



## Fabian KNECHT

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### PRESENTATION

Fabian Knecht is a German performance artist. He was born in 1980 in Magdeburg and now lives and works in Berlin. With his art, he pursues a consistent and uncompromising path, one which causes irritation, which marks an exceptional state in the current of everyday life, and which scratches at societal mindsets. This is expressed in his precisely positioned, temporary actions, which he realises at specific, sometimes historically connoted locations in urban space or in (rural) boundary areas.

The boundaries between White Cube and habitat are dissolved, the museum as a mausoleum is converted into a power plant. Knecht maintains the hope that art is a means to break power and authority, that art can also move outside of conventional boundaries. His art stands in our way, sharpens our senses and combines the imperative assertion of an exclamation mark with the Socratic question mark that places everything in question. Art is his route out into the world, a provocative commentary in defiance of emptiness, nothingness and decadence.

The German titles of his actions arise from of the nominalisation of the verbs describing the respective action with the suffix **\_UNG**. In the process, more important than a futuristic utopia is a liberating Restrukturier**UNG** (restructuring) in the now; Knecht's form of artistic activism doesn't want to make things better (Groys), but instead strives to dissolve the separating contours between the lived in world and the sphere of art, and to inspire contemplation of one's own position and of that which could be normality

Ursula Ströbele

### BIO / BIBLIO

Lives and works in Berlin (Germany)

#### **Education**

##### **2013 - 2014**

Universität der Künste Berlin, Meisterschüler Professor Olafur Eliasson

##### **2012**

Studio Matthew Barney, New York, USA

Ale School of Fine Arts, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

##### **2011**

California Institute of the Arts, Professor Sam Durant

##### **2009 - 2013**

Universität der Künste Berlin, Institut für Raumexperimente Professor Olafur Eliasson

##### **2008 - 2009**

Universität der Künste Berlin

#### **Solo shows**

##### **2017**

*ISOLATION*, alexander levy, Berlin, Germany



*RADITION*, Kunstverein Arnsberg, Germany  
*ZERBRECHUNG*, Zarya Center for Contemporary Art, Vladivostok, Russia

**2015**

*VERNEINUNG*, Galerie Alexander Levy, Berlin, June 2015  
*\_UNG*, Galerie Christophe Gaillard, Paris, 2015

**2013**

*Entfachung*, Museum For Contemporary Art Zagreb, Croatia

**2012**

*ABC (Art Berlin Contemporary)*, Galerie Christophe Gaillard, Berlin

**2011 - 2012**

*Mit dem Herz Voran*, Galerie Christophe Gaillard, Paris

**2011**

*Telling different people different things at different times*, California Institute of the Arts

**2010**

*Die Letzten Grenzen Fallen*, Haus Am Lützowplatz, Berlin  
*Sky Paintings*, Kunstverein Arnsberg

**Group shows - selection**

**2017**

Festival of Future Nows 2017, Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin  
*Age of Terror : Art since 9/11*, IWM, London

**2016**

*LITHOMANIA*, Schaufenster, Berlin, Germany  
5th Moscow International Biennale for Young Art, Trekhgornaya Manufaktura, Moscow, Russia  
*FROM SCIENCE TO FICTION*, Florian Christopher, Verein für Gegenwartskunst, Zurich, Switzerland  
*All Eyes On Me*, Pechersky Gallery, Moscow, Russia  
*Idiopolis, Ed. 2, State of Concepts*, Athens, Greece  
*Terre Des Femmes*, Berlinische Galerie, Berlin, Germany  
*ARCO Madrid*, alexander levy, Madrid, Spain  
*abc - art berlin contemporary*, alexander levy, Berlin, Germany  
*Idiopolis, State of Concept*, Athens, Greece  
*SAMMLUNG SIMONOW*, Kunsthalle Bozen, Italy

**2015**

*GROUP SHOW V*, alexanderlevy, Berlin, 2015  
*CINEMA LADA*, Modern Art Museum, Gebre Kristos Desta center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2015  
*MEISTERSCHÜLERPREIS* der UDK Berlin, Auswahlausstellung, 22. - 25.4.2015  
*SOUNDSCAPES*, Croatian Association of Artists, Zagreb, Croatia, 2015

**2014**

*Screening - Julius von Bismarck | Fabian Knecht | S.T. Paul*, Galerie Alexander Levy, Berlin, 2014 (upcoming)  
*24h Skulptur*, Sexauer Galerie, Berlin, 2014  
*FESTIVAL OF THE FUTURE NOWS*, Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin, 2014  
*BERLIN MASTERS*, Galerie Arndt, Berlin 2014  
*DAS ANDERE WO*, Artists' Visions Of The Far, OFF, Vienna, Austria, 2014  
*ONE PLACE NEXT TO ANOTHER*, Winzavod Center For Contemporary Art, Moscow, Russia (Part of the Moscow Biennale For Young Art), 2014  
*NADA*, New York, 2014  
*SURFACE(S)/ PRISE(S)*, Gallery Christophe Gaillard, Paris, 2014  
*(VER)-HANDLUNGSRÄUME*, Haus am Lützowplatz, Berlin, 2014



ENTFERNUNG, Vitamin Creative Space, Guangzhou, China, 2014

**2013**

*Berlin Masters*, Gallery Arndt, Berlin  
*Public Abstraction, Private Construction*, Kunstverein Arnsberg, Arnsberg  
*Accidental Accomplishment*, Institut für Raumexperimente, Berlin  
*Hasretim*, Visual concept, Dresden Philharmonics, Märzmusik Festival, Philharmonie Berlin  
*Handlungsbereitschaft III*, Motorenhalle, Dresden

**2012**

*Grosses Feld*, Institut für Raumexperimente, Janmeda, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
*Addis Foto Fest*, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
*Raumtrigger*, Im Rahmen des Deutschlandjahres in Rußland 2012/13, Taiga Art Space, St. Petersburg  
*Mythos Berlin*, German Embassy London, London (Publication)  
*Handlungsbereitschaft II*, Kunstsaale Berlin  
*Heiliges Leben*, Rundgang Universität der Künste Berlin  
*Tokyo Wonder Site*, Tokyo  
*Die Große Weltausstellung*, Opening performance Tempelhofer Park, Berlin  
*Glasauge*, Institut für Raumexperimente class exhibition, Berlin

**2011**

*Your Body of Work*, Video Collection Institut für Raumexperiment, Goethe Institut Sao Paulo, Brasilien  
*Berlin 2000-2011*, Poster Project Institut für Raumexperimente, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Japan  
*Urban City Development*, St. Petersburg, Goethe Institut  
*Handlungsbereitschaft*, Berlin  
*Without destination*, Reykjavík Art Museum, Iceland

**2010**

*Art Point*, Donetzk, Ukraine  
*Geist 3*, intervening group exhibition, Berlin  
*Anthology of Optimism*, Berlin  
*Magnet*, Kiev, Ukraine  
*Geist 2*, intervening group exhibition, Berlin  
*Lets start to implement little errors*, Institut für Raumexperimente, Berlin  
*Geist*, intervening group exhibition, Berlin

**2009**

*Kunsttage Avus*, Kooperation mit dem Georg Kolbe Museum Berlin