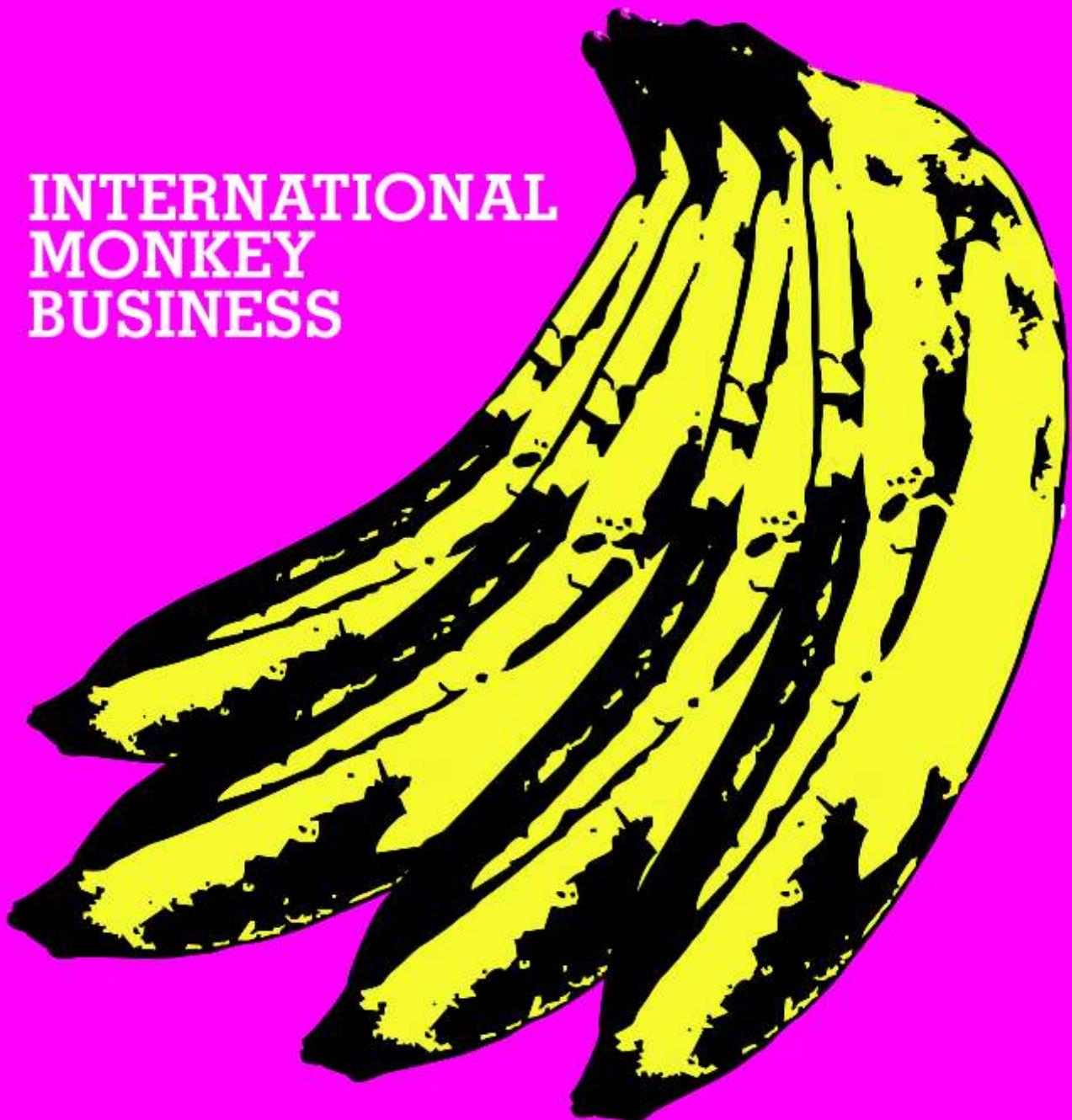


INTERNATIONAL MONKEY BUSINESS



Nina Staehli & Ale Thornton

International Monkey Business
Nina Staehli (CH) & Ale Thornton (ARG)

October 22-30, 2015

Schauraum
Gibraltarstrasse 9
6003 - Luzern



International Monkey Business

Nina Staehli (CH)
Ale Thornton (ARG)

OCTOBER 2015
Lucerne



International Monkey Business

An exhibition by Nina Staehli (CH) and Alejandro Thornton (ARG)

Monkey Business (1931)

The Marx Brothers sneak onto a ship from Europe to America as stowaways. While they're busy hiding from the crew, they get mixed up in a conflict between rival gangsters Big Joe Helton and Alky Briggs. Groucho and Zeppo are supposed to help Briggs rid himself of Helton while Harpo and Chico are enlisted as Helton's bodyguards. After the ship arrives in New York, Helton throws a party for his daughter Mary. Outside on the terrace, Briggs explains to Groucho his plan to blackmail Helton by kidnapping Mary. But, while on board, Zeppo fell in love with Mary and Groucho tried to get with Briggs's wife Lucille. In the end the brothers manage to set Mary free. (Source: Wikipedia)

Art is, in the broadest sense, an indeterminate amount of confusion. Academics and laymen then extrapolate from it questions, meanings or functions for all levels of society. And this happens with such an unwavering matter-of-factness and self-confidence that art – according to this romanticized view – comes across to the confused audience as a clear-cut concept on the horizon.

Put into a different context, the *International Monkey Business* exhibition can also be seen as persiflage. Contemporary artists are economically savvy and trained to fit into the capitalist value system because the little money is only to be made in complete assimilation.

In this sense, the artist knowingly turns himself into the monkey or dancing bear of a standardized society. Indeed, the antenna of art makers and the art system, have gotten so nuanced and sophisticated that the paying mainstream's needs, trends and innovations are justly and gallantly turned into works of art. And so the merry-go-round of art stars and starlets keeps on spinning cheerfully while edgy, evocative and abrasive art – which could help us better understand this world – falls by the wayside.

