

THE CYNTHIA CORBETT GALLERY

15 CLAREMONT LODGE, 15 THE DOWNS
WIMBLEDON LONDON SW20 8UA

CHRISTINA BENZ

Christina Benz, born in 1972 in Zurich, studied Fine Art in London from 2000-2004 and completed a BA (Honours) at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design. In 2010 she completed her Master's degree in Fine Arts at Zurich University of the Arts. Benz's work has been selected for solo shows at several international art fairs including ARCO, Artissima (Nomination for the illy Prize, 2005) and VOLTA NY presented by The Cynthia Corbett Gallery. Her video installations have been exhibited in galleries in Zurich, London, Barcelona and Brussels. In 2010/11 her work featured at the Centre for International Light Art in Unna, Germany. Her latest video, 'Why I never became a painter', 2017, has been shortlisted for the Loop Discover Award 2017. Christina Benz lives and works in Zurich.

Christina Benz' works are visual comments on today's society. Previous works deal with the fragility of being and contain minimal scenarios with dark but humorous undertones. Many of the protagonists are constrained in prolonged repetitive situations, however undeterred, they continually strive to change their situation. Her most recent works focus specifically on media culture. Benz touches upon issues of identity linked to consumerism, branding and self promotion. The artist offers a playfully clever criticism on the diktat of the meritocracy.

EDUCATION

2008-10 Master of Arts in Fine Arts, Zurich University of the Arts, Zurich

2001-04 Bachelor of Arts with First Class Honours in Fine Art, Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, University of the Arts, London

2000-01 Foundation Studies in Art and Design, Chelsea College of Art and Design, London

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2012 Christina Benz – hurry up, man!, kabinet visarte, Zurich

2007 Christina Benz – liquid, the trafalgar hotel, London with corbettPROJECTS, London

2004 Christina Benz – pending, Galerie Plattformelf, Zurich

2004 there is always hope and hit and miss, Window Gallery Charing Cross Rd, London

SOLO POSITIONS

2011 Volta NY, New York, Solo Position with The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London

2010 Volta 6, Lightbox, Basel, Solo Position with The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London

2008 Form – Video Project, London, with The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London

2007 LOOP, The Video Art Festival '06, Barcelona, with Galeria dels Àngels, Barcelona

2006 LOOP, The Video Art Festival '06, Barcelona, with Galeria dels Àngels, Barcelona

2005 Artissima 12, Present Future, Turin, with The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London (Nomination for the illy prize)

AAF Contemporary Art Fair London, Photo2005, London with corbettPROJECTS, London

LOOP, The Video Art Festival '05, Barcelona, with Galeria dels Àngels, Barcelona

Arco '05, Project Room, Madrid with The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London

The London Art Fair, Art Projects, London, with The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2016 Voegele Kultur Zentrum, 'Wir scheitern... Und wie weiter?', Pfaeffikon SZ

2015 Imago Mundi Helvetia, Luciano Benetton Collection, Fondazione Cini, Venice

Pulse Play, 'The Future' video showcase curated by Billy Zhao, New York

2014 Al desnudo. Colección Ordóñez Falcón de Fotografía. TEA Tenerife, Centro de Fotografía, Tenerife

SONS Museum, Kruishoutem, Belgium ('there is always hope' in Dauerausstellung)

10 Year Anniversary Exhibition, The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London

2013 Young Masters Figures in Art, London

2012 Young Masters Art Prize, Sphinx Fine Art Gallery and 27 Cork Street Gallery, London

Temporary Community - Christina Benz, Françoise Caraco and Karoline Schreiber, Sihlquai55, Zurich (Room stipend and Exhibition)

Slick12 Brussels, Project Space Ghost of a Dream & Christina Benz, with The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London

2011 SIZE:matters Large Scale European Photography, Art Sensus, London

Art at the Top' at Ronnette Riley Architect, New York, presented by The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London

Winter Exhibition, The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London

