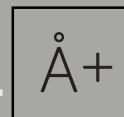


Jessica Leinen
you'll do it yet, dear



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you'll do it yet, dear



Gothenburg, June 19, 2019

Dear Jessica,

I must confess that I haven't seen much art lately. I've spent most of my time on the countryside, in a province called Bohuslän, in the northern part of the Swedish west coast. I've been writing and reading about soils, and trees, and I've collected plants. Every morning I've gone for a long walk in the forest that surrounds the house. I always find new paths that make me know the forest a little better than I did the previous day. It takes time to get to know a forest, and I need to take many more walks before I can honestly say that I know this one.

Almost 70 percent of the land surface in Sweden is covered by forests. But because of the forest industry, most of them are very homogenous, dominated by spruce trees of the same age, just waiting to be cut down. Such a shame! They are tree plantations rather than forests. But not this one! This is a real forest. Solitary and wind beaten pine trees are scattered on the rocky hilltops. Between the hills, the vegetation is dense with birches, aspens, alders, rowans, oaks, Swedish whitebeams, old spruces and shrubs of buckthorn and willows of various kinds. And now the mushrooms are popping up – a couple of days ago I found chanterelles.

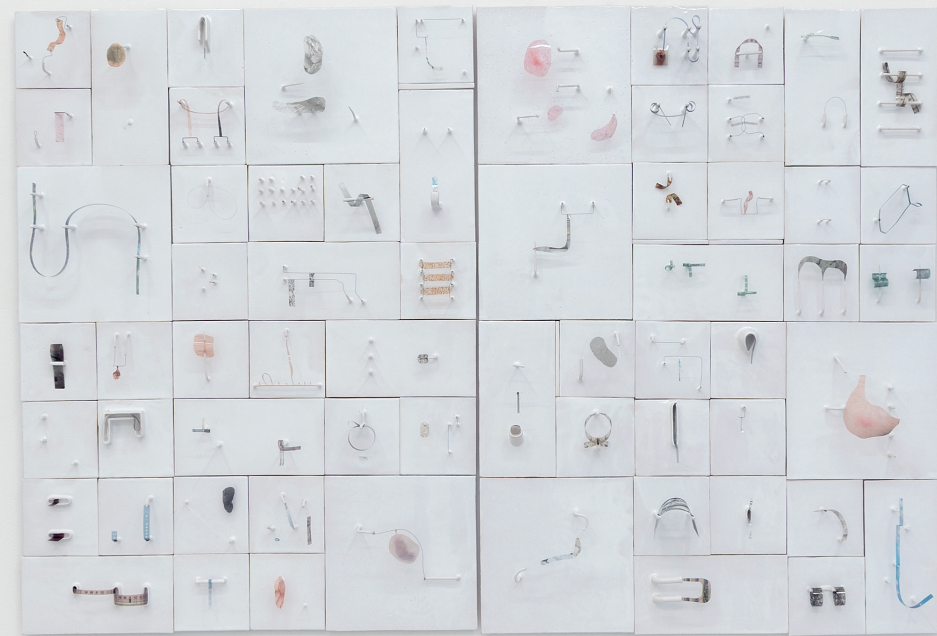
I think words are important when being in the forest. They improve our vision, and enable us to perceive differences that otherwise would have remained unnoticed. It is a wholly different thing to find black trumpets in the moss below a pine tree than it is to just see a couple of strange looking mushrooms.

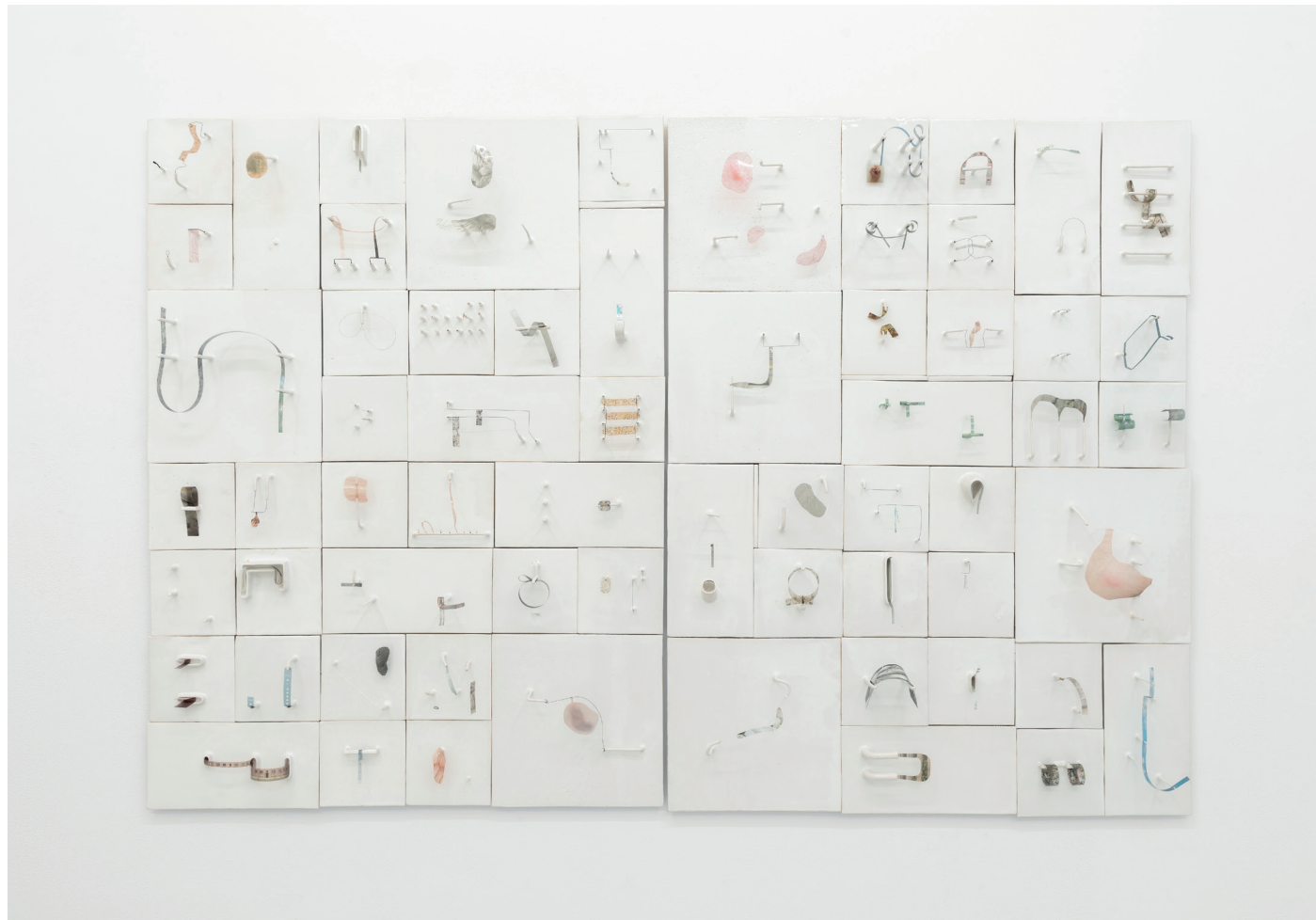
I try to learn the name of at least one new plant species every day. This I do to cure myself from plant-blindness. Plant-blindness makes us unable to notice individual plants, instead they just fade into the background, become part of an anonymous greenery. Plant-blindness is a global and very dangerous disease, since it is impossible to care for something that one doesn't even see. It also damages imagination; it disenchant the world!