The *International Monkey Business* exhibition offers viewers a thoughtful and ironic view of these issues, negotiating the value of art in a system replete with marketing, promotions and glamour.

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cx_xc

International Monkey Business

eine Ausstellung von Nina Staehli (CH) und Alejandro Thornton (ARG)

Monkey Business (1931)

Die Marx Brothers versuchen, als blinde Passagiere auf einem Schiff von Europa nach Amerika zu gelangen. Dabei geraten sie auf ihrer Flucht vor der Schiffscrew in eine Auseinandersetzung zwischen den beiden rivalisierenden Gangstern Big Joe Helton und Alky Briggs. Groucho und Zeppo sollen auf der einen Seite Briggs helfen, mit Helton fertig zu werden, während Harpo und Chico auf der anderen Seite als dessen Bodyguards angeheuert werden. Nach der Ankunft in New York gibt Helton für seine Tochter Mary eine Party. Briggs weicht dabei auf der Terrasse Groucho in seinen Plan ein, Mary zu entführen, um ihren Vater zu erpressen. Dabei hat sich Zeppo auf der Passage in Mary verliebt und Groucho versucht, bei der Frau von Briggs Lucille zu landen. Schließlich gelingt es den Brüdern, Mary zu befreien.

(Quelle: Wikipedia)

Die Kunst ist im weitesten Sinne eine undefinierte Menge an Verwirrung. Dann leiten Akademiker oder Laien daraus willkürlich Fragen, Bedeutungen oder Funktionen für alle gesellschaftlichen Ebenen ab. Dies geschieht mit so einer unerschöpflichen Selbstverständlichkeit und Selbstsicherheit, dass dem verwirrten Publikum- nach dieser Verklärung- die Kunst als klares Konzept am Horizont erscheint.

In einem anderen Kontext kann die Ausstellung **International Monkey Business** auch als eine Persiflage verstanden werden. Zeitgenössische Künstler und Künstlerinnen sind wirtschaftlich geschliffen und darauf trainiert sich in das kapitalistische Wertesystem einzupassen, denn nur in der totalen Assimilation lässt sich das wenige Geld verdienen.

In diesen Sinne macht sich der Künstler bewusst zum Affen oder Tanzbär einer genormten Gesellschaft. Und die Sensoren der Kunstproduzenten bzw. der Kunstsysteams sind mittlerweile so fein eingestellt, dass Bedürfnisse, Trends und Innovationen der zahlenden Mitte just und galant in Kunstwerke umgedreht werden.

So dreht sich das Karussell der Kunst-Stars und Sternchen munter weiter und auf der Strecke bleibt die eckige, aufrüttelnde und kratzige Kunst, welche uns helfen könnte diese Welt besser zu verstehen.

Die Werkschau **International Monkey Business** bietet einen durchdachten und ironischen Blick zu diesen Themen. Verhandelt wird der Wert der Kunst in einem System voller Marketing, Promotion und Glamour.

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c0_x0

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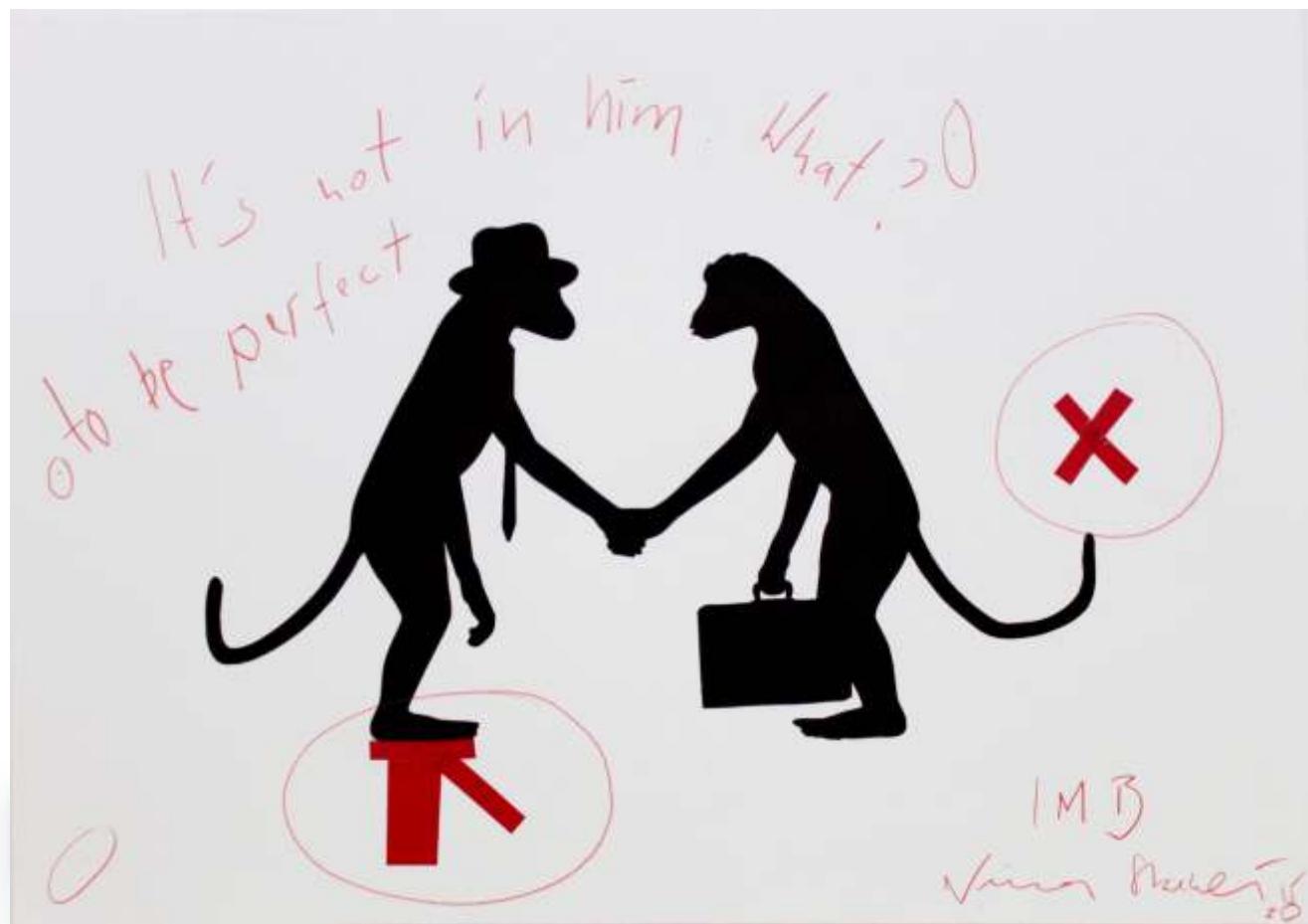
work in collaboration
(32 silkscreen operated by the artists)



