

belvedere

CARLONE CONTEMPORARY

Uli Aigner

Upper Belvedere

12 April to 3 November 2019



Contact

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Uli Aigner juxtaposes a monumental porcelain vessel with the Baroque pictorial programme of the Carlone Hall. The artist takes porcelain, a material steeped in tradition, as her starting point in order to transform personal experiences of loss into a message about life and survival.

“For Uli Aigner, creating art is about a dialogue with the world, with things, with environments, and with individuals. Production and life form a single entity in her work. Exploring light and darkness in the cycle of life connects her contemporary work with the frescoes by Carlo Innocenzo Carlone,” says Stella Rollig, CEO of the Belvedere, explaining her curatorial placing.

Item 2361 – monumental porcelain vessel

In Jingdezhen in China, the world’s “porcelain capital”, Uli Aigner transformed one of her vase designs into porcelain in 2017. She supervised and worked with Chinese potters to produce a vast vessel: 2.30 metres tall, 1.25 metres in diameter, and weighing over 700 kilos. Aigner and a porcelain painter then painted the vessel in situ, basing their design on the large-scale colour pencil drawing “Open Form 19”.

The motif alludes to the harrowing experience of the suicide of a loved one. It captures a sunset in north-western Canada, the last before months without sunlight. At the top edge, the artist introduces an alternative depiction of the universe: the theory, supported by a mathematical formula, that the universe could be a hologram. Aigner thus addresses both a physical presence in a real environment and a hypothetical model – two ways that can help people relate to the world.

In the knowledge of the high number of suicides worldwide, in this work Aigner is alluding to those who chose to leave us and paying tribute to those who “are still here in spite of everything”.

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This exploration of light and shadow, of brightness and darkness in the cycle of life also appears in Carlo Innocenzo Carlone's frescoes. These reflect the recurring alternation of day and night. Light is personified by Apollo as the leader of the muses and has positive connotations as it illuminates and outshines vices and drives them away.

Open Form

Uli Aigner's work in the Carlone Hall is based on a colour pencil drawing from the series "Open Form" that she has been working on since 2013. These are large-scale depictions of open, vase-like shapes. Aigner's monumental vessels represent her scope of action as an artist in the twenty-first century. Her pictorial motifs reveal the perspectives, wishes, and ideas of individuals in addition to values, ideologies, and visions of social development.

One Million

Porcelain endures through the centuries and thus becomes a storage medium and "political material" that tells of social production conditions over the passage of time. By contrast, Uli Aigner's art project aspiring to create one million vessels before the end of her life, highlights the finite nature of existence. Each vessel from the series "One Million" is a unique piece that is signed and numbered, its own journey traceable on the website www.einemillionporzellan.com. The artist is interested in the multiple possibilities of creation, communication and contacts that can emerge through sharing. In her eyes the recurring motif of the vessel is a cultural code that is globally understood and used by every society in different forms.

Curator: Stella Rollig

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ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Uli Aigner

Uli Aigner was born in 1965 in Austria. Following her pottery apprenticeship diploma she studied product design under Matteo Thun at the University of Applied Arts in Vienna (graduating with distinction in 1990) and postgraduate Digital Image Design at the Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg. After producing numerous artworks in the media of video, performance and installation, in the mid-1990s she turned to large-scale colour pencil drawings. Since 2014, she has been creating porcelain objects for the series "One Million". Her art has been shown at renowned international museums, institutions and galleries. Her visiting professorship at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich (2001–2003) added yet another focus to her work, resulting in a five-year curatorship at Lothringer 13 – Gallery of Contemporary Art of the City of Munich. In 2011, Uli Aigner moved with her family to Berlin and has since channelled her energies into her artistic work.

Solo exhibitions

- 2020 / One Million, NÖ Dokumentationszentrum für moderne Kunst, St. Pölten
- 2019 / One Million – Item 2361 – Monumental Porcelain Vessel, Belvedere Museum Vienna
- 2019 / One Million, Galerie Smolka Contemporary, Vienna
- 2019 / One Million World Performance, 100 Jahre Bauhaus – Eröffnungsfestival, Berlin
- 2018 / Zwei Wochen, Wir Zeigen, Atelierhaus der Akademie der bildenden Künste, Vienna
- 2017 / One Million @ AKOHO – A Kitchen of Her Own, Shari Pierce, Sebastian, Florida, USA
- 2017 / One Million @ Kienzle Art Foundation, Jubiläums-Dinner, Berlin
- 2017 / One Million, edition presentation, Salon für Kunstbuch – Belvedere 21, Vienna
- 2017 / One Million-Offene Form, Katholische Akademie, St. Thomas von Aquin, Berlin
- 2017 / One Million, Showcase, Walther König Buchhandlung im Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin
- 2016 / The First Nine Hundred, Sonntag, Adrian Schiesser, April Gertler, Berlin
- 2015 / Gemacht! Done!, Revolver Publishing, Berlin
- 2015 / Open Shape/One Million, Gallery Elisabeth Zeigt, Vienna
- 2014-15 / Open Shape 36, Artbox, MQ – MuseumsQuartier Vienna
- 2011 / Portraits, Gallery von maltzahn fine arts, Munich
- 2010 / The Inquisitive Museum, Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz

