

MAGDALENA KITA
OFFICE HOUR



CJG CHARLIE JAMES GALLERY
CHINATOWN, LOS ANGELES

969 CHUNG KING ROAD LOS ANGELES CA 90012
www.cjamesgallery.com 213.687.0844
info@cjamesgallery.com WED-SAT 12-6

MAGDALENA KITA

OFFICE HOUR

Charlie James Gallery is proud to present Magdalena Kita in her first solo show at the gallery. Office Hour features Californication, Kita's latest multimedia project, consisting of a large collection of beach towels, drawings, performances, and a series of television commercials now in production.

Using a broad formal language inspired by Byzantine icons, Nineties-era Eastern European drug culture, the psychedelic-revolutionary aesthetics of the Seventies, minimalism, and art brut, the towels and drawings function as Trojan horses for a wide range of subtle, complex, and quietly rebellious erotic motives. Kita continually experiments with methods of display to activate the towels' objective purpose, having young sunbathers parade them at the seaside or down the main street of a small town, as well as using them in gallery contexts and as part of performances in art institutions.

The explicit imagery is mostly a trap for viewers accustomed to stereotypical representations of the female body. Kita intends for her work to continually infect new contexts like a virus, playfully manipulating identity, autobiography and historical truth to influence her audience.

Kita is currently working with advertising professionals to film a series of 15-second

commercials for Californication, which borrow retail advertising's language and formal style while subverting the art industry's own promotional methods. In these videos, the erotic towels are displayed in everyday relationship situations, such as a young family enjoying a visit to the beach.

A conceptual catalogue of the Californication works, supported by eleven essays commissioned from cultural experts, authors, and men with whom Kita has had a prior relationship, will be released by Snoeck Publishing later this year.

Magdalena Kita (born 1983, Debica, Poland) is based in Cologne, Germany. She studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków, and the Kunsthochschule Kassel, completing her diploma with Rita McBride at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf. She co-founded the Congress, a semi-fictional international womens' organization and sustained live-art project, which dissolved in 2012. This year, Kita made solo presentations at Bruce Haines Mayfair, London and Prince of Wales, Munich following 2015's Californication, a performance at the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, parallel to Rita McBride's exhibition 'Public Tilt'. Her group exhibitions include Egyptian Art and Antiques, Los Angeles; Adler, Düsseldorf; Venus & Apoll, Düsseldorf; Kunstmuseum Bochum; Museum Abteiberg, Mönchengladbach; and Kunstmuseum Solingen.

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Californication
(Woman on the
toilet)
Marker Ink on
Paper
32 x 18 inches
81.28 x 45.72 cm
Framed
2015



Californication
(Woman in a shower
/ ape)
Marker Ink on Paper
32 x 18 inches
81.28 x 45.72 cm
Framed
2015



MAGDALENA KITA
OFFICE HOUR

Californication
(Two women in
sauna)
Marker Ink on
Paper
32 x 18 inches
81.28 x 45.72 cm
Framed
2015

