

Andreas Helbling
small worlds

October 22–November 19, 2010

Galerie Susanna Kulli, Dienerstrasse 21, CH-8004 Zürich
Tel +41 43 243 33 34, Fax +41 43 243 33 35
Hours: Tue–Fri 1–6pm, Sat 11am–4pm
www.susannakulli.ch

Opening: Thursday, October 21, starting at 6 pm

“Give me the gift of your life’s dream, and become immortal!”

The exhibition will enable visitors to send their life’s dream into space in the form of an encrypted message. The collected life’s dreams will be dematerialized through digitization; in the form of a transmitter signal, they will be sent as pure energy on an infinite journey into space. This renders the individual messages immortal. In exchange for his or her life’s dream, every participant will receive immortality.
www.svemir.eu

The current exhibition at Galerie Susanna Kulli is centered around Andreas Helbling’s installation *cosmart*, which will be shown in Switzerland for the first time. A walk-in structure suggesting a space capsule in the shape of a rhombicuboctahedron serves as a so-called “mobile unit.” Inside it, visitors will find a console that enables them to record their life’s dream as a text, audio, photographic, or video message. These recordings will be encrypted and transmitted directly into space. Contributors will then receive a certificate of participation including the personalized filename of the transmitted message. From then on, their digitized life’s dreams will travel through the universe, lending immortality to their authors.

Helbling emphasizes that the project’s versatility is an essential feature: “The collection of lifelong desires, created in successive simultaneity, becomes a precious archive of innumerable dreams, experiences, visions, longings, and hopes. This archive will become a legacy of contemporary human culture, unconstrained by economic, political, religious, scientific, or aesthetic interests. The selection is governed solely by the criteria the individual contributors bring to the choice and content of their message.”

In order to safeguard this valuable collection, Helbling proposes a cooperation with suitable space travel projects: “The archive might for example be stored for millions of years as a ‘treasure’ in a geostationary satellite, where a future generation would find it as an unadulterated legacy of our era.”

Andreas Helbling (b. 1967) lives and works in Zurich. He studied visual arts at the Zurich University of the Arts between 1997 and 2001. He has worked as an independent fine artist since 1998; until 2006, he collaborated with Želika Marušić.

The *cosmart* project was launched in 2009; that same year, it was first realized as part of

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the exhibition
"das Universum nebenan" at Stiftung Künstlerdorf Schöppingen, with support from
Pro Helvetia, BAK,
Ernst Göhner Stiftung, Stiftung Künstlerdorf Schöppingen, and digvis GmbH,
Zurich. Cosmart
was
also shown during OSTRALE 09, Dresden. Its inclusion in the current exhibition
at Galerie Susanna
Kulli represents the first time cosmart
is being shown in Switzerland.

www.andreashelbling.ch
Project cosmart: www.svemir.eu

Solo exhibitions (selection): 2009: "watch-tower," Kalkbreiteareal, Zurich;
2006: "Love&Peace," balkanTV 5th
anniversary show, BINZ39, Zurich; "Projektionsraum Balkan," les complices,
Zurich; 2005: "fumaroles" I,
Kunstpanorama, Lucerne; 2004: "do you want a camel or a horse?," Galerie Susanna
Kulli, Zurich; "das Paradies,"
Manor-Kunstpreis Schaffhausen, Museum zu Allerheiligen/Kunstverein Schaffhausen.
Group exhibitions
(selection): 2007: "Mutamenti," Bellinzona, Castello Montebello; "Chur
interveniert," Chur, Altstadt; 2005: "ID
troubles/US visit," Nurture art Gallery, New York; "Handluggage," Cafe Gallery
Projekts London; "orten,"
Kunstmuseum Solothurn, "Idyllisch," Kunstmuseum St. Gallen; Sammlung Museum zu
Allerheiligen, Schaffhausen;
"Fash N Riot: Fluff anti fluff," Coleman Project Space, London; "Gott sehen,"
Kartause Ittingen; "Editionen
2005," Binz 39, Zurich; "io & te," Via Farini, Milano; "Bekanntmachung,"
Kunsthalle Zürich; 2004: "re:lokation,
shake ID troubles," Halle für Kunst Lüneburg; 2003: "9th Cairo International
Biennale," Cairo; "Heimspiel,"

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