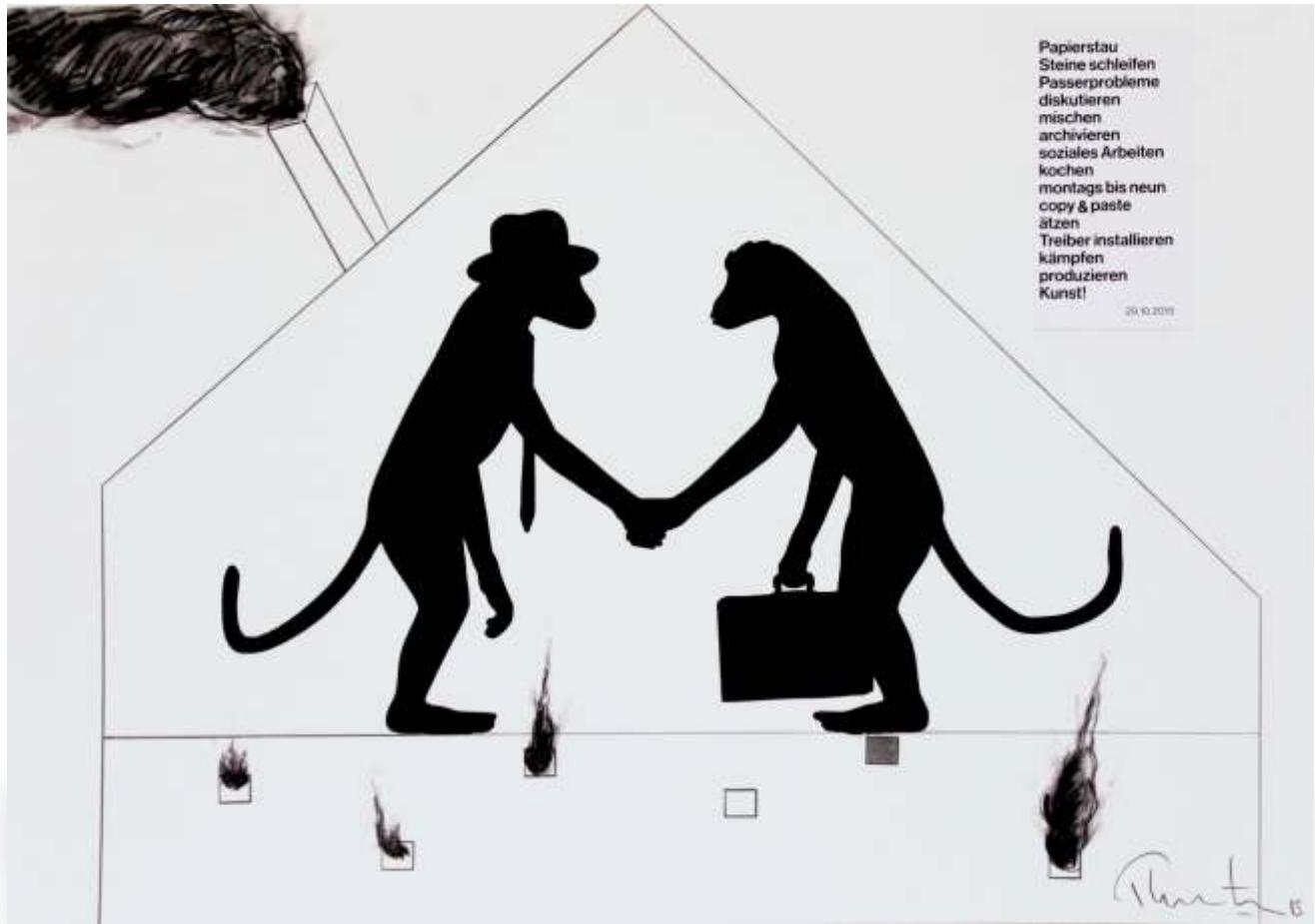
"*My home your home*"
silkscreen and ink on paper
35x50cm. 2015



"Do the monkey and have fun"
silkscreen and ink on paper
35x50cm. 2015



"To be perfect"
silkscreen and ink on paper
35x50cm. 2015



"Non title"
silkscreen and ink on paper
35x50cm. 2015



U. Stadel • Berlin

"Don't think about the ass holes"
silkscreen and ink on paper
35x50cm. 2015



"*Monkeys can make a lot of noise*"
silkscreen and ink on paper
35x50cm. 2015



"We forget the money"
silkscreen and ink on paper
35x50cm. 2015



"Boys and girls"
silkscreen and ink on paper
35x50cm. 2015



First problem
silkscreen and letterpress and 1/2 swiss franc on paper
35x50cm. 2015



"*Bild und Gleichen*"
silkscreen, collage and letterpress on paper
35x50cm. 2015



"**Monkey Business Art Institut**"
silkscreen and letterpress on paper
35x50cm. 2015

TOO MUCH FUN IN HOLLYWOOD. BUT...

WHO SAID

IS

TOO

HOW MUCH
MUCH?

