

# What is outside? Art in the underground between Hönow and Tierpark, 2014-2015

## Wer war Albert Norden? | Who was Albert Norden?

From May 1st 2015, installation by Ina Wudtke at the Underground Station Kaulsdorf-Nord 22nd May – 4th July 2015, group exhibition at *station urbaner kulturen* 

### Opening of the group exhibition curated by Ina Wudtke:

Thursday 21st May 2015, at 6 p.m. Participating artists:
Katja Eydel, Doris Frohnapfel, Thomas Kilpper, Knowbotiq (Yvonne Wilhelm & Christian Huebler), Claudia Reinhardt, Maruša Sagadin, Spamkits (Stephan Dillemuth & Philipp Sajnovits & Ashley Lamm & Martin Bogisch & Karolin Meunier & Iris Rupp & Tobias Langer & Sophia Köhler), Ina Wudtke, Julia Bonn & Joel Vogel & Johanna Wölfing, Florian Wüst

station urbaner kulturen Cecilienplatz 5, 12619 Berlin Thu, Fr and Sa 3-7 p.m. (Tel: 0173 2009608) info@kunst-im-untergrund.de www.kunst-im-untergrund.de

From 1984 to 1992 the Kaulsdorf-Nord Underground Station was named "Albert-Norden-Straße". Likewise, Cecilienstraße² was named after Albert Norden during this period. Who was Albert Norden? Why did the name of a jewish journalist and committed antifascist have to be exchanged with the name of an aristocrat from Mecklenburg who supported the NSDAP?

Political change always conditions the renaming of streets and places. In Berlin's city center boroughs many of us remember after the many post-Wende discussions. Less known are the politically motiated renamings in Berlin's periphery, on the outside of town where they apparently encountered little or less resistance. "Who was Albert Norden?" will seeks to broach the issue of this "outside". 22 years after the renaming the artist and curator Ina Wudtke in cooperation with the artists she has invited will to lead a discussion about whether it was right to delete Albert Norden's name from the collective memory.

Dates:

**Thursday, 28th May 2015** at 8 p.m. (in German): Screening programme by Florian Wüst

#### **Thursday, 4th June, 2015** at 8 p.m. (in English):

Lecture von Mihnea Mircan (director Extra City Kunsthal, Antwerpen), moderation: Dieter Lesage (Director RITS, School of Arts, Brussels),

#### Thursday 11th June, 2015 at 8 p.m. (in German):

artists talk with Thomas Kilpper, Katja Eydel, Julia Bonn & Joel Vogel & Johanna Wölfing, Ina Wudtke; Moderation: Dieter Lesage

<sup>1</sup>Albert Norden: son of the rabbi Joseph Norden, was an engaged journalist for several communist newspapers during the Weimarer republic. He had to emigrate after the Nazis came to power. Out of exile he worked for the resistance against the Nazis and worked on the *Braunbuch* – *Über Reichstagsbrand und Hitlerterror*, the documentation, analysis an exposure of the fire at the parlament in Berlin (the Reichstag). After his return from emigration he found out about the assasination of his father at the concentration camp Theresienstadt. In the GDR he worked politically in the KPD and the SED. In 1965 Norden published another "Braunbuch": *Kriegs- und Naziverbrecher in der Bundesrepublik (war and Nazi crimminals in the Federal Republic of Germany*). It contained names of over 1.800 Nazis and war crimminals (in a 3rd edition over 2.300 names) in West German leading positions. He was able to prove his findings using SA, SS, NSDAP dossirs which were held in the Russian sector.

<sup>2</sup> Cecilie zu Mecklenburg: daughter of the grand duke Friedrich Franz III. von Mecklenburg-Schwerin. She married the crown prince Friedrich Wilhelm, the oldest son of the last German emperor Wilhelm II in June 1905. After World War I she became the patron of the Bund Königin Luise, a national and monarchistic womens' organisation that was one of the first womens' organisations that openly supported the NSDAP and a reinstallment of previous borders and promoted a restitution of the former colonies as well as antisemitic ideas.

The art project "Was ist draußen?" deals with questions of social urban development, contexts citywide and the theme of being "outside". Ten artists projects will be realised in and around stations on the U5 line Tierpark and Hönow in Berlin. The **station urbaner kulturen** near Kaulsdorf-Nord underground station is aplace for production, an address and a meeting point.

With artists projects by: Roland Boden, Susanne v. Bülow & Ruppe Koselleck, Andreas Maria Fohr, Ulrike Gärtner & Carsten Ludwig, Christina M. Heinen, AG Hellersdorfer Illustrierte, Mari Keski-Korsu, Petra Spielhagen and Mirko Winkel and Ina Wudtke.

nGbK-Projectgroup Art in the Underground: Jochen Becker, Eva Hertzsch, Uwe Jonas, Folke Köbberling, Andromachi Marinou-Strohm, Dejan Markovic, Adam Page, Birgit Schlieps.

