



## Meta Isæus-Berlin - Press Folder

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Tue-Fri 10 a.m.-6.30 p.m.  
Sat 11 a.m.-6 p.m.  
and by appointment



## **Meta Isæus-Berlin – Moon Dreams**

**08/09-10/11/2011**

On Wednesday, September 7th, 2011 from 6 pm to 8 pm the Baukunst Galerie will be opening the exhibition entitled *Moon Dreams* with Swedish artist Meta Isæus-Berlin. Her most current oil paintings and pencil drawings deal with Arcadien landscapes.

Meta Isæus-Berlin paints banal and everyday objects such as: plants, ornaments and landscapes. Her works deal with emotions including loneliness, fear, lust, desire and sensual pleasure.

She is an attentive observer of her direct surroundings; among others she examines the lives of her adolescent daughters. She is bringing her thoughts and emotions onto the canvas. In her previous compositions she broached the issue of interiors. In her most current colour intensive and figurative pieces - partly melt into abstract landscapes and fauna- she instills those deserted landscapes with an emotional life, which is mostly hidden from other people.

The diversity of themes in Meta Isæus-Berlin's pieces, is reflected in her choice of titles. Her previous paintings can be seen as enlivened rooms which transform over the years into enlivened landscapes. In this exhibition the Italian renaissance garden as well as the ideal Arcadien landscapes are sources of inspiration.

Visualizing the soul is one of Meta Isæus-Berlin's favourite subjects. Her compositions seem to be surreal and the borders between reality and dream, between unconsciousness and consciousness become blurry. The beholder will be taken into a world filled with Arcadien myths and with the artist's own symbolic language. Fore- and background start to merge (e.g. *Mating Call*) and through several narrative levels the spatial feelings disappear and a feeling of discomfort is evoked. Through the systematic use of colour and her symbolic language, Meta Isæus-Berlin achieves atmospheres which include a psychological dimension.

In *The Vision Comes in a Dream* we see a girl whose inner life is presented on a table with a white table cloth. In the background the mountainous landscape recurs on the table - dream and reality are not to be kept apart from one another. For Meta Isæus-Berlin's paintings and installations water is of great importance; it appears in a multilayered and intense blue. The blue water can be metaphorically considered, the soul. The mountains and the sky are blue as well and they can be interpreted as the lostness of the girl in the wide world of emotions.

Stalagmite and stalagmite appear in expressive colours, and the space in *The Cave* dissolves. In the middle of the painting water is simultaneously dropping down from the top to the bottom and ascent spectral. The unseizable upward movement gives the painting a dynamic, unreal and dreamy effect. The artist achieves this effect not only through a watery way the colour is applied but also through her detailed way of painting. *Undercurrent* for example is her first piece where she combines ink and oil paint on the canvas at the same time.

Her virtuosic brush handling and many years of experience with oil paint and solvent gives her the skill to create a remarkable atmosphere in her paintings.

Meta Isæus-Berlin was born 1963 in Stockholm and studied applied arts and design from 1984 to 1986. Afterwards she continued her studies at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts from 1986 to 1993. Her work was already presented world-wide in international exhibitions – among others at the biennial art festivals in Venice, Istanbul, Johannesburg and Melbourne as well as at museums in Breda (NL), Thessaloniki, Helsinki, Copenhagen, Madrid and Barcelona. Since 2005 the work of the Swedish artist is present at art fairs like Art Basel, Art Basel Miami Beach and the Armory Show in New York.



## BIOGRAPHY

- 1963        born in Stockholm, Sweden
- 1986-93     Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Stockholm
- 1984-86     Konstfack, University College of Arts Crafts and Design, Stockholm
- 1984        Handarbetets Vänner, Stockholm
- 1981-83     Pernby Målarskola, Stockholm
- 1980-81     Konstskolum, Stockholm

lives and works in Stockholm

## SOLO-EXHIBITIONS

- 2011        “The Mating call and its aftershock“, Olle Nymans Ateljé, Saltsjö-Duvnäs (S)
- 2010        “The waiting Maria“, Katarina Church, Stockholm  
“Reminicenser“, Galleri Andersson/Sandström, Stockholm  
“Orfeus“, Galleri Andersson/Sandström, Umeå (S)  
“Små och stora historier“, Vargåkra gård, Hammenhög (S)
- 2009        “Inside out, Outside in“, Baukunst Galerie, Cologne
- 2008        “Imprinting and Filtering“, Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Stockholm
- 2007        “The Rehearsal“, Baukunst Galerie, Cologne
- 2006        “Fickla vrårna“, Liljevalchs konsthall, Stockholm
- 2004        “På Glid“, Jönköpings konstmuseum, Jönköping (S)
- 2003        “Två Parallella Nu“, Olle Olsson-huset, Solna (S)
- 2001        “Vad minnet väljer“, Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Stockholm  
“Vad jag minns att jag minns“, Sveriges Allmänna Konstförening, Stockholm
- 1996        „Nothing in exchange“, Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Stockholm
- 1993        Galleri Mejan, Stockholm