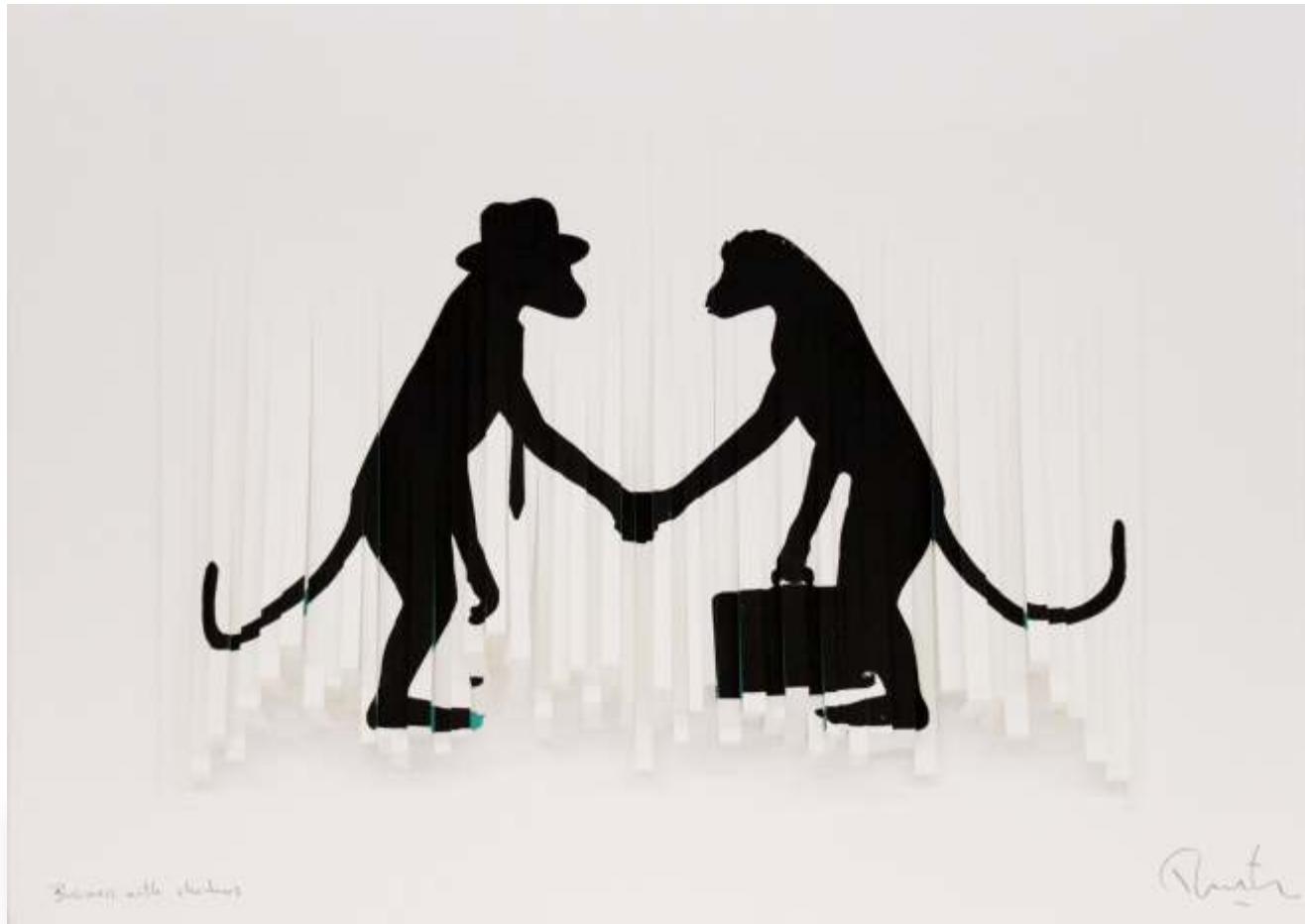


INTERNATIONAL MONKEY BUSINESS

BSB

Ruthie

"How much is too much"
silkscreen and ink on paper
35x50cm. 2015



"Don't think about the ass holes"
silkscreen and cuts
35x50cm. 2015



Details



"Monkey Business Flag"
silkscreen on textile
150x200cm. 2015

Solo works

Nina Staehli



"Glory Scapes"