2010 Light 21 - HC Berg, Brigitte Kowanz, Christina Benz, Centre for International Light Art, Unna

MFA 2010, Shedhalle, Zurich, MFA Degree Show, Zurich University of the Arts

Okolje Consulting Art Collection, Celje, Gallery of Contemporary Art Celje

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- 2009 Elisabeth Steinschneider presents..., Kunstmuseum Bern
- 2008 Red Dot, London/New Yorkwith The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London
- 2007 Bridge Art Fair, Delayed Dreams, London, The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London
Berliner Liste, Germany, The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London
Summer Exhibition, The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London
The London Art Fair, London, with The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London
- 2006 Bridge Art Fair, Miami with corbettPROJECTS, London
Show off Paris, with Augustin Dufrasne Gallery, Brussels
Antifreeze, Stockwell Studios, with the Cynthia Corbett Gallery, London
Milgilounge Video Gallery, Cardiff
- 2005 FoKus Switzerland, KBB Kùltür Büro Barcelona, Barcelona
AAF Contemporary Art Fair, Video Room, New York City, with The Cynthia Corbett Gallery
Diva Paris, Digital and Video Art Fair, Paris with Augustin Dufrasne Gallery, Brussels
- 2004 Christina Benz and Charles-Daniel Schreiber, Augustin Dufrasne Gallery, Brussels
Future Map Visual Arts '04, The Arts Gallery, London
Kontorhaus, Valentinskamp 34, Hamburg
Twisted Vine, London
Central Saint Martins Degree Show, London
- 2003 XHIBIT 03, London Institute Gallery, London

SCREENINGS

- 2014 La Bienal de la Imagen en Movimiento, 'Section Contemporaries' curated by Antoni Pinent, Buenos Aires
- 2012 LUFF does Tokyo, Lausanne Underground Film&Music Festival, 10th anniversary special edition, Tokyo
Mobile Territorien, Royal Baden
- 2011 Traverse Vidéo at Musée des Abattoirs, Toulouse
Artprojx, SVA Theatre, New York
- 2010 NIFF, Neuchâtel; Tour in Kiev Media Art Lab, Ukraine, Czech Film Center, Prague, Strasbourg International Film Festival
- 2009 Solothurn Film Festival
San Gio Filmfestival, Verona
- 2008 Videoex, Zurich
Festival Regard sur le court métrage au Saguenay, Québec
Canadian Sport Film Festival, Toronto
- 2007 Amiens International Film Festival, Amiens
Biennale de l'Image en Mouvement, Genf (with Videoex, Zurich)
International Film Festival Locarno ('Le cinéma suisse de demain', Swiss Films/BAK)
CFC Worldwide Short Film Festival, Toronto
Cinéma Oblò, 'Chorégraphies pour un écran', Lausanne
Videoex, Zurich
Kino Pavasaris, Vilnius International Film Festival, Lithuania
International Film Festival Rotterdam
Solothurn Film Festival
- 2006 International Kortfilmfestival Leuven
LUFF Lausanne Underground Film and Music Festival, Lausanne
Nova, Landmark Century Cinemas, Chicago
- 2005 58° International Film Festival, Locarno
PS3 Film Event at Culturesalon Aoyama, Tokyo
- 2004 Shortnight at Darklight Film Festival, Dublin
Shortnight at Space-twotentwo, London and 291 Gallery, London
- 2002 Film Screenings at 291 Gallery, London

NOMINATIONS

- 2017 Nomination for the Loop Discover Award 2017, Barcelona
- 2012 Nomination for the Young Masters Art Prize, London
- 2005 Nomination for the illy prize, Artissima 12, Present Future, Turin

DVD-COMPILATIONS

Shorts! Vol. 5, Film Festival Collection, 2010

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swiss shorts_16, Swiss Films, 2008
Le cinéma suisse de demain, Swiss Films/BAK, 2007
swiss shorts_12, Swiss Films, 2006

