



INSIDE OUT, 2005,
Farbfotografie | colour photo,
126,5 x 63,5 x 2 cm

With these words, the Japanese artist Hiroko Inoue invited teenagers to appear before her camera. And asked them the following questions: "What do you want? What path are you taking? Who do you want be?"

Questions that give voice to the dilemma of young people: chaos everywhere – outside, in the past and the future, as well as inside.

In her work, Inoue compels not only those portrayed but also the viewer to pause and reflect: inside the installation *INSIDE OUT*, the visitor views the inward looking teenagers from outside. The 17 life-size photographs, printed on transparencies and hanging from a steel ring seven metres in diameter, form a circle. Eyes shut, the young people surround the viewer, the walk-through sculpture offering him or her the opportunity to do the same: turn the gaze inward, "to focus inward and so on other levels of significance" (Inoue). The photographs of the schoolchildren from Kobe and Vienna stand for the collective youth of the world. On her many travels, Inoue found herself continually confronted by the same questions. Whether underway in her homeland or staying in the remotest corner of Alaska, she encountered similar social problems that exacerbated her feeling of hopelessness and finally led to her increasingly taking up social issues in her art. Above all, however, the traumatic experience of the Kobe earthquake in 1995 was the starting-point of her long photographic confrontation with psychiatry: "I took photographs inside and outside psychiatric clinics. I wanted to draw attention to the desires, prayers and disappointments of the patients inside and, at the same time, to the same factors in us who find ourselves outside the building". In the Otto Wagner Hospital, too, she documented the empty hospital rooms when, ten years after the Hanshin Awaï disaster, she was living in Vienna as a "special advisor for cultural exchange". In an arrangement around the portraits of the young people, she uses light boxes to pose once again the question: "What is inside, what is outside? What is madness, what normality?" Questions which, in view of the history of the Steinhofgründe and the most recent catastrophes in Japan, we cannot escape.

"I believe we have come to a point at which we must reflect on the future, and urgently so: how in future we human beings could live together in nature and what seed we will leave for future generations." (Hiroko Inoue in September 2011)

"Please close your eyes and listen to the sound of your soul inside."

"In the area around Fukushima, doctors are examining about 360,000 children and teenagers for the possible effects of the nuclear disaster. Radiation may have damaged their thyroid glands." *Die Zeit*, 9.10.2011

Hiroko Inoue *INSIDE OUT*

There are installations in the collection of MUSA which, because of their size and the spatial circumstances of the museum, will be shown at irregular intervals in solo exhibitions. The series begins with a photo sculpture by Hiroko Inoue; before the end of the year, it will be followed by a work by Christian Wachter.

HIROKO INOUE INSIDE OUT

18.11. – 10.12.2011

MUSA
Museum Startgalerie Artothek
Felderstraße 6-8, Wien 1
(neben dem Rathaus | next to the City Hall)
Tel.: +43 (0)1 4000-8400
Di-Fr | Tue-Fri 11.00-18.00
Do | Thu 11.00-20.00
Sa | Sat 11.00-16.00
Eintritt frei | Free admission
www.musa.at

Eröffnung | Opening
Do | Thu 17.11.2011, 19.00

Führungen jeden Do, 17.00 | Guided tours every Thu, 17.00
Führungen für Gruppen jederzeit auf Anfrage möglich |
Guided tours for groups on request
Tel.: +43 (0)1 4000-84754
Führung in Gebärdensprache | Guided tour in sign language:
Fr | Fri 2.12., 17.00

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Abbildungen | Illustrations: © MUSA, © Kulturabteilung der Stadt Wien (MA 7) | Department for Cultural Affairs of the City of Vienna,
© Rainer Komers



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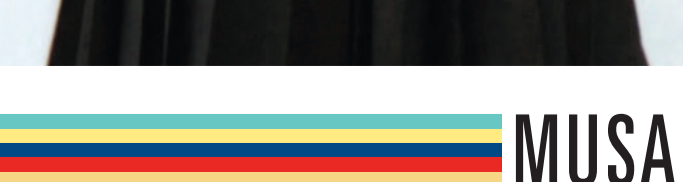
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© Rainer Komers



HIROKO INOUE INSIDE OUT



OBEIN | TOP: *INSIDE OUT*, 2005,
Farbfotos, Leuchtkästen | colour photos, light boxes
RECHTS OBEIN: Installationsansicht, Jugendstiltheater,
Otto-Wagner-Spital, Wien, 2005 | TOP RIGHT: installation view,
Jugendstiltheater, Otto Wagner Hospital, Vienna, 2005



Hiroko Inoue

1974-1975 Studium der Textilkunst am Okinawa Cultural Anthropology Institute | Studied textile art at the Okinawa Cultural Anthropology Institute
1998 Spezialpreis für Skulptur im Kontext der Osaka Triennale, Preis der Stadt Düsseldorf und des Goethe-Instituts Kansai | Special Prize for Sculpture at the Osaka Triennial, Prize of the City of Düsseldorf and Kansai Goethe-Institut
2005 Sonderberaterin der japanischen Regierung für Kulturaustausch in Wien, erste Präsentation von *INSIDE OUT* im Jugendstiltheater, Otto-Wagner-Spital, Wien | Special advisor of the Japanese government for cultural exchange in Vienna; first presentation of *INSIDE OUT* at the Jugendstiltheater, Otto Wagner Hospital, Vienna

Eine Auswahl ihrer Ausstellungen | A selection of exhibitions:
1992 *Seal the Time*, Wacoal Ginza Art Space I, Tokyo (S) / 1997 *Representation of Absence*, Art Forum Yanaka, Tokyo (S) / 1999 *Absence*, Atelier am Eck, Düsseldorf/GER / 2000 *An Earthquake and Art – being born from 17th January 1995*, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, Kobe/JPN / 2003 *What do thou want*, Goethe-Institut, Tokyo, und *C Square*, Chukyo University, Nagoya/JPN (S), *What wilt thou – Meditation*, Museum Alte Post, Mülheim an der Ruhr/GER (S), *Grosse Kunstaussstellung*, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf/GER / 2007 *Chameleon Meadow – In Praise of Shadows*, Clemson/USA (S) / 2008 *Inside-Out*, Hillside Forum, Tokyo (S) / 2011 *Mori*, Dortmunder Kunstverein und *Inside-Out*, Projektraum Fotografie, Dortmund/GER (S)

Begleitprogramm | Program



Filmscreening *Kobe*

Fr | Fri 18.11.2011, 19.00
Kobe, D 2006, 44 min,
Kamera, Produktion und Regie |
Camera, production and direction: Rainer Komers
Der Regisseur ist anwesend. | The director will be present.

Rainer Komers begibt sich mit *Kobe* auf eine unkommentierte Reise durch die japanische Hafenstadt, um dem Wendepunkt der japanischen Nachkriegsgesellschaft am Beispiel der vom schweren Erdbeben 1995 betroffenen Stadt in Bildern und Tönen nachzuspüren.

In his film *Kobe*, Rainer Komers goes on an uncommented journey through the Japanese port city, which was severely hit by an earthquake in 1995, and traces the turning point of post-war Japanese society in images and sounds.

Ausstellungsgespräch | Artist talk

Do | Thu 24.11.2011, 17.00

Führung der Künstlerin durch die Installation *INSIDE OUT* mit anschließendem Gespräch. Eintritt frei.

Guided tour through the installation *INSIDE OUT* with the artist, followed by a discussion. Admission free.