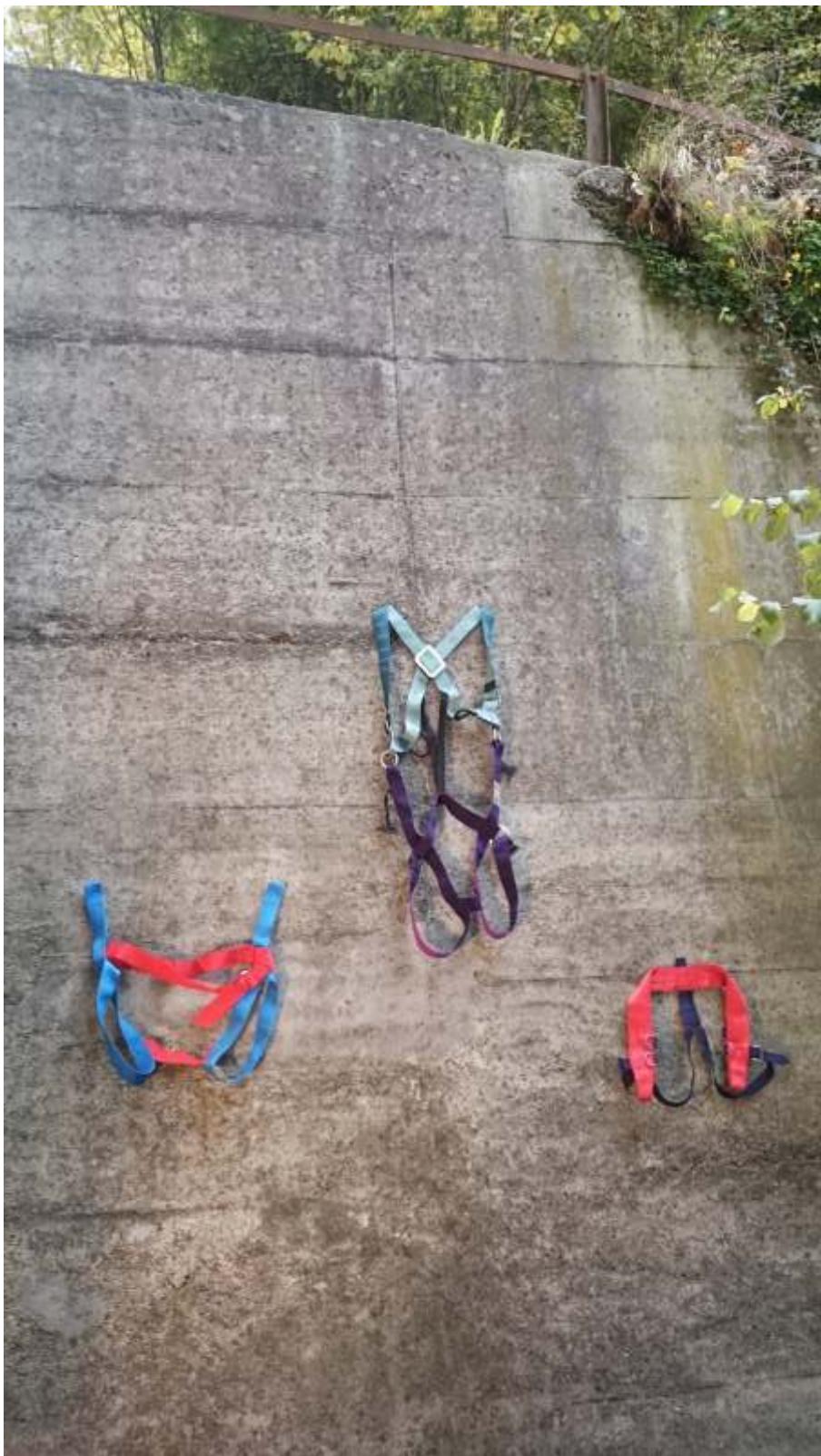
View of the instalation



"Glory Scapes"
furs of different animals on wall, 2014
Nina Staehli



"Glory Scapes"
furs of animal on wall, 2014
Nina Staehli



"Monkeys don't need this"
installation outside the gallery
300x550cm. 2015







"International Monkey Business"
View of gallery

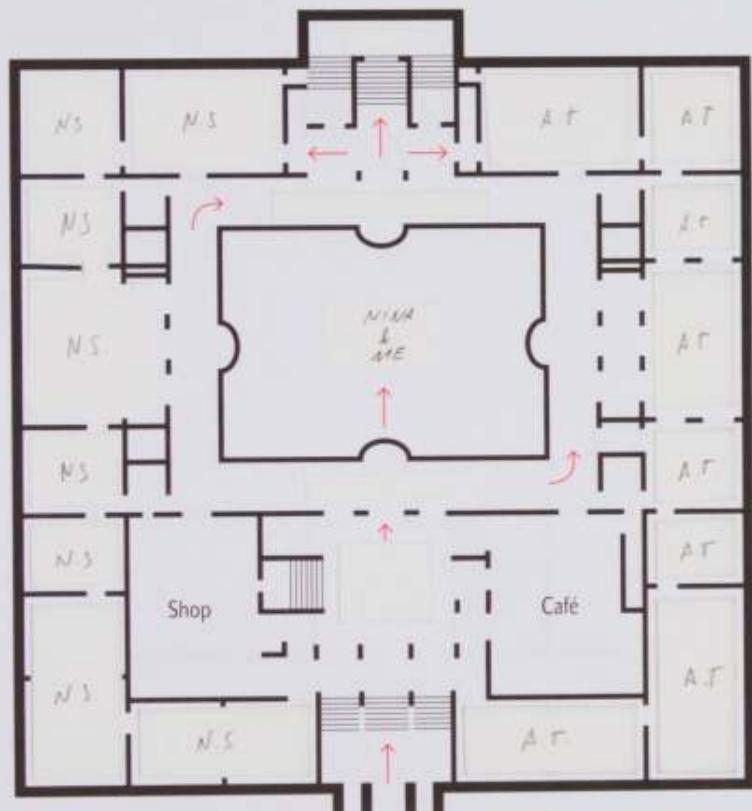
Ale Thornton



"Creative process"
plastic bag, beer tabs and pencil. 2015
Ale Thornton

Vorprojekt

VON STREHLER BIS THORNTON
DIE SAMMLUNG Kosmos IN BERLIN
11.9.2015 bis 10.1.2016



Martin-Gropius-Bau
Die Ausstellung im Erdgeschoss

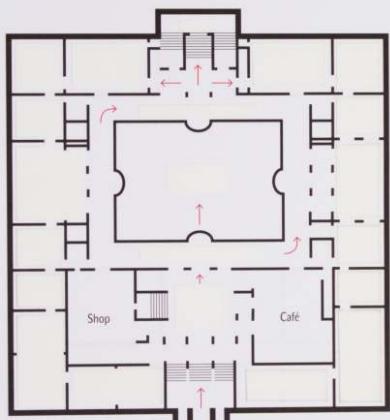
Vorprojekt

for an exhibition in Berlin

Frankie

"For and exhibition in Berlin"
collage and pencil on paper
30x40cm. 2015

VON BIS
DIE SAMMLUNG IN BERLIN
11.9.2015 bis 10.1.2016



Martin-Gropius-Bau
Die Ausstellung im Erdgeschoss

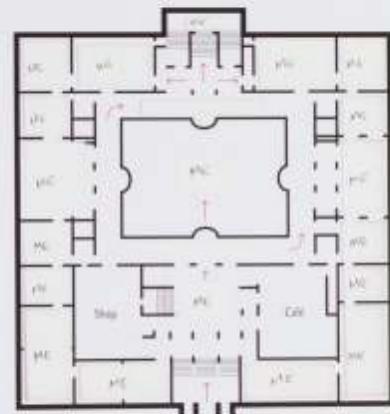
Vorprojekt

The no egos exhibition

Planter U

"The no egos exhibition"
collage and pencil on paper
30x40cm. 2015

VON BIS
DIE SAMMLUNG IN BERLIN
11.9.2015 bis 10.1.2016



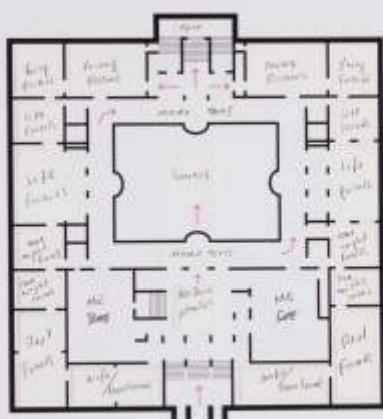
Martin-Gropius-Bau
Die Ausstellung im Erdgeschoss

Vorprojekt

The too much ego exhibition

"The too much ego exhibition"
collage and pencil on paper
