

Eva Merz

Biography

Born in Esbjerg, Denmark, 1966. Works and lives in Aberdeen since 2003.

Founder and Director of New Social Art School, founder of Aberdeen Street Skaters, co-founder of UrbanNovember, Chair of Deveron Arts.

Education: Fatamorgana, Danish School of Photographic Art, Copenhagen, 1992-93; Norwegian Humanistic Academy, Art Department, Lillehammer, Norway, 1990; Masters apprenticeship, design, Esbjerg, DK, 1986-89

Projects and Productions with NEW SOCIAL ART SCHOOL

2006:

Looking out for Aberdeen, series of postcards commenting on the commercial branding of Aberdeen. Collaboration with Monika Vykoukal. Exhibited and funded by Peacock Visual Arts, Aberdeen
Get a Fucking Job – The truth about begging Project about street begging: publication w interviews and illustrations. Collaboration with Bob Steadman and others. Funded by Scottish Arts Council

2005:

Tale of the Tiger, DVD, 20 min documentary about the oil industry in UK and Norway. Show w 'Oil and the City' at Aberdeen Maritime Museum. Collaboration with A. B. Rage (N) & Dr. K. Lauche (D). Funded by Billedkunstneres Vederlagsfond, Norway
ABERDEEN STREET SKATERS – Looking Back, DVD , 5 min documentary. Collaboration with Andy Dobson. Commissioned by Engage Scotland

2004:

Tribute to the Monkey, video and installation in the show 'Aberdeen Urban Atlas'. Collaboration with Andy Dobson and UrbanNovember
ABERDEEN STREET SKATERS, Showing Off! Project about skateboarding and politics: interviews, exhibition, concert, film premier and public discussion event at Peacock Visual Arts, Aberdeen. Collaboration with skateboarders. Supported by Peacock Visual Arts

Projects with DEVERON ARTS

2005:

SPACE/RETAIL/MAGIC, critical view on supermarket developments, large-scale photographs + publication. Commissioned by Deveron Arts. Funded by the Lighthouse

2003:

EMPTY SHOP/MODERN MONUMENT, about rural commerce. Residency in Huntly, performance, exhibition, publication. Commissioned by Deveron Arts. Funded by Scottish Arts Council

Publications, Artist Books, Catalogues:

2006:

LOOKING OUT FOR ABERDEEN, postcards, New Social Art School; GET A FUCKING JOB, published by New Social Art School, ISBN 978-0-9543574-6-7

2005: SPACE/RETAIL/MAGIC, published by Deveron Arts, ISBN 0-9544261-5-0

2004:

CRAP AT ART, art zine; COUNTRY LIVING, published by Deveron Arts, ISBN 0-9544261-2-6

2003: EMPTY SHOP, published by Deveron Arts, ISBN 0-9544261-1-8; TARGET 3, artist book

2002:

TARGET 2, artist book; REAR-GUN-ATTACK, artist book; SOME SECRET, exhibition catalogue

2001: TARGET 1, artist book;

1998: PORTRAITS 1996-98, exhibition catalogue

Film/video:

2005:

ABERDEEN STREET SKATERS – LOOKING BACK, New Social Art School, 4 min. DVD; TALE OF THE TIGER, video/ documentary, New Social Art School, 20 min. DVD

2004: TRIBUTE TO THE MONKEY, New Social Art School, 2 min. DVD

2002: MARY'S GARDEN, Super 8 copied to DV, 15 min loop + 1 min. VHS

Selected Solo Exhibitions:

2006:

SPACE/RETAIL/MAGIC, Danish Cultural Institute, Edinburgh

2005:

SPACE/RETAIL/MAGIC, Town Hall, Huntly + Limousine Bull, Aberdeen; MERZ & BROX, Gallery Birthe Laursen, Copenhagen

2004:

ABERDEEN STREET SKATERS SHOWING OFF!, Peacock Visual Arts, Aberdeen 2003: EMPTY SHOP/MODERN MONUMENT, Brander Museum, Huntly + PEACOCK Visual Arts, Aberdeen

2002:

SOME SECRET, Centre of Photography, Copenhagen; REAR-GUN-ATTACK, Gallery G.U.N., Oslo, Norway

2001:

LIGHT HOUSE & OTHER SEA PIECES, The Weem Gallery, Pittenweem, Scotland; GREENLANDERS, Danish Cultural Institute, Edinburgh

2000:

MARY'S GARDEN, Film / installation, Under Dybbølsbro, Copenhagen

1999:

PORTRAITS 1996-98, Northlands Festival, Wick, Scotland + The Museum of Photography, Odense, DK
HJERTINGBILLEDER, Albertslund City Hall, DK

1998:

