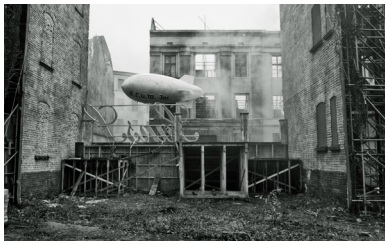


Avant-Garde and Apocalypse: Film and Photography by Julian Rosefeldt

Curator: Heinz Peter Schwerfel

MAY 11–JUNE 13, 2018 | OPENING MAY 11, 6:00 PM

DIRIMART NIŞANTAŞI AND DIRIMART DOLAPDERE



Julian Rosefeldt

Deep Gold

2013–14

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Dirimart is pleased to announce Julian Rosefeldt's first solo exhibition in Turkey. For his first extensive presentation in Istanbul, Dirimart opens both galleries, in Nişantaşı and Dolapdere, to the films and photographs of Berlin-based artist Julian Rosefeldt, who has been celebrated worldwide for his film installation *Manifesto* (2015), a reenactment of historical avant-garde manifestos by artist groups such as the Dadaists, the Situationists, and Futurists, featuring Australian actress Cate Blanchett in thirteen different roles. In his films and photographs, Rosefeldt creates a highly aesthetic universe, with explicit formal references to the history of cinema and painting, but at the same time dealing with important social and political subjects such as totalitarianism, ecology, homeland, and migration, all treated in an ongoing playful dialogue with pop culture.

In his meditative installation *In the Land of Drought* (43', 2015–17), shown on a large screen in Dirimart Dolapdere, Rosefeldt looks back from an imagined future upon the post-Anthropocene: the aftermath of significant human influence on Earth. An army of scientists appears to conduct archaeological investigations at the remnants of civilization after humanity has made itself extinct. Shot entirely using a drone in Morocco, and the Ruhr area of Germany, Rosefeldt's images hover meditatively over desolated landscapes and ruins—abandoned film sets close to the Moroccan Atlas Mountains and the remains of industrialization. Completely different in form and rhythm from the linear film version of *Manifesto*, also presented in Dolapdere together with a series of photo works, *In the Land of Drought* evokes—without any dialogue—a vision of a future exodus of humanity from our devastated planet.

Playing with the black-and-white esthetic of silent movies, *Deep Gold* (18', 2013–14) is shot in a film studio, with complicated camera movements and a sophisticated dramatic choreography. Conceived as a possible continuation of the legendary film *L'Age d'Or* (1930) written by Salvador Dalí and Luis Buñuel, it is a visual poem, a surrealist trip back to the Berlin of the wild 1920s, characterized by artistic avant-garde, sexual freedom and political apocalypse. Nine photographic prints of the film stills accompany the film installation at Dirimart Nişantaşı.



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JULIAN ROSEFELDT (b. 1965, Munich) studied architecture in Munich and Barcelona before starting his artistic career with found-footage video installations such as *Detonation Deutschland* (1996), edited together with fellow artist Piero Steinle. His first film installation *Asylum* (2001–2) illustrates stereotypes in German society about immigrants. Dirimart presented a short version of *Asylum* in 2011 as a part of a series of artist films screened in the Garibaldi Building in Beyoğlu, Istanbul. Rosefeldt became wider known with his *Trilogy of Failure* (2004–5), a series of film installations addressing our vain entanglement with everyday rituals. *The Ship of Fools* (2007) is a skeptical epitaph on German sensitivities and on the still problematic dealing with German identity. *American Night* (2009) reflects upon the Western film genre by combining “the myth of the frontier” with allusions to today’s hegemonic foreign policy in the USA. Rosefeldt’s works are in many important museum and private collections all over the world including the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the National Gallery in Berlin, and the Art Gallery of New South Wales in Sydney. Since 2011, he holds a professorship for digital and time-based media at the Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Munich. He lives and works in Berlin.

HEINZ PETER SCHWERFEL (b. 1954, Cologne) is a filmmaker and art critic. He has been writing for *ART-Das Kunstmagazin*, *Lettre International*, and *ZEIT* among others. He published books on artists such as Georg Baselitz, Jannis Kounellis, Markus Lüpertz, and essay books such as *Scandals in Art*, *Art after Ground Zero*, and *Cinema and Art*—a comprehensive overlook about the relationship between contemporary art and Hollywood, also translated to Turkish. His films on Georg Baselitz, Rebecca Horn, Bruce Nauman, Alex Katz, and Christian Boltanski have been shown in retrospectives all over the world, to name few. He has recently finished a series on new forms of art and exhibitions called *Live Art*, conceived together with Hans Ulrich Obrist, featuring artists such as Marina Abramovic, Joan Jonas, Philippe Parreno, Tino Sehgal, Adrian Villar Rojas, among others. Schwerfel is the founder and artistic director of the Munich KINO DER KUNST festival, focusing on fictional films of artists. In Istanbul, he has curated several shows for Dirimart, such as group exhibition *Surface and Beyond* and solo exhibition of Nuri Bilge Ceylan, Shirin Neshat, and JesperJust. Schwerfel lives in Paris and Cologne.

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info@dirimart.com
dirimart.com

DIRİMART NİŞANTAŞI
Abdi İpekçi Caddesi 7/4
34367 Nişantaşı İstanbul
+90 212 291 34 34

DIRİMART DOLAPDERE
Irmak Caddesi 1-9
34440 Dolapdere İstanbul
+90 212 232 66 66