30x40cm. 2015

VON BIS
DIE SAMMLUNG IN BERLIN
11.9.2015 bis 10.1.2016



Martin-Gropius-Bau
Die Ausstellung im Erdgeschoss

Vorprojekt

The curator choice

Planter U

"The Curator choice"
collage and pencil on paper
30x40cm. 2015

VON BIS ME
DIE SAMMLUNG IN BERLIN
11.9.2015 bis 10.1.2016



Martin-Gropius-Bau
Die Ausstellung im Erdgeschoss

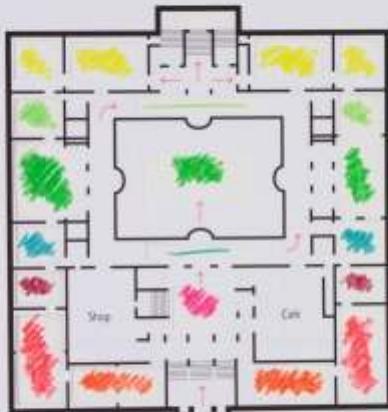
Vorprojekt

The lovers choice

Planter U

"The lovers choice"
collage and pencil on paper
30x40cm. 2015

VON **BIS**
DIE SAMMLUNG IN BERLIN
11.9.2015 bis 10.1.2016



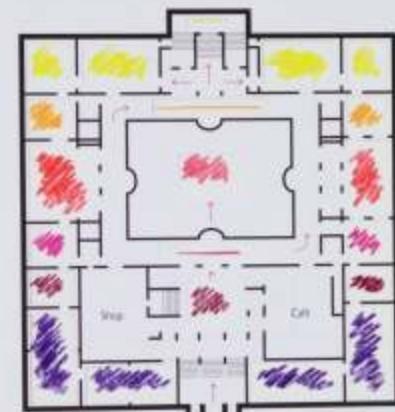
Martin-Gropius-Bau
Die Ausstellung im Erdgeschoss

Vorprojekt

Anton

"Vorprojekt #1"
collage and pencil on paper
30x40cm. 2015

VON **BIS**
DIE SAMMLUNG IN BERLIN
11.9.2015 bis 10.1.2016



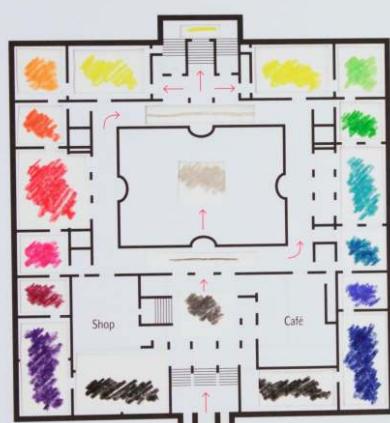
Martin-Gropius-Bau
Die Ausstellung im Erdgeschoss

Vorprojekt

Anton

"Vorprojekt #2"
collage and pencil on paper
30x40cm. 2015

VON **BIS**
DIE SAMMLUNG IN BERLIN
11.9.2015 bis 10.1.2016



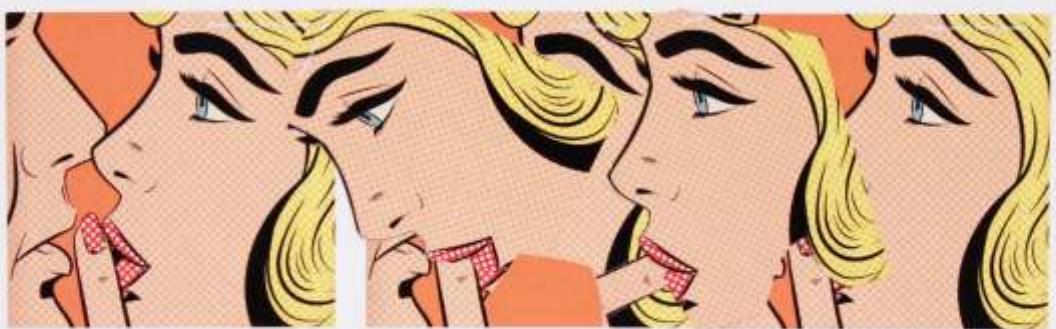
Martin-Gropius-Bau
Die Ausstellung im Erdgeschoss

Vorprojekt

Anton

"Vorprojekt #3"
collage and pencil on paper
30x40cm. 2015

"The lovers choice"
collage and pencil on paper
30x40cm. 2015



-The monkeys are coming!!



