Gwangju Biennale in South Korea. Hito Steyerl's importance is underlined by the fact, that she was recently ranked the 7th most influential person in the contemporary art world in a listing made by one of the most leading, international art journals, ArtReview.

The German visual artist and moviemaker has a PhD in Philosophy from the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna, and she is a professor in New Media at the Berlin University of the Arts. She is given the credit for the development of the genre "essay-documentary" and in addition to her new media based art, she is also acknowledged for her research work and have published several books such as *The Wretched of the Screen* (2013) and *Too Much World* (2014).

Factory of the Sun is presented in collaboration with Hartware MedienKunstVerein (HMKV), Dortmund and Goethe Institut Dänemark and is financially supported by Statens Kunstfond.

Exhibition hashtag: #factoryofthesun

Press material

More press material, including high resolution press photos, can be found at Kunsthall Charlottenborg and used by permission.

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