

CirkulationsCentralen

CirkulationsCentralen is an organisation for the production of contemporary art and culture. It was founded in 2003, and is located in Malmö, Sweden. The heart of CC is an artists' cooperative consisting of 24 studios. CirkulationsCentralen maintains relationships with other artist-run and non-profit initiatives. Apart from the individual artists' work, CirkulationsCentralen organizes and coordinates lectures, workshops, artist talks, commissioned works, and projects in educational institutions.

www.cirkulationscentralen.com

Melissa Henderson, * 1977, is a member of CirkulationsCentralen living and working in London. Henderson bases her process-oriented work on research, using diverse media such as drawing, painting, performance, video, sculpture and installation. In her work she attempts to combine the poetic and personal with research. Henderson is interested both in the history of liberal arts and in psychoanalysis, in particular she explores the interplay between the conscious and the unconscious in the artistic process. Later works focus on communication, traces of action, and the artist's mark. Henderson has shown her work in London, Manchester, Berlin, and Malmö.

www.melissahenderson.co.uk

The Speech, 2013, 05:05 "

In the performative video work *The Speech* by Melissa Henderson, which deals with the subject of speech and language, the artist sits on a chair, her eyes focused on the camera - on her interlocutor. Slowly, she spits out one letter after another. The letters slide over her lips and she culls new letters or words. The viewer tries to find meaning in this confusion of letters reminiscent of the performed nonsense poems of the DADA movement. Single words like "sale" or "Doret," a common name in Sweden, are accidentally or intentionally formed by the letters. In the close-up you can see how her red painted lips leave traces on the letters and she literally gives her words their own colour and character. This forming of words hints at Heinrich Kleist's idea of "gradual formulation of thoughts in speech". In addition, the work *Speech* makes clear that the meaning of what is said is not created by the speaker alone, but also by the audience - and in the case of fine art, the viewer. The artist's exertion - saliva runs down her chin from the effort - visualizes the struggle for finding the right words, the right form of artistic expression.