

ZENO X GALLERY
Frank Demaegd

ANNE-MIE VAN KERCKHOVEN

'On Mars the Rising Sun is Blue'

22 Oktober – 28 November 2009
wed – sat 14.00 – 18.00hrs or by appointment

Zeno X Gallery | Zeno X Storage

ANTWERPEN – With great joy Zeno X announces the solo exhibition *'On Mars the Rising Sun is Blue'* with new works by Anne-Mie Van Kerckhoven. Simultaneously with the show in Zeno X Gallery at the Leopold De Waelplaats, we present an overview of recent works on paper in Zeno X Storage.

In Zeno X Gallery eight large plexiglass sheets form a complex universum in which AMVK remodeled found pin-ups and texts from a men's magazine into multi-layered images. Each work consists of a sliced computerprint which is printed on both sides of the sheet and on the back side an extra layer was painted with gesso. Through cutouts in the prints the spectator is reflected in a rear mirror, as part of the image. AMVK found inspiration and structure for this new series in "JEM" – "The Magazine for Masterful Man!", a nude magazine that was published in New York in 1958, and that called up men to resist female hegemony. The provoking but easygoing housewives pose in a way that leaves little to imagination. Eight double pages from this magazine were scanned and reworked into compositions with fragmented female bodies, fragments of text, bright colours and abstract shapes. By the use of heavy distortion of the women images, the slicing of the prints and one's own reflection in the work through the mirrors, AMVK gives these persistent JEM images a second life in an intuitive way – as a contemporary mystic.

In Zeno X Storage there are drawings by AMVK on show. These works are being made as a kind of diary with various colours and using different techniques. Delicately constructed spaces are full of fascinating forms and texts with good-natured spheres floating inbetween. Just like the title *'On Mars the Rising Sun is Blue'*, the presence of these spheres in her work refer to the relativity of a point of view, and to the opening of positive energy and creativity that this idea can bring along.

Anne-Mie Van Kerckhoven (°1951, lives and works in Antwerpen) had many others solo exhibitions, notably in Kunsthalle Bern (CH), 'EZFK' and in the M_HKA (BE), 'Nursing Care, in Melancholy Stupor'. A large retrospective exhibition focusing on her drawings 'Nothing More Natural' traveled in the past two years from Kunstmuseum Luzern (CH) to Wiels, Center for Contemporary Art, Brussels (BE), Kunsthalle Nürnberg (DE) and is now for the last time on show in Frac Pays de la Loire, Carquefou (FR) from 6 November 2009 until 3 Januari 2010. She also participated in Manifesta 7 last year in Italy, and since 2007 she cooperates as the central artist in 'Parallelepiped', an investigative and exhibition project between science and art. This initiative of the KULeuven University will be presented at the end of January 2010 in Museum M in Leuven (BE).

AMVK's work is part of the permanent collections of a.o. Kunsthalle Bern, the SMAK in Gent, M_HKA in Antwerpen, Frac Pays de la Loire, Carquefou and many private collections.