

Here and Now. Und die Ferne wird zur Nähe

We always miss out on something. There is always something else to do. We constantly have to choose between different places, events and activities. We decide between seeing everything on the surface or few things in depth. Because everything happens simultaneously.

Here and Now. Und die Ferne wird zur Nähe will also happen at two places at once. We challenge the viewer and the artists to face the dilemma (and the opportunities) of simultaneity, or "Gleichzeitigkeit". Out of the chaos of countless occurrences happening at once also comes the desire for stillness and focus. The exhibition shall both offer a place to focus on the "here and now" of the spaces, yet evoke the sense to miss out on what's happening on the other side. The site-specific works will highlight existing features of the rooms, the events and performances shall provoke a decision. In the end, it is up to the guests, whether to get nervous or to concentrate on the moment. Perhaps through our conscious decision to have happenings at the same time, the viewer will become conscious about the issue of Gleichzeitigkeit today.

Now, let the poets come out. Let's befriend two spaces. I am talking about a childish fantasy. Start from the beginning: How do relationships develop? We meet. We spend time together. We talk. And we talk more. And after some time, we don't need to talk to feel understood or to share thoughts. Some magical connection allows us to communicate without words and sometimes even without being in the same room. Or the same city. Or the same country. We think of the same thing at the same time. Gleichzeitig.

I believe to build this kind of intuitive bond, exchange is not enough. Talking is not enough. We need to experience things together. Live moments together. So how can these two spaces in Zurich, Perla-Mode and Winterhalder, share these moments? How can they develop a friendship? It's a blind date. We are match-makers, but we don't know the outcome. We don't know if they like each other. But we take the risk. We count on your artistic gestures to create a spark and on the guests to enhance the exchange. As we can't move the houses physically, what happens between the houses becomes essential. It's the invisible, undefinable in-between, where the magic happens.

The publication offers a chance to document the in-between, the temporary gestures and make them seen. Same as individuals, the two buildings have attributes that form their character and their charm. Their form and architecture (inside and outside) and their history make them who they are. Friendships can change us and influence us. Sometimes in an intimate relationship, our self is penetrated by the other and vice versa. How can Perla-Mode enter Winterhalder and Winterhalder enter Perla-Mode? I don't know the answer, but I propose it is possible. I wonder, if the two spaces will be changed after this month that we declare them partners.

The friendship may last. Or it was just an early summer fling.