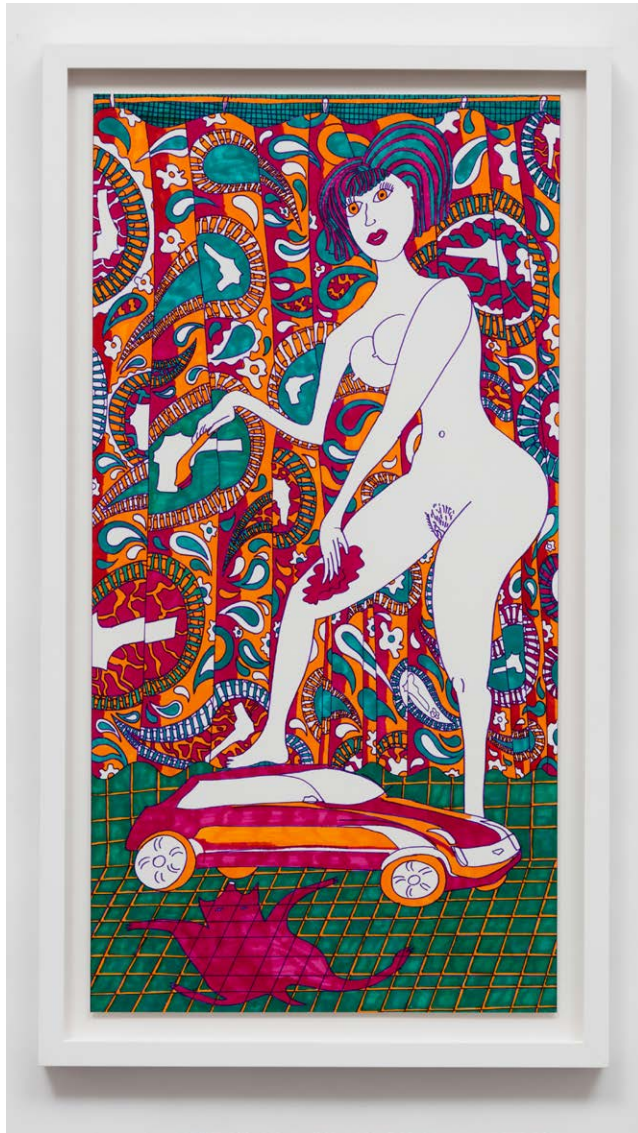


Californication
(Woman/Dog/Cock)
Marker Ink on
Paper
32 x 18 inches
81.28 x 45.72 cm
Framed
2015



MAGDALENA KITA
OFFICE HOUR

Californication
(Woman/Cadillac)
Marker Ink on
Paper
32 x 18 inches
81.28 x 45.72 cm
Framed
2015



Californication
(Two Women/Art
Collector)
Marker Ink on
Paper
32 x 18 inches
81.28 x 45.72 cm
Framed
2015



MAGDALENA KITA
OFFICE HOUR

Californication
(Woman in Shower)
Marker Ink on
Paper
32 x 18 inches
81.28 x 45.72 cm
Framed
2016



Californication
(Woman and Man)
Marker Ink on
Paper
32 x 18 inches
81.28 x 45.72 cm
Framed
2015



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Californication
(Woman Shaving Legs)
Marker Ink on Paper
27 x 15 inches
68.58 x 38.1 cm
Framed
2015

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Californication
(Apples/Woman/Dog)
Marker Ink on Paper
18.5 x 32.25 inches
47 x 82 cm
Framed
2016

MAGDALENA KITA
OFFICE HOUR



Californication
(Woman/Gun/Toilet)
Marker Ink on Paper
18 x 32.25 inches
45.72 x 82 cm
Framed
2016

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Californication
(Happy Lovers)
Marker Ink on Paper
15.25 x 27 inches
38.73 x 68.58 cm
Framed
2015

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Californication
(Muscle Beach
Yellow Sand)
Marker Ink on
Paper
25.25 x 16.25
inches
64.14 x 41.28 cm
Framed
2015



Californication
(Muscle Beach
Purple Sand)
Marker Ink on
Paper
25.25 x 16.25
inches
64.14 x 41.28 cm
Framed
2015



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OFFICE HOUR



California Furs (Red & Blue)
Marker Ink on Paper
25 x 19.5 inches
63.5 x 49.5 cm
Framed
2014



California Furs (Paisley Woman)
Marker Ink on Paper
25 x 19.5 inches
63.5 x 49.5 cm
Framed
2014

MAGDALENA KITA
OFFICE HOUR



California Furs (Cocoanuts)
Marker Ink on Paper
25 x 19.5 inches
63.5 x 49.5 cm
Framed
2014



California Furs (Happy Lovers on a Towel)
Marker Ink on Paper
25 x 19.5 inches
63.5 x 49.5 cm
Framed
2014

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California Furs (Pink Lady)
Marker Ink on Paper
25 x 19.5 inches
63.5 x 49.5 cm
Framed
2014



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Californication
(Story board Beach)
Archival pigment print
Edition of 3
30 x 26 inches
76.2 x 66 cm
Unframed
2016

