

Cao Fei. Meta-mentary

April 13 – September 8, 2024

Cao Fei (b. Guangzhou, 1978) lives and works in Beijing. In her films, photographs, and walk-in multimedia installations, she addresses the economic and social changes of our time. Digitalization, globalization, the transformation of urban and suburban structures and thus our living spaces are at the heart of her art. Her questions focus on the way we humans live and react to the developments around us and adapt to them or actively incorporate them into our lives. For her works, Cao Fei herself sometimes spends time in the virtual community using her avatars China Tracy and Oz and documents her perception of digital realities in individual imagery and distinctive artistic spaces. Invention and reality, the fantastic and the documented, the digital and the human combine to create surreal, dystopian images and individual aesthetics that can be experienced by the public. Cao Fei's exhibition at the Lenbachhaus will also focus on how rapid social change is being accelerated by digital technologies, affecting and changing human experience and the self-image of human existence at their core.

Cao Fei's art has been featured at numerous international exhibitions: Shanghai Biennale 2004, Moscow Biennale 2005, Taipei Biennale 2006, Sydney Biennale 2006 and 2010, Istanbul Biennale 2007, Yokohama Triennale 2008, Venice Biennale 2003, 2007 and 2015. Selected solo exhibitions: MoMA PS1, New York, 2016, Tai Kwun Contemporary, Hong Kong, 2018, K21, Düsseldorf, 2018, Centre Pompidou, Paris, 2019, Serpentine Galleries, London, 2020, UCCA Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, 2021, MAXXI Museo nazionale delle arti del XXI secolo, Rome, 2021, Pinacoteca de São Paulo 2023.

Curated by Eva Huttenlauch

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