PITERAQ, Overgaden, Gallery of the Cultural Ministry, Copenhagen; AMERICA, Copenhagen Central Library; PORTRAITS, Gallery Image, Århus, DK; GHOSTS, Billedhusets Gallery, Copenhagen

1994:

RIVER RUNS EAST, Gallery Occupied Space, Minneapolis, MN, USA; WALK FOR JUSTICE, Lincoln Memorial, Washington DC, USA

1993:

PICTURES FOR GERONIMO, Photographic Gallery, Copenhagen

Selected Group Exhibitions:

2006:

RSA annual exhibition (invited w. SPACE/RETAIL/MAGIC), Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh

2005:

OIL AND THE CITY w. UrbanNovember, Aberdeen Maritime Museum, Aberdeen; DRAW, International Drawing Exhibition by Stray Dog, Aberdeen; PUBLIC SPACE WITH A ROOF/Intervening the Urban Void, Amsterdam

2004:

ABERDEEN URBAN ATLAS, Limousine Bull, Aberdeen

2003:

APPENDIKS 2 Presentation, Appendiks Room for Visual Arts and Artists Books, Copenhagen

2001:

HALL OF MIRRORS, The Museum of Photography, Odense, DK; GREENLAND, Royal Library, Copenhagen

1999:

TIMESCAPES, Roskilde Kunstforening, Roskilde, DK; MILLENIUM SHOW, Gallery Image, Århus, DK
SEHNSUCHT NACH DER SEHNSUCHT (Longing for Longing), Nordic Embassies, Berlin, D* *

Exhibition also shown at The Museum of Photography, Odense, DK (2000), Nordic House, Reykjavik, Iceland (2001), Trane Udstilling, Gentofte, DK (2001), Photofo, Bratislava, Slovakia (2001).

Bibliography: Articles, reviews and Interviews:

2006:

"Get a Fucking Job", by Lone Marie Pedersen, Socialpædagogen No 22;
"Get a Fucking Job", review by Monika Vykoukal, VARIANT no 27; "Få dig et Job, for faen..." by Lisbeth Renholdt, Hus Forbi, no 53;
"Aberdeen wants to crack down on 'professional beggars'..." by Paul Dalgarno, Sunday Herald, 30/7;
"Three Beggars and an Artist", diary in MAP mag, Issue 6; "RSA Annual Exhibition" by Rosamund West, SkinnyMag, May; "The street story about begging..." by Rachele Money, Big Issue, 13/4

2005:

"Art of the Public" by Ken Neil, MAP mag, Issue 3;
"Artist focuses on the power of supermarkets", review by Roddy Phillips, P&J, 14/6;
"Street skaters to star in visual arts project" by Lindsay McIntosh, P&J, 1/7;
"Artist checks out reaction to supermarkets" by Claire Elliot, P&J, 30/5; "Urban Atlas Aberdeen" by Ken Neil, MAP mag, Issue 1

2004:

"We're board, not pests", Evening Express, 22/5;
"SHOWING OFF! at Peacock", Mitchell's Diary, P&J, 17/7

2003:

"Drilling for new energy in the arts" by Sarah Jones, Scotland on Sunday, 30/11;
"Empty Shops inspire book" by Alistor Beaton, P&J, 13/9;
"Business as usual after artist upset" by Pat Scott, Huntly Express, 9/5;
"Flag flying art antic" by Pat Scott, Huntly Express, 2/5;
"Empty shop could become art monument" by Claire Elliot, P&J, 30/4;
"Empty shop: is it art – or the height of Huntly folly?" by Neil Moir, P&J, 28/4;
"Visualising a future for Huntly's empty shops" by Neil Moir, P&J, 3/2;
"Empty shops are blank canvas for art project" by Neil Moir, P&J, January

2002:

The Great Danish Encyclopaedia, Supplementary volume, Gyldendahl, Nordisk Forlag, text by Finn Thrane

2001:

"Greenland or bust", Visual Art Highlights by Leo Charalambides, Three Weeks, August;
"The five best exhibitions nationwide" by Amber Cowan, The Times, 25/8;
"Eva Merz: Greenlanders" by Helen Monaghan, The List, 22/8;
"Around the Scottish Galleries" by Giles Sutherland, The Times, 8/8

Residencies, Grants and Awards:

2006/07:

Partners: Scotland's Artist Residency Programme / Scottish Arts Council / Lottery funded with Peacock Visual Arts and Station House Media Unit, Aberdeen

2005:

Scottish Arts Council; Aberdeen Visual Arts Award

2004:

The Lighthouse, Innovation Fund

2003:

Aberdeen Visual Arts Award; Marr Area Committee; Gordon Forum of the Arts; Residency with Deveron Arts, Huntly; Scottish Arts Council & Carnegie UK Trust