The project is financed by the Mayor of Berlin, Office of the Senate – Cultural Affairs, Art in Public Space. With friendly support of: BVG, Wall AG, Berliner Fenster and Die Draußenwerber. In cooperation with Gallery M.

#### Press photo

Street sign Albert-Norden-Straße, Berlin ca. 1984-1992, Blech,iron sheet, laquered; aluminium foil, 17,4 x 82 cm, © Jüdisches Museum Berlin /Jewish Museum Berlin.

Photo: Jens Ziehe

For further infomration and photo material in print resolution

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#### Participating artists:

**Katja Eydel** (\*1969) lives in Berlin. In her photographs and film works she focuses on social constructions and their effects on the practical life of the individual. Eydel exams social and institutional conventions in the working environment, in architecture and the urban space, in political contexts and clothing.

**Stephan Dillemuth** (\*1954) lives in Bad Wiessee and teaches at the Academy of Fine Art Munich. Reflecting on the role of the artist for today's changing modern public, his work questions how self organisation, personal and collective integrity can be established in our current society of control.

**Doris Frohnapfel** (\* 1959) lives in Cologne. She studied fine art and architecture. From 1998-2005 she was a professor for photography at the Academy of Bergen, Norway. Departing from the photographical, pictures, texts and materials – researched, excavated and picked up – are the devices and documents of her artistic process of visualisation. Her works locate themselves on the edge of photographic documentation, detecting sediments of history and seeking to construct constellations.

**Thomas Kilpper** (\*1956) lives in Berlin and teaches at the Academy of Bergen, Norway. Kilpper develops site and situation specific projects operating mostly with sculptural and print methods. Through portraits of diverse protagonists, Klipper points to the responsibility and social competence of each individual. He often works directly with the materials of the exhibition space in situ.

**Knowbotiq** (Yvonne Wilhelm (\*1962) & Christian Huebler (\*1962)) live and teach in Zurich. The team has been experimenting in long-term projects with urbanity, the mediality of knowledge and public affairs. While earlier works concentrated on media and internet specific questions, in more recent works or "test cases", they reinforce singular moments of translation in real spaces. Currently they negotiate with performative characters the post digital in urban, cognitive and historic landscapes.

**Claudia Reinhardt** (\*1964) lives as free artist in Berlin und Oslo. She studied in Hamburg at the Academy of Fine Art and was associate professor at the Academy of Bergen, Norway from 2000-2012. Reinhardt's concern with images of femininity and gender is expressed mainly in photographs, short videos and texts.

Maruša Sagadin (\*1978) lives in Vienna. She has been teaching at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna in the department for Performative Arts and Sculpture since 2011. Her work revolves around investigations of sign systems and their formal language, taken from architecture as well as pop and subcultural sources. Questions regarding the legibility and cross-reading of these systems, as well as the associated notions of arbitrariness or freedom, continuously resurface in new forms throughout her work, sometimes as installation, sometimes as performative intervention or text-based collage.

Spamkits (Stephan Dillemuth (\*1954), Philipp Sajnovits (\*1988), Ashley Lamm (\*1994), Martin Bogisch (\*1988), Karolin Meunier (\*1975), Iris Rupp (\*1987), Tobias Langer (\*1994) and Sophia Köhler (\*1996)) live in Munich and the surrounding areas. They work together at the Academy of Fine Art Munich. "Norden, Albert" from 2015 is an independent documentation / comedy by SPAMKITS who also appear in the film. "Norden, Albert" was nominated as "culturally historic and aesthetically important" for the "Albert Norden" price. The film, made with a budget of 200 Euros, was filmed at original locations in Berlin Kaulsdorf-Nord and was premiered in a curious shopfront on Cecilienplatz. Although "Norden, Albert" was denied wide spread distribution, it has become a cult film.

**Ina Wudtke** (\*1968) lives in Berlin. Her work questions hegemonic political and social discourse and tries to strengthen – or even redefine – subaltern counter-discourse on the topics of gender, identity, work, sound, city and housing. She has curated numerous thematic exhibitions at Kunstraum Niederösterreich, Vienna; Dansens Hus, Stockholm; Beursschouwburg, Brussels and other places.

The artists **Julia Bonn** (\*1975) and **Joel Vogel** (\*1977) live in Berlin, **Johanna Wölfing** (\*1982) in Hamburg, they work together and solo on radio shows and audio pieces. Together they share an interest in political and historical themes which they partially also translate into projects of visual education and collective learning for kids.

**Florian Wüst** (\*1970) lives in Berlin. As an artist and film curator he investigates the history of social, economic, and technical progress in the modern age. In 2011 he co-initiated "Haben und Brauchen", a political platform for action and discussion by protagonists from the visual art field.