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2008 / Chain Reaction, Gallery von maltzahn fine arts, Munich
2007 / Loveship, Haydee Rovirosa Gallery, New York City
2006 / ghostAkademie, Kunstverein Innsbruck
2005 / ghostAkademie, 11 video lectures & room installation, Rathausgalerie Munich
2004-05 / Nucleus of the State, Drawings & Installation, Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz
2003 / bekommen with Christian Hutzinger, Halle Bernsteiner, Vienna
2001 / enemy contact, Austrian Cultural Forum London
2001 / welldone, Kunstverein, Schwäbisch Hall, Germany
2001-02 / A Visit to Freud's..., Freud Museum, London
2000 / I like it more beautiful, Gallery Art&IDEA, New York City
1999 / welldone, Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig 20er Haus, Vienna
1999 / welldone, Part 2, Wiener Festwochen & Mumok, Stiftung Ludwig, Vienna
1999 / Jeden Tag steh ich auf und zieh mich an, Dia Show, Medienwerkstatt, Vienna
1998 / washing basket, curatorial space Heidi Zuckerman correct, New York City
1998 / Anni und Sepp, Galerie Grita Insam, Vienna
1997 / overqualified, full rotation & wood, with Linda Herritt, Gallery Art&Idea, Mexico City
1996 / Figure in Landscape, Austrian Cultural Forum London
1996 / Landschaft + later, with Christina Mackie, Galerie Grita Insam, Vienna
1995 / Metanoia, MAK - Austrian Museum of Applied Arts / Contemporary Art, Vienna
1995 / Im Wäschekorb, Neue Galerie, Graz
1994 / insane, Gallery Grita Insam, Vienna
1993 / I say, ..., Exhibition Space Art Acker, Berlin
1993 / bin zuhause, Gallery Fotohof, Salzburg
1992 / Fiktives Zimmer, Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart
1989 / Sexshop Fenster, Raum Christof Bochdanský, Vienna
1987 / Zum Beispiel - Uli Aigner, Gallery Kunstformen Jetzt, Salzburg

Group exhibitions (selection)

2019 / original bauhaus, Berlinische Galerie, Berlin
2019 / Familienbilder, Dom Museum, Vienna
2019 / Some Threads and Traces, Gallery Photon, Ljubljana
2018 / Women.Now, Austrian Cultural Forum, New York
2017 / 7th Int'l Exhibition of Traditional Fine Arts, Shanghai Art Collection Museum

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2016 / Bodily Skills Gartenversion, Secret Garden, Berlin
2016 / Fünfzig Zigarren für das Licht der Zukunft, Kunst im Schloss Untergröningen
2016 / The Next Big Thing is Not a Thing, Bureau Europa, Platform Architecture and Design, Maastricht, The Netherlands
2015 / Animal Friends, RSTR4, Munich
2015 / Nahe Ferne, Landesmuseum Niederösterreich, St. Pölten, Austria
2015 / Rabenmütter – Zwischen Kraft und Krise: Mütterbilder von 1900 bis heute, Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz
2015 / Imago Mundi – Luciano Benetton Collection – Map of the New Art, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venezia, Italy
2015 / Vienna for Art's Sake!, Belvedere, Winterpalais, Vienna
2014 / Harmonie 18, One Gallery, Vienna
2012 / Röcke tragen, Museum der Moderne Salzburg
2011 / Zeichnung und Fotografie II, Parlament Vienna
2011 / The (Secret) Return of Noever, Ace Museum, Wilshire & La Brea, Los Angeles
2010 / You Never Know What Will Happen Next, Kunstmuseum Lentos Linz
2010 / Passwords – Cycle 8, Centro Cultural Montehermoso Kulturunea, Spain
2009 / girlsgirlsgirls, Steinle Contemporary, Munich
2009 / Over the Bridge We Go, Gallery Meyer Kainer, Vienna
2009 / Love Me Tender, MOVIMENTOS, Kunstverein Wolfsburg, Germany
2008 / RADAR loves... Wollen und Vorstellen, Gallery Ben Kaufmann, Munich
2007 / Vistazo, Museo de Arte Carrillo Gil, Mexico City
2007 / Gabriele Münter Preis, Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin
2007 / Große Malerei, Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz
2007 / Weibliche Vorlieben, Pasinger Fabrik, Munich
2006 / A.C.A.D.E.M.Y, Museum van Hedendaagse Kunst Antwerpen
2006 / ghostAkademie, The Latvian National Museum of Art, Riga, Latvia
2006 / Gezeichnet, Niederösterreichisches Landesmuseum, St. Pölten
2006 / Everyday, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg
2006 / Keimzelle des Staates & ghostAkademie, Art & IDEA at Art Miami, USA
2005 / Vision einer Sammlung, Museum der Moderne Salzburg
2005 / Akademie. Kunst lehren und lernen, Kunstverein Hamburg
2004 / Flexibilität, Kunstverein Wolfsburg, Germany