MAGDALENA KITA
OFFICE HOUR



Californication
(Story board Forest)
Archival pigment print
Edition of 3
30 x 26 inches
76.2 x 66 cm
Unframed
2016

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Californication (Woman/Gun/Toilet)
Acrylic on canvas
36 x 72 inches
91.44 x 182.8 cm
2016

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Max Maslansky
Stairy Eyes
Collaged magazine pages, adhesive,
drafting film, acrylic on wood panel
18 x 12 inches
45.7 x 30.48 cm
2016

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Californication (Self-Portrait M Kita)
Marker Ink on Paper
24 x 17 inches
61 x 43 cm
unframed
2015



I'm M-pire (Two Girls - Sweaters)
Marker Ink on Paper
12 x 11.5 inches
30.5 x 29.2 cm
unframed
2013

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OFFICE HOUR



I'm M-pire (2 girls blue)
Marker Ink on Paper
11.75 x 12 inches
29.8 x 30.5 cm
unframed
2014



Untitled (Venice)
11.5 x 8.25 inches
29.2 x 20.9 cm
unframed

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OFFICE HOUR



I'm M-pire (condom)
Marker Ink on Paper
11.5 x 11.75 inches
29.2 x 29.8 cm
unframed
2014



Untitled (ginger girl)
Marker ink on paper
8 x 11.75 inches
20.3 x 29.8 cm
unframed
2016

MAGDALENA KITA
OFFICE HOUR



Blue Horse (magenta)
Marker Ink on Paper
8.25 x 11.5 inches
21 x 29.2 cm
unframed
2013



Blue Horse (couple)
Marker Ink on Paper
8.5 x 11.5 inches
21.6 x 29.2 cm
unframed
2014

MAGDALENA KITA
OFFICE HOUR



Californication (Aquatic Scene)
Marker Ink on Paper
9 x 12 inches
22.86 x 30.48 cm
unframed
2011



Blue Horse (Woman & Snail)
Marker Ink on Paper
8.5 x 11.5 inches
21.59 x 29.2 cm
unframed
2013

MAGDALENA KITA
OFFICE HOUR



I'm M-pire (asshole)
Marker Ink on Paper
11.5 x 11.75 inches
29.2 x 29.8 cm
unframed
2014



Blue Horse (Film und Kontext)
Marker Ink on Paper
8.25 x 11.5 inches
21 x 29.2 cm
unframed
2014

MAGDALENA KITA
OFFICE HOUR



Blue Horse (Couple)
Marker Ink on Paper
8.25 x 11.5 inches
21 x 29.2 cm
unframed
2015



Blue Horse (Orgy)
Marker Ink on Paper
8.25 x 11.5 inches
21 x 29.2 cm
unframed
2013