## GROUP-EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2010 "Lumière du Nord. Edvard Munch, Emil Nolde, Meta Isæus-Berlin",  
Galerie Sophie Scheidecker, Paris  
"It's a set-up", Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma/Finnish National  
Gallery, Helsinki
- 2009 "Coeur de Femme", Galerie Sophie Scheidecker, Paris  
"Önskekunst", Länsmuseumet Gävleborg, Gävle (S)  
"Art Copenhagen", Galleri Andersson/Sandström, Copenhagen  
"Amory Show", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, New York  
"Art Basel", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Basel
- 2008 "Highlights", Uppsala Konstmuseum, Uppsala (S)  
"Art Basel", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Basel  
"Amory Show", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, New York
- 2007 "Art Basel Miami Beach", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Miami  
"Art Basel", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Basel  
"Amory Show", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, New York
- 2006 "Drömdiken", Skissernas Museum, Arkiv för Dekorativ Konst, Lund (S)  
"Art Basel Miami Beach", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Miami  
"Art Basel", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Basel  
"Amory Show", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, New York
- 2005 "Art Basel", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Basel  
"Armory Show", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, New York
- 2004 "Art Athina", Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Athens  
"Multiplex" (curated by Viveca Lindenstrand), Skulpturens Hus, Stockholm
- 2003 "Samlingarna – Samtidsonsten i fokus", Dunkers Kulturhus, Helsingborg (S)  
"©EUROPE EXISTS" (curated by Rosa Martínez & Harald Szeemann),  
Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki (GR)
- 2002 "Skönhetens Metamorfoser" (curated by Magnus Jensner), Dunkers  
Kulturhus, Helsingborg (S)  
"Rum", Norrköpings Konstmuseum, Norrköping (S)  
"Home Again. Works by Contemporary Swedish Artists" (curated by Anette  
Østerby), Arken Museum for Moderne Kunst, Ishøj (DK)
- 2001 "Bo01 – Framtidsstaden: Europeisk bomässa och utställning", The National  
Public Art Council Sweden, Malmö (S)
- 2000 "The Flying Moose - konst och design" (curated by Heli Haapasalo),



Konstnärshuset, Stockholm

- 1999 “Signs of Life” (curated by Juliana Engberg), Melbourne International Biennial, Melbourne (AU)  
“Malmö Konstmuseum besöker Magasinet” (curated by Göran Christensen), Wanås, Knislinge (S)  
“Mot en lyckligare mänsklighet” (curated by Richard Julin), Arbetets museum, Norrköping (S)
- 1998 “Skandina Via” (curated by Ulla Lux), Kunstraum Düsseldorf  
“Kiasma Collection”, Kiasma, Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki  
“[UME:SE]” (curated by Sara Sandström Nilsson and Stefan Andersson), Umedalen Skulptur, Umeå (S)
- 1997 “On Life, Beauty, Translations, and Other Difficulties” (curated by Rosa Martinez), 5<sup>th</sup> International Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul  
“God Bless Our Mobile Home” (curated by Lech Karwowski and Magdalena Lewoc), Gallery Amfilada, Szczelin, Gallery Wyspa, Gdansk, Gallery BWA, Slupsk (PL)  
“Deposition - Contemporary Swedish Art In Venice” (curated by Bo Nilsson), Biennale di Venezia, Venice  
“Avesta Art” (curated by Richard Sangwill), Avesta (S)
- 1996 “Se hur det känns!/ See What It Feels Like” (curated by Bo Nilsson, Ulrika Levén and Åsa Nacking), Rooseum, Malmö  
“Shelter” (curated by Chris Driesen), Fundament Foundation, Wolfslaar Park, Breda (NL)  
“Container 96 – Art Across Oceans”, Copenhagen  
“På:Tiden. Ny svensk konst” (curated by Sören Engblom, Jan-erik Lundström and Monica Nieckels), Moderna Museet, Stockholm
- 1995 “Hello”, Andréhn-Schiptjenko, Stockholm  
“La Hora del Norte” (curated by Tuula Arkio, Steinar Giessing, Peter S. Meyer, Bo Nilsson and Bera Nordal), Centro Cultural del Conde Duque, Madrid and Museo Diocesano, Pia Almoina, Barcelona  
“From Jelly to Granite”, Trädgårdsföreningen, Gothenburg  
“Africus: Black Looks White Myths” (curated by Christopher Till), Johannesburg Biennale, Johannesburg (SA)
- 1994 “Det dubbla arvet” (curated by Heli Haapasalo), Hallwylska Museet, Stockholm
- 1993 “Konsthögskolans avgångselever på Waldermarsudde”, Stockholm  
“Åtta avgångselever”, Heland-Wetterling Gallery, Stockholm  
“Invasion”, Millesgården, Stockholm