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2004 / Portrait, Die Bank, Munich
2004 / Eigensinn und Eigensicht, Selbstporträts von Wiener Künstlern, Kulturforum, Prague City Hall & Brno, Czech Republic
2003 / Dancing Pixels, Videoedition Austria/Release 01, Austrian Cultural Forum, New York
2003 / Mimosen-Rosen-Herbstzeitlosen. KünstlerInnen. Positionen 1945 bis heute.
Kunsthalle Krems
2002 / mons veneris: female geographies, Austrian Cultural Forum London
2002 / Never alone again, La Panaderia, Mexico City
2001 / Reise ins Ich, Sammlung Essl, Klosterneuburg
2001 / Figur/Gegenfigur, Rupertinum, Salzburg
2001 / Transgression, Künstlerhaus, Vienna
2000 / Paul & Aigner, Kunstbüro, Vienna
2000 / Rupertinum Fotopreis, Rupertinum, Salzburg
2000 / there is something you should know, EVN Sammlung, Schloss Belvedere, Vienna
2000 / 19 Räume, Bregenzer Kunstverein, Bregenz
2000 / Milch von ultrablauem Strom, Kunsthalle Krems
1999 / Das Jahrhundert der Frauen, Kunstforum Bank Austria, Vienna
1999 / FunktionsSystemMensch, Kunstmuseum Bochum, Germany
1999 / happy pinata, suicide pinata, ICA, Institute of Contemporary Art, London
1999 / Österreichische Fotografie, Macao, China
1999 / Uli Aigner/Gernot Wieland, Station 3, Vienna
1998 / sincerely yours, Sofia Municipal Gallery of Art, Bulgaria
1998 / multi-nationals, BMOCA, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, Colorado, USA
1998 / Das Jahrhundert der künstlerischen Freiheit, Secession, Vienna
1998 / Freeze Frame, Gallery Dauyon, Miami, USA
1998 / auswahl/umkehren, Galerie Mezzanin, Vienna
1998 / Arttown, bei Alex Viscio, Brooklyn, New York City
1998 / Austrian Spotlight, Centre A. Borschette, Brussels
1997 / Ich ist ein Anderer. Körper – Identität – Gesellschaft, Kulturhaus der Stadt Graz, Steirischer Herbst
1997 / Schauplatz Museumsquartier. Zur Transformation eines Ortes, Kunsthalle Wien
1997 / 3 Wege zum See, Künstlerhaus Klagenfurt
1996 / Der UMBAU Raum, Künstlerhaus Stuttgart

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1996 / Künstlerhouse, Künstlerhaus Passage, Vienna
1996 / Lifesize, N.A.M.E. Gallery, Chicago
1996 / 6th International Biennial, Cairo, Egypt
1995 / Hotel Mama, Kunstraum Wien, MuseumsQuartier Vienna
1995 / Tope del Arte, Gallery Art&Idea, Mexico City
1995 / Kunstbetrieb-what am I doing here?, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg
1993 / The ebb tide shell gathering, Gallery Hell, Martigny, Switzerland
1991 / WRO, Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw, Poland
1991 / Big Motion, Wiener Festwochen, Vienna

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Exhibition Title	Carlone Contemporary. Uli Aigner
Exhibition Duration	12 April to 3 November, 2019
Venue	Upper Belvedere
Exhibits	1
Curator	Stella Rollig
Contact	Belvedere, Prinz Eugen-Straße 27, 1030 Vienna T +43 1 795 57-0 www.belvedere.at
Guided Tours	T + 43 1 795 57-134 M public@belvedere.at
Opening Hours	Daily 10am to 6pm Friday 10am to 9pm
Regular Entry	€ 15,- (Upper Belvedere)
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