



NOR HEAT NOR GLOOM OF NIGHT



NOR HEAT NOR GLOOM OF NIGHT ties the various themes surrounding the post office as both topos and place between private and public domain to pressing questions concerning transgression, censorship, and migration. Transcontinental and international train-, truck-, ship-, and air mail carrier routes such as contemporary digital systems connect through love letters, political activism, obituaries, bills, governmental notifications, complaints, and 'correspondence art.' But these networks and nervous systems imply as well disconnection, staying on hold, undeliverability, and blanks of various kinds.

While the show's title is partly inspired by the United States Postal Service creed, the exhibition's display is influenced by the urban planner Otto Wagner. The year 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of his death. One of the architecturally most outstanding postal offices of the 20th Century is the Austrian Postal Savings Bank (Österreichische Postsparkasse) in Vienna, in which Wagner followed the ideals of Secession—a progressive group of artists, architects, and designers who favored collaborative models of creation over individual authorship to create a Gesamtkunstwerk: the 'total work of art.'

Following this train of thought, a cubicle equal to the dimensions of the cash element of the Postal Savings Bank, is translated into the Bendix Building in Los Angeles (in which the gallery is situated). It frames the artistic contributions to investigate the post office in a case-study. The notion of the total work of art, which is due to transformation, asks for re-imagination: medial and structural architectures such as transitory hauntings of the mailing system, analog and virtually, are addressed within this artistic and curatorial Austrian/US-American exchange project by Arno Böhrer & Susanne Valerie Gränzer, Danica Phelps, DIE DAMEN, Elke Silvia Krystufek, Joseph Dunbacher John Dumbacher, Kelly Ann Gardener, Manuel Carreon Lopez, Michael Niemetz, and Nina Sarnelle & Sara Drake.

Curated by Johanna Braun & Lisa Stuckey

DIE DAMEN, 4D, postage stamp, 1989. Courtesy of the artists and Estate Birgit Jürgenssen.



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May 26 - June 17, 2018

Tiger Strikes Asteroid Los Angeles
The Bendix Building
1206 Maple Avenue, 5th floor, #523
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Hours: Sat and Sun 12pm - 5pm
and by appointment