

Scott Holmquist
DEALER POSES:
Photographed and Remembered

IG Bildende Kunst, Vienna
March 24 – 30 2019
Curated by Philipp Muras-Krasznahorkai
Vernissage: Saturday March 23, 17:30 – 21:00 H

“What compels me is how responses to the public drug dealer crystallize fears, temptations, and desires, and at the same time embody shifting limits of control and solidarity in hidden and repressed struggles” – says artist Scott Holmquist.

The drug dealer in Europe and much of the rest of the world is among the most conspicuous and enduring folk-devils. Always a contested figure with few allies, the dealer is portrayed in public discourse as at once vulgar and mythic. These are central themes in Holmquist’s new solo exhibition, “DEALER POSES: Photographed and Remembered” at **IG Bildende Kunst**, Vienna.

In Vienna five works are presented considering these issues from different perspectives:

The steel sculpture "Dealer I" (2017), featuring the hometown and migration route of a Berlin park dealer from Welingara, The Gambia, greets gallery visitors near the entry. The two-meter, humanlike silhouette with glass-cased chest was originally part of Holmquist’s "Other Homelands" exhibition at Berlin’s Kreuzberg Museum.

"Dealers Pose" (2019) is a series of twenty framed and matted photo-collages composed from press photographs on public dealing in Germany between 1999 and 2018.

"Stockdealer" (2019) is a nineteen-part photo assembly made from a stock image of a group of black men in a Berlin park, first used in 2016 to illustrate press accounts on Holmquist’s intervention proposing a monument to park drug dealers.

The four-part photo series "Imago-Stockdealer" (2019) re-presents and renames the original stock images behind the "Stockdealer" series as they are offered by the Imago stock-image service under the key-words: "Violence", "Drugs", "Crime", "Dealer", "Görlitzer Park" and "Wiener Straße".

The bronze and oak sculpture "Last Hero" (2018), a future memorial to park dealers commemorating 21st century civil disobedience, is composed from digital scans of Hans Kies 1960 sculpture "Roter Matrose", an insurgent sailor of the November Revolution of 1918, and the purported first modern European portrait of an African individual, the 1758 statue "Bust of a Man" by the British sculptor Francis Harwood. "Last Hero" realizes the proposal that provoked the media storm most frequently illustrated by the Imago stock images used in the "Stockdealer" assembly.

“A monument against monuments, erected before the subject is dead or fading into history characterizes the artistic strategy of Scott Holmquist in a subtle, but at the same time forceful manner. With all the works presented here he gives us the chance to widen our horizons when thinking and remembering one of the historically most misrepresented figures of society”, argues curator Philipp Muras-Krasznahorkai.

Three new artist books by Holmquist in English and German, *DEALER: New Homeland*; *DEALER: Travel Portal*; and *DEALER: Poses from the Other Homelands Press Collection 1994 – 2018*, will also be presented at “DEALER POSES” in Vienna, offered in a signed and limited edition.

These books are made with work done for the exhibition *Other Homelands: Origins and Migration Routes of Berlin Park Drug Sellers*, by Scott Holmquist, open November 2017 to January 2019 at the Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg Museum, Berlin.

The books and all works in DEALER POSES are produced from Holmquist's research on recent histories of successful civil disobedience and rebellion.

The works in DEALER POSES encourage discussion of its subjects' many themes, particularly as expressed in wider art practices.

Scott Holmquist is a US-American artist based in Berlin since 2011.

Contact: Philipp Muras-Krasznahorkai | phi.muras@gmail.com

More info:

<http://andereheimaten.website/>

<http://scottholmquist.com/>