



JOHANNA DI DIO — A LOVE SUPREME

November 3 - December 8, 2012 | Monday to Sunday round the clock

KMD — KUNSTHALLE MARCEL DUCHAMP

Place d'Armes | Quai de l'Indépendance, Cully, Switzerland | www.akmd.ch - hello@akmd.ch

In the very first solo exhibition of her career, Johanna Di Dio, a young French artist, has installed a pink, glossed-up “bachelor” in the space diagonal of the KMD’s large exhibition room. In this position, the “bachelor” is neither unstable nor weightless but rather condemned to absolute physical immobility. Indeed, the original story of his (the male tenon’s) existence is his marriage with his counterpart (the female mortise), an event that necessitates, at all events, mobility. And it would also seem that he had prepared himself passionately for that very moment, for his appearance is, to say the least, extremely striking. His features are decidedly aristocratic, smooth, flat and as shiny as a lubricant gel. This splendid, truly lonesome individual (the tenon) has in his role of exhibit become reduced to the purely conceptual. And because he is not in a position – in his present situation – to penetrate his alter ego (the mortise) and, for us, to consolidate our longing for stability, he has foregone his existence as just an object and become a work of art – the symbol of a higher form: *A Love Supreme*. And in the back of our minds we can now hear John Coltrane’s ground-breaking masterpiece, a work that like no other piece of music embraces the spirituality of liberation and, at 32 minutes and 50 seconds, lasts longer than any earthly orgasm: Acknowledgment, Resolution, Pursuance and Psalm are the titles of the four parts of this great “suite of love”. And what of Johanna Di Dios’s masculinity-now-art? It has discarded the metaphor of desire and become a monstrosity of femininity.

Johanna Di Dio was born in Saint-Saulve (France) in 1978. She lives and works in Geneva. A graduate Bachelor of Visual Arts at the Geneva University of Art and Design, she is currently completing a WorkMaster programme at the same university. In 2008 she took part in the collective exhibition *Nature inquiétante*, Paris. She initiated the exhibition project *квартирник* (kvarternik – Geneva 2010-2012), for which she invited her young artist friends to exhibit in her bedroom. In 2012 she took part in the collective exhibition *Bonjour Monsieur Duchamp!* at the Kunstpavillon, Munich, and, currently, in the exhibition *Cul Sec* at La Halle Nord, Geneva.