



Quintland, the human zoo

The objectification of exposed human bodies and the theatrical practice of personalizing objects



Presentation

by

Sofie Neu

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Sofie Neu studied art history and literary studies in Berlin and Vienna, and she is active in independent projects in figure, object and participatory theater as well as audio plays and currently working as dramaturg at the puppet theater in Magdeburg, Germany. In this talk, Neu describes a recent work: Two puppeteers tell the story(s) of five supposedly identical girls, using a photo album, miniature worlds made of cardboard and Plexiglas, various cardboard figures, a cardboard mask and baby dolls. The ever-present publicity, the girls are subjected to, is made palpable not only by the presence of the audience itself, but by a live camera. It gives an overview of historical exhibition practices of human bodies, especially in North America and Germany in the 20th century, such as genre shows, world fairs, freak and side shows in amusement parks as well as theme parks like "Quintland".

This is part of a morning of fascinating talks from artists and scholars. To register for this and other April events, please go to <https://sites.bu.edu/womenandmasks/events/schedule-for-april-weekend/>. Please visit <https://sites.bu.edu/womenandmasks/> for more information about the conference.

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