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Andy Denzler: The Forgotten Palace Saturday, May 31, 2014 at 6 pm

Lucie Fontaine: Thai Salad II. - Ory Dessau

lecture

Saturday, May 31, 2014 at 7.30 pm

**Special Guest:** 

Nicola Trezzi (Flash Art International, New

York)

Budapest Art Residency (BAR) is pleased to announce the one night show of its first artist in residence in 2014. Swiss artist Andy Denzler worked at Budapest Art Factory (BAF) May, 2014, culminating in the solo show entitled The Forgotten Palace. The event will be accompanied by the presentation of Ory Dessau, guest curator, who will sum up his involvement in various past and planned projects within the framework of the lecture series called Thai Salad, orchestrated by Lucie Fontaine and Nicola Trezzi. In addition, the studios of permanent artists: Eszter Csurka, Márta Kucsora, Dóra Juhász, Levente Herman and Sándor Szász will be open to the public through the evening.

**Andy Denzler** was born in Zürich, Switzerland in 1965 and attained his master's degree in Fine Arts from the Chelsea College of Art and Design, London. His artworks have been presented in various important centers of art in Europe, the USA and Asia in the form of solo and group exhibitions. He is represented by Galerie F&C Walter - Zürich, Claire Oliver Gallery - New York and Galerie Michael Schultz - Berlin. His solo exhibition, *Under My Skin*, is currently running at the Galerie F&C Walter.

**Andy Denzler** employs a wide range of medium for his artistic expression including painting, printing, graphic design, sculpture, and drawing. His works are juxtapositions of abstraction and realism, in which illusion and reality oscillate. The main highlight of his oeuvre is to call our attention to media culture distortions and the arbitrary mode it influences our perception of each other and the world. After recognizing that reality has become secondary in relation to these false projections, Denzler unveils and displays those values that are suppressed by the 'virtual reality'. To present the imagery that the media screens broadcast he developed a unique painting method which calls forth the aesthetics of the JPEG, lossy compression file format. By applying the paint in a classical way on the canvas, he disfigures the surface with a sweeping motion by using a spatula as a tool – similar to the impact that the age of digital surplus makes on our perception of everyday life. This radical painting method also addresses the issue of time, our hectic life that would need to be reduced to a slower pace.

While in Budapest Denzler created a series in which the correlation between abandoned historical sites and contemporary figures is drawn. Reminiscent of a cinematographer he organized a setting to articulate the importance of history, the past, culture – values that sometimes seem to be forgotten on the account of hyper-reality. The Stresa Villa on the banks of Lake Maggiore, or the Franz Liszt residence both are sites that tell stories, convey the atmosphere of history and radiate the presence of their previous inhabitants. The contemporary aspect of these canvases are the figures forming a random urban happening, carrying out activities in the present, coexisting naturally with history and also with art as the Bösendorfer desk, small gallery and elements of music prove. Appreciating our history, protecting our legacy result in a healthy sense of identity, which in fact make us human beings.

In addition to the exhibition guest curator **Ory Dessau**, based in Berlin, will hold his presentation starting at 7.30 pm. As part of the **Thai Salad project**, he will present his curatorial sensibility – between the poetic and the political – and will explain exhibition projects such as *Second Strike* and *Guess who died*, which explored the image and physiognomy of Palestinian late president, Yasser Arafat. He will also speak about his upcoming projects and his understanding of exhibition making.

**Ory Dessau** is an art curator, critic and writer. From 2003 he has been working as an independent curator with a variety of renowned art institutions in Israel such as the Tel-Aviv Museum of Art, Ein Harod Museum of Art, Herzliya Museum for contemporary Art, Givon Gallery, Dvir Gallery and Noga Gallery. In 2007 he was selected to curate the annual "Omanut Haaretz" ("Art of the Country") exhibition at the Sukkot holiday in September, and the Art TLV & 3rd Herzliya Biennial taking place in 2011 is also linked to his name.