Thierry

"**The monkeys are coming**"
collage on paper
20x30cm. 2015

KUNST

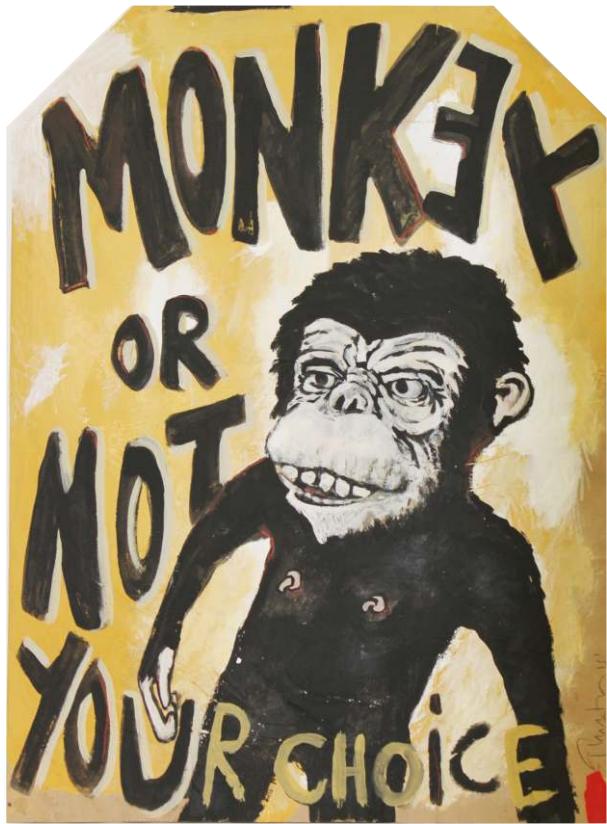
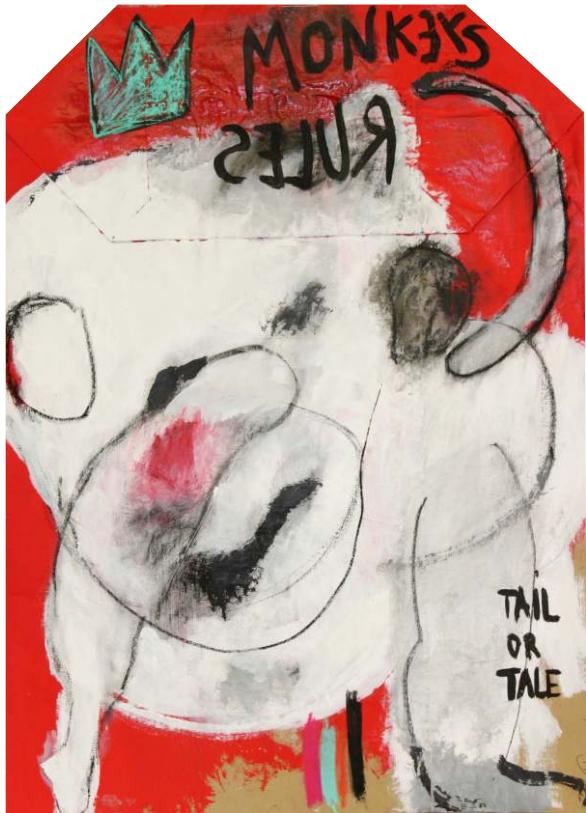
3

Ruth Is

"Muy bonito"
collage on paper
20x30cm. 2015

Monkey things





"Tail or tale"
Mixed media on paper bag
50x150cm. 2015

"Monkey or not your choice"
Mixed media on paper bag
50x120cm. 2015

"Portrait (street art style)"
Mixed media on paper bag
50x150cm. 2015

Editions



"International monkey business"
Silkscreen, edition of 25
35x50cm. 2015



"International monkey business"
Pink silkscreen, edition of 5
35x50cm. 2015



"International monkey business"
3-D silkscreen special edition of 3
35x50cm. 2015



"Chain of favors"
silkscreen in 3 colours edition of 4
35x50cm. 2015

Bio

NINA STAELI

www.ninastaehli.ch

Lives and works in Lucerne and Berlin.

Residences:

Artist in residence, Kansas City Artists Coalition, USA. - 2014
Artist in residence, ORF III, Vienna – 2013
Studio stay, Foundry Sitterwerk, St.Gallen - 2011

Awards (selection):

FLEX residency USA, awarded by the Canton of Zug
Cultural Award of the City of Cham
ORF III
Erna & Curt Burgauer Stiftung
Swiss Institute for Art and Research
MIGROS Kulturprozent
Ernst Goehner Foundation
Georges & Jenny Bloch Foundation

Last Solo Shows:

“Glory Land”, Heidmann Art Salon, Kansas City - 2015
“Glory Land”, gallery Isabelle Gabrijel, Berlin - 2015
“Gloria’s & touching heroes”, Cecilia Trachsler gallery, Zurich - 2113
“Head Download” Kunsthalle Luzern - 2013
“Processione”, galleria studio 44, Genoa - 2011
“Ruby Dean and The White Silence”, gallery Billing, Zug - 2011

Last Collective Shows:

Did your dreams come from a dark place?, Kreuzberg Pavillon, Berlin
IMAGO MUNDI, Fondazione Cini, Venice
Arte per L’Arte, Museo di Sant’Agostino, Genoa
VOEGELE Cultural Center, “Heller Wahnsinn”, Pfaeffikon, Switzerland
YESTERDAY-TOMORROW, gallery Weiernal, Winterthur
Segrete – Tracce di Memoria, Palazzo Ducale, Genoa
Art Festival Kunspause, installation “Culture Clash”, Zug
EXSTASI, Studios ID, Berlin
Animations, art space Sihlquai 55, Zurich
“ViaZug” – Haus Zentrum of the City of Zug
“A nos amours” - gallery kh15, Berlin

Last public interventions & performances:

“Casa Paradiso”, Zurich - 2015
“TearHead”, 21C Museum, Bentonville, Arkansas/USA - 2014
“The Holy Pig of Berlin in Basle”, Open Church Elisabethen, Basel – 2014
2013 30 minutes television experimental art film and performance, ORF III, Vienna - 2013
“The Last Supper”, Substitut– space for contemporary art from Switzerland, Berlin - 2012



Lives and works in Buenos Aires.