“Spegling – Nyförvärv från 90-talet/ Acquisitions of the 1990s”,  
Moderna Museet, Stockholm  
“Presens”, Galleri S:t Olof, Norrköping (S)

1992 “Plåtstaden Lugnet”, Moderna Museet, Stockholm

## WORKS IN MUSEUMS AND PUBLIC COLLECTIONS (SELECTION)

Dunker Kulturhus, Helsingborg (S)  
Magasin 3, Stockholm Konsthall  
Malmö Konstmuseum, Malmö (S)  
Moderna Museet, Stockholm  
Kiasma, Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki  
Norrköpings Konstmuseum (S)  
Statens konstråd, Stockholm  
Umedalen Skulptur, Umeå (S)

## FILMS

2004-6 *Bakom Ficklandet. En dokumentär med Meta Isæus-Berlin av Carl Dieker, a documentation with Meta Isæus-Berlin und Carl Dieker, DVD, ed. Liljevalchs konsthall, 2006.*

1993 “Strange” (1989), a film purchased by the Swedish Public Service Television.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

2011 *The Mating call and its aftershock*, Cat.: Olle Nymans Ateljé, Saltsjö-Duvnäs 2011.

2008 *Meta Isæus-Berlin. Imprinting and Filtering*, with a text of Monica **Nieckels**, ed. by Meta **Isæus-Berlin**, Stockholm 2008.

2006 *Meta Isæus-Berlin. Fickla vråna*, Cat.: Liljevalchs konsthall, Liljevalch katalog no. 470, with texts of Niclas **Östlind** and Nina **Weibull**, Värnamo 2006.

2004 **Malmberg**, Estelle af: „Meta Isæus-Berlin“, in: *Svenk konst nu 85 konstnärere födda efter 1960*, Sveriges Allmänna Konstförening årsbok 2004, Värnamo 2004.



- 2002 **Weimarck**, Torsten: "Om 'verklighet' i några arbeten av Meta Isæus-Berlin/ About 'reality' in some works by Meta Isæus-Berlin", in: Konsthistorisk tidskrift/ Journal of Art History, ed. by Department of Art History at Stockholm University and the National Museum of Art (Moderna Museet), Stockholm, no. 71.2002, p. 26-38.
- 2001 *Meta Isæus-Berlin. 7 Installationer 1996-2001*, ed. by Maaretta **Jaukkuri** und Maria **Yassa**, Stockholm 2001.
- 2000 **Allgårdh**, Sophie: *Svensk konst i världen* (Swedish Art in the World), Stockholm 2000.
- 1998 *Annika Eriksson & Meta Isæus-Berlin, Cat.:* Kunstraum Düsseldorf 1998.
- Umedalen skulptur 1998, Cat.:* Umeå 1998.
- Rudling**, Eva: *Svenska konstnärer* (Swedish Artists), Stockholm 1998.
- Engblom**, Sören: *Art in Sweden. Leaving the empty cube. Contemporary Swedish art, Cat.:* Svenska institutet, Stockholm 1998.
- 1997 *Fifth International Istanbul Biennial, Cat.:* Istanbul 1997.
- Avesta Art 97, Cat.:* Avesta 1997.
- Deposition: Contemporary Swedish Art in Venice, Cat.: Biennale di Venezia, Venice 1997.
- 1996 *På:tiden (On:time), Cat.:* Moderna Museet, Stockholm 1996.
- Shelter, Cat.:* Fundament Foundation, Wolfselaar, Breda 1996.
- Container 96: Art Across Oceans, Cat.:* Köpenhamn, Kopenhagen 1996.
- Se hur det känns / See What It Feels Like, Cat.:* Rooseum, Malmö 1996.
- 1995 *Skulptur från gelé till granit (Sculpture from Jelly to Granite), Cat.:* Trädgårdsföreningen, Gothenburg 1995.
- La Hora del Norte, Cat.:* Centro Cultural del Conde Duque,



Madrid und Museo Diocesano, Pia Almoina, Barcelona, ed. by Nordiska ministerrådet/ Nordischer Ministerrat 1995.

*Africus*, Cat.: Johannesburg Biennale, Johannesburg 1995.

*Meta Isæus-Berlin*, ed. by NUNSKU (The Committee for Contemporary Swedish Art Abroad), Stockholm 1995.