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OFFICE HOUR

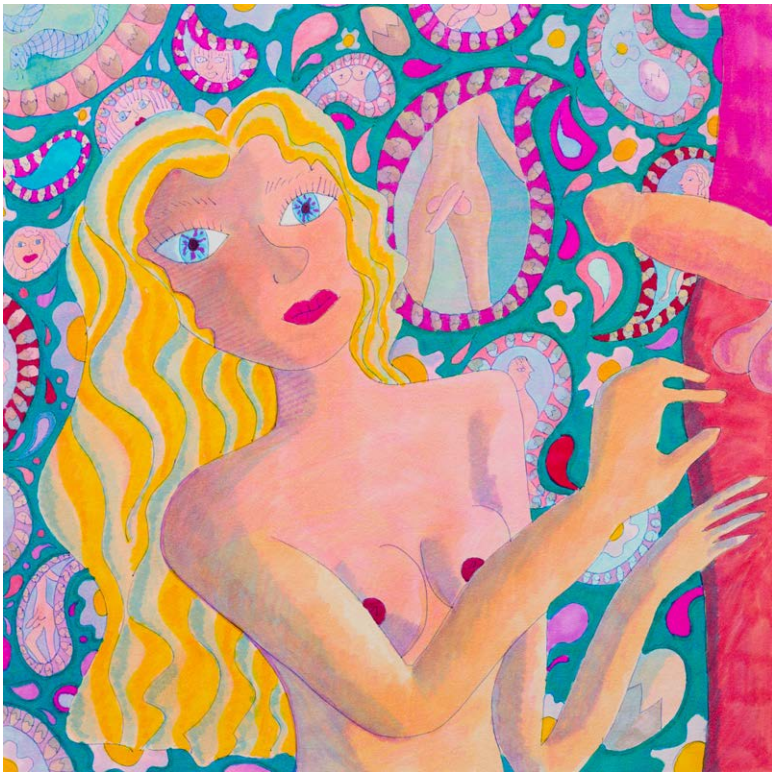


Californication
(Woman & Dog)
Marker Ink on Paper
8.5 x 11.5 inches
21.59 x 29.2 cm
unframed
2015



Blue Horse (Fellatio)
Marker Ink on Paper
8.25 x 11.5 inches
21 x 29.2 cm
unframed
2013

MAGDALENA KITA
OFFICE HOUR



I'm M-pire (Woman/Penis)
Marker Ink on Paper
12 x 12 inches
30.5 x 30.5 cm
unframed
2014



I'm M-pire (Paisley Room with Couple)
Marker Ink on Paper
12 x 12 inches
30.5 x 30.5 cm
unframed
2013

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I'm M-pire (Daydream)
Marker Ink on Paper
12 x 11.5 inches
30.5 x 29.2 cm
unframed
2013

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Californication (Mermaids)
Marker Ink on paper
13.75 x 26.75 in
35 x 68 cm
Framed

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Californication (Teal Paisley)
Marker Ink on paper
18 x 32.25 inches
45.7 x 82 cm
Framed

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Californication (Happy
Couple Pink)
Marker Ink on paper
17.25 x 32.25 inches
44 x 82 cm
Framed

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Californication (Blue Self
Portrait M Kita)
Marker Ink on paper
14.25 x 20.25 inches
36.2 x 51.4 cm
Framed

MAGDALENA KITA

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1983 Debica, Poland
Lives and works in Cologne DE

2010 Diploma, Kunstakademie Düsseldorf,
Meisterschülerin of Prof. Rita McBride
2008-10 Rita McBride class, Kunstakademie Düsseldorf
2008 Tal R class, Kunstakademie Düsseldorf
2006-08 Herbert Brandl class, Kunstakademie Düsseldorf
2006-12 Collaboration with Congress
2006 Co-founder of Congress, a female artists' group
2006-10 Studies at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf
2005-06 Studies at the Kunsthochschule Kassel, Socrates
Erasmus
2003-05 Studies painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in
Kraków

PRIZES AND GRANTS

2016 Project funding, Kunststiftung NRW
2015 Project funding, Kunststiftung NRW
2014 Los Angeles travel grant, NRW State Ministry for Culture
2010 Nam June Paik Newcomer Award
2010 RölfsPartner Artist Scholarship
2005 Socrates Erasmus Grant

SOLO / DUAL EXHIBITIONS AND PERFORMANCES

2016 Office Hour, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles US
Fucking on Business, Prince of Wales, Munich DE
Bruce Haines Mayfair (formerly Ancient and Modern),
London UK
2015 Californication, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, US
2014 Parental Advisory Explicit Content, KARAT, Cologne DE
I`m M-pire, Magdalena Kita & Theresa Reusch, KARAT,
Cologne DE
In Heaven Everything Is Fine, Jagla Ausstellungsraum,
Cologne DE
2013 Germaniastraße (w/ Riccardo Paratore), Düsseldorf DE
2011 Kulturabend, Bischoff Projects, Frankfurt am Main DE