Residences:

- 2015 - Kosmos Kultur Foundation (Berlin-Lucerna, Switzerland).
2014 - Kansas City Artist Residency at KCAC (Kansas City, USA).
2013 - Artist in Residency International Program, Ace Foundation (Buenos Aires).

Awards (selection):

- 2013 - First Price for Videoart, Bahia Blanca National Biennial.
- Third Prize National Award for Painting, Uade Art Institute. Bs. As.
2012 - SiTA National Award for Public Space Interventions, Tucumán.
2010 - Engrav Mention, LV Salón Municipal Manuel Belgrano, Museo Sivori, Bs. As.

Last Solo/Duo Shows:

- 2014 - "I wirte / I draw", Charno Gallery, Kansas City.
2013 - "Overwritten", Mock galleria, Bs. As.
2012 - A Series, Olavarria Art Museum, Olavarria
2011 - "Unthinkable", Pabellón4 arte contemporáneo, Bs. As.
2010 - "Before the words", Angel Guido Art Project, Bs. As.
2009 - "Hi", Matthei gallery, Santiago de Chile

Last Collective Shows:

- PDF: poetry in different formats, MACBA.
Emergentes, Young Artist from Latinoamerica, ??????
"Hidden look", Hirsch / Brodsky / Valansi / Rivas / Olivera / Thornton. Rolf Gallery.
Fase 6.0, Meeting between Art & Technologies, C.C. Recoleta, Buenos Aires.
"Epistolary" Dialogue with the collection, Museo Castagnino+Macro, Rosario.
"5 visual poets", Pasaje 17 Gallery, Bs. As.
Central Bank National Award. C.C. Borges.
"About Change" Artist form Latin América and Caribe, The World Bank Art Program, Washington.
Rioplatense Award for Visual Arts, OSDE Foundation.
Iberoamerican Award Aerolíneas Argentinas Foundation.
Palermo University Award, National Museum of Fine Arts.
Award of the National Academy of Fine Arts.

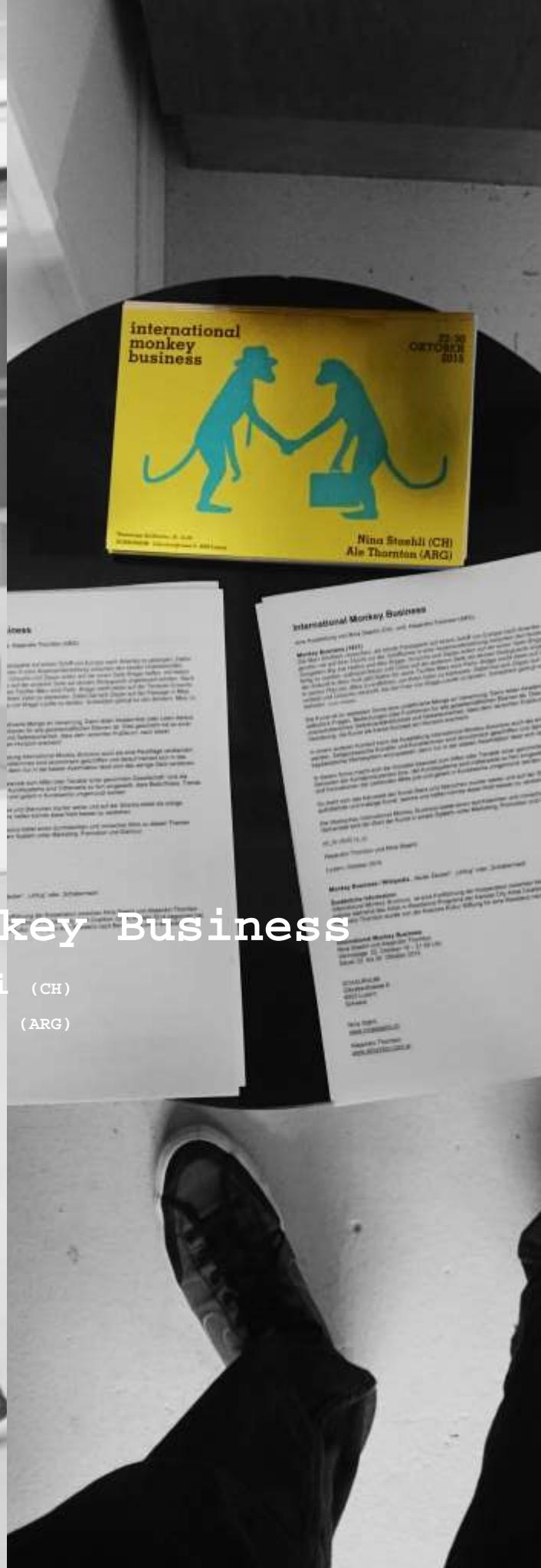
Video-art Festivals :

- 2015 - Fonland Festival (Lisboa, Portugal)
2014 - Hidden Rooms, International Festival of Video Art Palazzo, Ca' Zanardi, Venice.
2014 - VideoBardo, V International Video Poetry Festival, Buenos Aires.
2014 - Play Festival, The Video Art Week. Litoral University. Corrientes.
2014 - Pixeles of Identity, International Festival for Video & Performance, Haber Gallery, Buenos Aires.
2014 - Morphos II, International Video-Art Festival, Venice.
2013 - Bahia (In) Sonora, International Sound & Video Art Festival, Bahia Blanca.
2012 - Cineminuto Festival, C.C. Recoleta, Buenos Aires.



*Financial support for the International Monkey Business Art Project
has been provided by Kosmos Culture Foundation from Zug, Switzerland.*





International Monkey Business

Nina Staehli (CH)
Ale Thornton (ARG)

OKTOBER 2015
Luzern

**INTERNATIONAL
MONKEY
BUSINESS**
NINA STAELI (CH)
ALE THORNTON (ARG)

**22-30
OKTOBER
2015**

SCHAURAUM - Gibraltarstrasse 9 - 6003 Luzern

Vernissage 22.Oktober. 18 - 21.00

