

**LINE BOOGAERTS – PEANUTS IN A MEMORY**

26 May – 07 July 2018

Line Boogaerts mainly focuses on temporary, site-specific drawings, often on windows, in her artistic project. Windows function as canvases for her temporary paintings. She attempts to blur the boundary between inside and outside, between private and public. Using brushes, wipers and other cleaning equipment she applies a mixture of black pigmented oil and soap. Then she wipes parts away and adds paint, thereby achieving dynamic tableaus. She presents her work as performance art, film, video animation and installation.

The drawing on the window creates blind spots. Some parts become opaque and hide views of what lies behind, while the transparent spots in the drawing enable the landscape or interior in the background to continue to play a role. The drawings alter the perspective and offer different views of the inside. They focus on parts of reality and lay certain accents. Sometimes you can see broad outlines more clearly after blurring them. A window offers insight and outlook. The drawings symbolise hindrances to looking.

For the work *Peanuts in a Memory*, Line Boogaerts departs from a few slides from the family archive depicting holiday scenes. Even though she wasn't born when the photos were taken, she adopts them by using them in her art. She maps small memories (peanuts), sort of like a memento mori, and gives them a meaning that they didn't originally possess. By using them in her work, she adds herself to the event and becomes part of the memory.

Photos and slides capture memories, but they also falsify them because as time passes the image replaces the memory. By drawing holiday images on a glass plate, Line Boogaerts actively summons the memories. Every artistic deed implies a decision and therefore a 'colouring'. It's the artist who initially chooses to retain the image. By submerging the glass plate in water afterwards, the drawing disappears and the image becomes faint. The water gradually absorbs the paint and holds onto the memory.

**Line Boogaerts** (b. 1986, Leuven) studied graphic design and multimedia design at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts (KASK) in Ghent, where she graduated in 2010 with a Master's degree in multimedia design. At the end of 2012 she was a laureate of the Higher Institute of Fine Arts (HISK) in Ghent. She currently lives and works in Mechelen, where she also teaches at the Academy for Visual Arts. Solo exhibitions (a selection): A fogged lens, art on paper, BOZAR, 2015; A Flickering Light, Traffic #01, Antwerp, 2014; Instalraam, Croxhapox, Ghent, 2013. Her work was also displayed at the following group exhibitions (a selection): International Film Festival Rotterdam, 2017; Klare Verhältnisse, Thomas Kuhn, FZKKE, Euskirchen, 2016; Chambres d'O, Ostend, 2016; The City Performed, Triennial Bruges, 2015; Open M, Museum M, Leuven, 2015; Meanwhile...the city Gdansk-Ghent, 2015; Cuesta 14, Tielt, 2014.

**Koen Leemans** (b. 1972, Leuven) studied modern history at the KU Leuven. He has worked for Cultuurcentrum Mechelen since 1998 and became the Director in 2001. As Coordinator and Curator he is also responsible for exhibitions at the Cultuurcentrum and De Garage, a space for contemporary visual art. He also works sporadically as a freelance exhibition organiser and visiting lecturer.