PUBLICATIONS / PRESS

Wenn die Flügel erlahmen, Luzerner Zeitung und Obwaldner Zeitung 18.12.2016
Wer zulange liegen bleibt, wird weggefegt, Zürichsee-Zeitung, S. 2, 18.11.2016
Scheitern (aber richtig), Kulurplatz, 30.11.2016
Vögele Kultur Zentrum Pfäffikon, Kreativer Umgang mit dem Thema Scheitern, arttv.ch, 2016
Imago Mundi Helvetia. Contemporary Artists from Switzerland, Luciano Benetton Collection, Catalogue, p. 444-445, 2015
Al desnudo. Colección Ordóñez Falcón de Fotografía. TEA Tenerife Espacio de las Artes, Catalogue, 2014
Einstürzende Landschaften, Kurzfilm der Woche, Tages-Anzeiger Online, 14.11.2014
Einstürzende Landschaften, Kurzfilm der Woche, Der Bund Online, 14.11.2014
El cortometraje: el arte de narrar, emocionar y significar, by Annemarie Meier, book p. 43, p. 48-51, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Unidad Xochimilco, México, 2013
Kurzfilm der Woche: Scheitern, bis der Pflug kommt, Tages-Anzeiger, 1.11.2013
Young Masters Art Prize 2012, Catalogue p. 4-6, 2012
Temporäre Gemeinschaft - Christina Benz, Françoise Caraco und Karoline Schreiber, Prologue and Text by Irene Grillo, 2012
LUFF does Tokyo, Radio Interview with luff.fm, Tokyo, 2.5.2012
Christina Benz - artist on the fast lane, by Rana Good, Société Perrier Online Magazine, Edition Global, 4 July 2011
Volta NY, Christina Benz/The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, Exhibition Leaflet, 2011
Licht 21 - HC Berg, Brigitte Kowanz, Christina Benz, Exhibition Leaflet, Text by Dr. Ursula Sinnreich, 2011
More! - Lichtkunst vom Feinsten!, Kunstraum Münster, p. 62, Jan-March 2010
Lichtkunst hautnah, Hellweger Anzeiger, p. 20, 15 April 2011
Lichtkunst aus erster Hand, Hellweger Anzeiger, p. 18, 9 April 2011
Lichtkünstlerin Christina Benz in Unna, Westfälische Rundschau, 9 April 2011
Licht lockt nicht nur Motten an, Stadtspiegel Unna, 31 March 2011
„Licht 21“ leuchtet länger, Hellweger Anzeiger, 29 March 2011
Leuchtend den Raum erobern, Ruhrnachrichten, 4 December 2010
Neues Kunstlicht in der Unterwelt, Westfälische Rundschau, 3 December 2010
Das Treffen der Lichtgestalten, Westfälische Rundschau, 3 December 2010
Kunstelite begierig auf Unnas leuchtenden Keller, Hellweger Anzeiger, 3 December 2010
Das Auge blitzt, Soester Anzeiger, 3 December 2010
Kunstraum Münster, cover + p. 52/53, April-June 2010
Faszinierende leuchtende Kunst zum Anfassen, Hellweger Anzeiger, 19 November 2010
Okolje Consulting Art Collection, Okolje, Catalogue, 2010
MFA Degree Show ZHdK, Catalogue, p. 12 - 15, 2010
Elisabeth Steinscheider presents..., Kunstmuseum Bern, Exhibition Leaflet, p. 1, 2009
Fiktive Mäzenin im Kunstlabor, Der Bund, 3.7.2009, p. 31
Junge Zürcher in Bern, Tages-Anzeiger, 3.7.2009, p. 46
Insignifianges humaines face à la nature, by Christian Gattinoni, lacritique.org, Revue Art Contemporain, 19.10.2006
Artissima 12, Present Future, Christina Benz/The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, Catalogue, 2005
Arco, Christina Benz/The Cynthia Corbett Gallery, Catalogue, p. 512-513, 2005
Video Art at AAF, The Affordable Art Fair, art-takes, Issue 2, Spring Collection 2005
Arco special: A retrospective, Arco '05, 30 April 2005
Video Nice: OPINION, Galleries Magazine. April 2005
Antennae, London Art Fair, Galleries Magazine, January 2005
News – Auction Report: London Art Fair, pluk, January/February 2005
Temps suspendu, PARDO NEWS, 58th Festival International Du Film Locarno, 8 August 2005
Der Ungewissheit ausgeliefert, Schweizer Illustrierte, Nr. 45, 1 November 2004
Plattformelf: Christina Benz – pending, Kunsttermine, Nr. 4/2004

COLLECTIONS

Fundación Centro Ordóñez/Falcon, San Sebastián, Spain, SONS Museum, Kruishoutem, Belgium, Mark Vanmoerkerke, Oostende, Belgium, Charles-Antoine Bodson, Brussels, Belgium, Frédéric de Goldschmidt, Brussels, Belgium, Pierre & Nounouche Elkiner, Brussels, Belgium, Okolje Consulting d.o.o, Celje, Slovenia, WMG Limited, Photography Foundation, London