GROUP EXHIBITIONS AND PERFORMANCES

2016 Ein Stärker Ort, H SR, Düsseldorf DE
2015 Tiny Masters, Egyptian Art and Antiques, Los Angeles US

COFA Contemporary, Jagla Ausstellungsraum, Cologne DE
The ancient and modern doom of the eagle, Bruce Haines
Mayfair / Adler, Düsseldorf DE
Californication, Konteksty 5 / In Situ, Sokolowsko PL
The Price of Wisdom is Above Rubies, Ebertplatz,
Cologne DE
ego trinity, Calwer Passage / Temporary Concept Mall,
Stuttgart DE
2014 Männer und Frauen, Jagla Ausstellungsraum, Cologne DE
Urban Heros, Ihsan Alisan Projects, Hagen DE
Nose Art (after Post-intellectualism), Köln DE
Deconstructing Dysfunktion, Studio for Artistic
Research, Düsseldorf DE
Pleasures, Mega-Gay-World, Cologne DE
2013 TAUSEND, Sechzigstraße 13a, Cologne DE
Body Light, Venus & Apoll (Julia Stoschek Foundation),
Düsseldorf DE
Finca La Roseta, Ihsan Alisan Projects, Hagen DE
Stelldichein, Kirschenpflücker at Bruch & Dallas,
Cologne DE
2012 Nam June Paik Award, Kunstmuseum Bochum, Bochum DE
W1111, Transmission, Düsseldorf DE
Herzlich Gefickt! Congress verabschiedet sich von der
aktiven Phase, Museum Abteiberg, Mönchengladbach DE
2011 The Postcard, Rosenberg Gallery, New York US
SingleMuseum, Kunstraum, Düsseldorf DE
Scheiße, Single Club, Düsseldorf DE
Sunbeam in the Glasshouse, 701 e.V, Düsseldorf DE
Plastische Positionen im Jetzt, Galerie Warhus
Rittershaus, Cologne DE
Rölfspartner Kunsttag, KIT / Kunst im Tunnel, Düsseldorf
DE
2010 SMOG Performance Festival, Centrum Kultury, Katowice PL
BERLIN, Galerie Warhus Rittershaus, Berlin DE
Hardcore Intellectual, Plan 10, Chelsea Hotel, Cologne
DE
Congress illuminates, B1 / A40, MAP / Markus Ambach
Projekte, DE
Bergische Kunstaussstellung, Museum Baden / Solingen DE
Orphée aux enfers, Künstlerverein Malkasten,
Düsseldorf DE
Morality in Europe today, KIT / Kunst im Tunnel,
Düsseldorf DE
Wrong, KIT / Kunst im Tunnel, Düsseldorf DE

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2009 Armela Show, Kunsthaus Erfurt, Erfurt DE
Wir sehen uns morgen wieder, Forum Freies Theater,
Düsseldorf DE
Rites de Passage, Schunck Glas Palais, Heerlen NL
Zwei Kerzen leuchten, Zeche Zollverein, Essen DE

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Catalogue - Californication, 2016 (forthcoming), with texts
from: Anna Czerlitzki, Gia Edzgeradze, Agnieszka Gracza,
Tytus Klepacz, Thomas W. Kuhn, Matthew Licht,
Elena Malzew, JL Murtaugh, Marina Pinsky with Alex Wissel, and
Noemi Smolik

Licht, Matthew; 'Fur-0-Glyphs', Bruce Haines Mayfair, London UK,
2016 Review

Kuhn, Thomas W. 'Magdalena Kita's Californication', 2014

Mir, Emmanuel. Review, 'Porn in the City', Perisphere, 22 March
2014,

Könches, Barbara. Interview, Nam June Paik Award, Kunstmuseum
Bochum, 2012

Shapiro, Alan N. Review, 'Morality in Europe Today', Blog, 5
February 2011

Catalogue, 'Sunbeam in the Glasshouse', 2011

Sonna, Birgit. 'Art Plus: Extraheft zur Quadriennale Düssel-
dorf', 2010

Peters, Gertrud. 64. Bergische Kunstausstellung, Museum Baden /
Solingen Gräfrath, 2010

Catalogue. Wrong, KIT - Kunst im Tunnel, 2010

Ter Haar, Lene. Schunck / Rites de Passage, Heerlen, 2009

Bosetti, Annette. Rheinische Post, 23 August 2007