

RIFF Movies Archive - videoart



**Roma
Independent
Film Festival**

Mikado

Switzerland, 2010, - Color - 20:46

Directed by: Bettina Grossenbacher

Cast: Bettina Grossenbacher

Screenplay: Bettina Grossenbacher

Photography: Jonas Jäggy

Editing: Michael Koch, Bettina Grossenbacher

Set design: Hella Schindel

Costume design: Bettina Grossenbacher

Sound: Boys Gang

Producer: Bettina Grossenbacher

Production: Bettina Grossenbacher

Story description:

Mikado The house as a reference to the human soul, its rooms symbolizing various characteristics and experiences of its inhabitants – these are common images in psychoanalysis and the interpretation of dreams. It seems that in Bettina Grossenbacher's film ‚Mikado‘ the protagonist, a young girl of about 13 years, not only takes a journey into her past by entering a deserted house full of relics and memories of bygone times but also enters her unconscious in the search of answers. In an empty wardrobe the coat hangers are still swinging as if the clothes had been removed just a moment ago. The girl's advance into the house is tentative and careful. Still, the house and its contents seem familiar to her. Curtains and drawers are being opened and closed again, their contents examined rather knowingly than with curiosity, a record is being played and lipstick is applied... Soon it becomes obvious that the girl is not alone. The eyes of stuffed hunting trophies are not the only ones observing the scene. Behind drawn curtains a shadow can be made out. Later a middle aged man can be seen in the garden through the windows. Yet, soon he appears inside the house, taking a bath. Apparently there seems to be an intimate relationship between the two persons but specific nature is not communicated apart from them seemingly sharing an untold secret. A cryptic dialogue is spun that puts down tracks but these change direction ever so often. Every detail of the film's plot is meticulously choreographed where certain motives return again and again: reflections, curtains of varying transparency, insights from the inside to the outside and vice versa – the house turns into a mirror of inner sensitivities. But as often as the loop repeats itself and new clues become apparent – the action remains fragmented and the expected ending, announced multiple times, stays away. Bettina Grossenbacher worked as an actor before writing script and directing. The connection to the theatre is also present in her films as well as her photography work, especially in this mysterious script. The monologue-like language of the two protagonists seems as if they were practicing their roles but someone mixed up their texts. Similar to plays by Samuel Beckett, the desire of the audience 'to understand' is undermined deliberately and even the satisfaction of voyeuristic pleasure of familiar drama does not happen either. The artist wants to seduce us to give up the search for meaning and instead to be carried away by the power of the images and language.

Director Biographical note:

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Meinigen/Germany 1995 Artist in residence at Künstlerhaus Schloss Wiepersdorf, by Federal Department of Culture of Switzerland and Ministry of Education and Cultural affairs
 Brandenburg/Germany Symposium <Licht> with Roos Theuws at ARC Romainmôtier, by Migros
 Kulturprozent Zurich/Switzerland Solo Exhibitions 2007 <Les visiteurs du soir> Foyer Stadtkino
 Basel/Switzerland 2006 <20 minutes to attention> Regioartline Freiburg/Germany 2004 <You will
 recognize the place> Kunstraum Düsseldorf/Germany (C) 2000 <Passus invisibile> Galerie im
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 <Fernblick> Städtische Galerie Meiningen/Germany <Video-Installationen> Kunstraum im
 Wiehrebahnhof Freiburg/Germany Group Exhibitions 2010 <Monitoring> Kasseler Kunstverein
 Fridericianum Kassel/Germany 2009 <Love in the age of postponed democracy>, the critical crisis
 Kunsthalle Luzern/Switzerland 2008 <Transfotografia> Laznia Centre for Contemporary Art Gdansk
 Polen, <Hofstettenstrasse> 2008 Kunstmuseum Thun/Switzerland 2007 <Regionale 8> Kunsthau
 Baselland Muttentz/Switzerland <Lichtfeld> Dreispitzareal Basel/Switzerland 2006 <Regionale 7> [plug
 in] Basel/Switzerland, <Kunstkredit> Exhibition of the Canton of Basel-Stadt at Kunsthau
 Baselland Muttentz/Switzerland 2005 <Regionale 6> Ausstellungsraum M54 Basel/Switzerland 2004
 <MediaSculpture> The Palace of Arts Cairo/Egypt, Darat al Faounoun Amman/Jordan, National Gallery
 Sarajevo/Bosnia-Herzegovina 2003 <L'Art en plein air, Môtiers 03> Môtiers/Switzerland (C), <Ernte 02>
 Kunsthalle Palazzo Liestal/Switzerland (C), <Escultura Medial> MAVI Museo des Artes Visuales Santiago
 de Chile/Chile, <Vision Illusion Fiktion> Public art project at the Altstadt of Solothurn/Switzerland 2002
 <Escultura Medial> Museo de Arte Moderno Buenos Aires/Argentina, Centro Cultural Parque Espagna
 Rosario/Argentina, <Supermarket> Liste 02 Basel/Switzerland, <Licht-Brücken> Galerie im Kunsthau
 Erfurt/Germany (C), <Convent> Ausstellungsraum Klingental Basel/Germany (C) 2001 <flash 24>
 Kunstverein Freiburg/Germany, <Regionale 2> Kunst Raum Riehen/Switzerland <Escultura Medial>
 Museo de Arte Moderno Medellin/Columbia, Galeria Salar La Paz/Bolivia, <100 Selbstportraits> Galerie
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 Kunst Raum Riehen/Switzerland 1999 <Mediasculptur 99> Kunsthau Langenthal/Switzerland (C),
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 Baden/Switzerland (C), <Bourse> Aeschlimann Corti Stipendium Kunstmuseum Thun/Switzerland 1997
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 Dresden/Germany 1995 <Jahresausstellung> Kunsthalle Basel/Switzerland, <Medienkunst> Galerie Suti
 Bern/Switzerland <Wiepersdorfer Gespräche> Künstlerhaus Schloss Wiepersdorf/Germany (C)
 Collections, prizes, public art competitions 2007 Art Collection Christoph Merian Foundation
 Basel/Switzerland Public art competition, Rapp-Gruppe Basel/Switzerland 2002 Collection Experts
 committee for Film, Video and Photography of the Canton of Basel-Landschaft/Switzerland 2003
 Public art competition, Festival hall at Zunzgen/Switzerland Since 1995 Several grants by Migros
 Kulturprozent Zurich/Switzerland, Pro Helvetia Swiss Arts Council Zurich/Switzerland, Experts
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Bettina Grossenbacher

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PHOTOGRAPHY:

Jonas Jäggy

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Hella Schindel

COSTUME DESIGN:

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Boys Gang

PRODUCER:

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PRODUCTION:

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 Sabato 19
 Domenica 20
 Lunedì 21
 Martedì 22
 Mercoledì 23
 Giovedì 24

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M info@riff.it
T +39 06.45425050

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Opening Night
 Awards Ceremony

INFO



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 Merchandise

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