

## Home, Sweet Home

Duration: 07.09.2003 – 09.11.2003

With: Dorit Margreiter, Miriam Bäckström, Sophie Thorsen, Moira Zoitl, Pia Lanzinger, Isa Rosenberger

Curated by: Julia Schäfer

The artist Pia Lanzinger (Munich, b.1960) in 2001 devoted herself to the question of styles of living in so-called "Wohnwanderungen" (living hikes) through the trade-fair town of Riem near Munich. The resulting magazine "Schönes Wohnen" (Beautiful Living) provides insights into the private refuges of the inhabitants of this new district. Pia Lanzinger has a strong interest in communication and exchanges with people. Her artistic idiom encompasses guided tours, trips, interviews, portraits. The focus of her Leipzig work is teleworking, which is often done by women. To what extent is the home environment adaptable to professional work from home and in what way do changes become noticeable? Sofie Thorsen (Copenhagen, b.1971) goes into the question of what happens at on Leipzig's city limits. In earlier work she has already investigated the "aesthetics of villages". What kinds of living do we come across in them, how do new building developments grow and why is having your own home so attractive? In several stays in Leipzig, Sofie Thorsen several villages both newer and older. The artist's drawings and installations are also sources of information on, among others, economic and social backgrounds to these forms of living. Miriam Bäckström (Stockholm, b.1967) investigates settings, as found in large furniture stores and on film sets. The series of photographs of IKEA showrooms ("IKEA through the Ages", 1999) shows the history of the store in familiar, stage-like settings. Private life in Bäckström's settings is simulated and remains a façade. The pictures, devoid of people, could have been taken in Leipzig, Stockholm or nowadays even Moscow, which causes problems with concepts of individuality and locality. The supposedly intimate is open to the public here and not private. Dorit Margreiter (Vienna, b.1967), in her installation "Short Hills", combines subjective ideas of living and documentary pictures with those we know from sitcoms and soap operas. In a city like Los Angeles, familiar worldwide as a setting brought to us by the media, she investigates the relationship between residents and their private spaces. In her work "Everyday Life", Margreiter asks people about their concepts of "ideal living". "Architecture here (in Los Angeles) proves to be a façade, where what is behind it is completely separated from the outside" (Margreiter). Moira Zoitl (Berlin, b.1968) concerns herself with the different images of women's roles. The work "Zimmer der Dame" (Lady's Room) is a reconstruction of a room as conceived in 1930 by the architect Adolf Loos for the Müller house in Prague. This vantage point allowed the lady of the house to have a total overview of happenings in the house. The artist uses this setting as a presentation point for a work devoted to her grandmother. Roman Ondak (Bratislava, b.1966) works with ideas and memories of spaces and architecture. Ondak's installation "Antinomades, 2000" on 12 different postcards shows friends of different ages and social backgrounds in their private spaces. "The people here are not flexible or mobile. For this reason they view the new political-cultural influences to which they feel exposed, and Europe which allegedly wants to integrate them, with scepticism" (Ondak). Isa Rosenberger (Vienna, b.1969) has interviewed residents, architects and artists on the subject of living in Leipzig/living in a prefab. Her focus here is directed on the appropriation of the standardised spaces of a "Plattenbau" by the residents. To what degree do they impose and develop their individuality in relation to the constructed space? What have the residents made of "their" predetermined architecture? Rosenberger has developed murals and drawings showing and illustrating the common ground in her investigations. The exhibition also boasts a 'reading corner' - an information point with videos, books and magazines for visitors on the subject of "Living Space". Jens Volz's photo series, 'Settlers', which documents Leipzig residents as they build their own home, is displayed on slides in the 'reading corner', where the visitor can also see a joint project by Katja Heinecke, Reinhard Krehl, Silke Steets and Nils Emde on the Dessau-Törten estate, and the ways in which tenants there have made their individual mark on the Bauhaus houses.

### Öffnungszeiten:

Di – Fr 14 – 19 h  
Sa/So 12 – 18 h  
Feiertags 12 – 18 h  
Mittwochs freier Eintritt.