Do you think that plant-blindness also occurs in the art world (as art-blindness)?

I'm asking you this because you deal a lot with issues of perception and methods of exploring and understanding nature. Besides, many of your works strike me as more plant-like than object-like, more like organisms than artefacts. Thus, they belong to the laboratory rather than to the studio or the exhibition space, or rather, a laboratory that accidentally has transformed into a biotope, inhabited by nameless emerging organisms. The scientists lost control of their study! Something that never has been seen before is noticed for the very first time. When entering your biotope, trying to see what you see, we are also faced with our own blindness.

My best,
Jens





I thought and this is what I saw, 2019
Ceramics, wire, photoprint on foil, 160 x 104 cm



Detail: I thought and this is what I saw





You'll do it yet, dear (,Home of Humilitas' Series, 2019
Construction foam-lightbox, drawing on acryl-glass, 90 x 102 x 17 cm



Tatsächliche Gespenster Nr. 1, 2017
Ceramics, fortune cookie message, gymnasticband mounted on steel rod, 16 x 9 x 9 cm



Tatsächliche Gespenster Nr. 2, 2017
Ceramics, fortune cookie message, gymnasticband mounted on steel rod, 15 x 11 x 12 cm



Tatsächliche Gespenster Nr. 3, 2017
Ceramics, fortune cookie message, gymnasticband mounted on steel rod, 14 x 7 x 8 cm



Tatsächliche Gespenster Nr 4, 2017
Ceramics, fortune cookie message, gymnasticband mounted on steel rod, 12 x 7 x 10 cm



Tatsächliche Gespenster Nr. 5, 2017
Ceramics, fortune cookie message, gymnasticband mounted on steel rod, 14 x 7 x 11 cm





welcome - welcome, 2017
Ceramic-lightbox, photo behind glass, 22 x 18 cm

Jessica Leinen

*1987 in Berlin

Lives and works in Berlin and Hamburg

exhibitions (selected):

2019

,you'll do it yet, dear', Åplus, Berlin

,Where I am When I am not Here', Tsukiyo to syonen, Osaka, Japan

,Institut für Quadratmter', Lichthof Theater, Hamburg

,FESTER', Galerie Holzhauer

2018

,Where I am When I am not Here', Galerie Speckstraße

,I thought and this is what I saw', Perry Showroom, New York City

,Sommerresidenz Holzhauer', Hamburg

,Mullican Class', HfbK Galerie, Hamburg

,Tatsächliche Gespenster', OTR Festival, Bordesholm

,We Love Artist Books', Galerie Holzhauer, Hamburg

2017

,Jahresgaben', Einstellungsraum, Hamburg

,Ich bin deine Mutter', Kunstverein Anscharpark, Kiel

,Common sense', City Link Festival, Kopenhagen, Dänemark

,Dort könnte eine Minute gezählt werden' Einstellungsraum, Hamburg

,komplizierter dänischer Titel' Galerie Grundstof, Aarhus, Dänemark

,Surfing The Great Tsunami', Westwerk, Hamburg

,Surfing The Great Tsunami', Odder, Aarhus, Holstebro, Dänemark

2016

,Serviceperformance', Cabaret Voltaire, Zürich, Schweiz

,Jetzt als Hier in Armlängen noch kurz bevor', HfbK, Hamburg

,in der Wiederholung durchlaufen wir Erinnerung', 2025 Kunst u.Kultur e.V, Hamburg

2015

Performance: individuelle Trauerreden, Total Tollerant Chappel of Trash and Techno, Hamburg

,Salon des Artes', Hamburg

,Meditation zur Selbstaufgabe', Sommerfest Kampnagel; Hamburg

,Arm aber', Speckgalerie, Hamburg

2014

,Kunst trifft Wissenschaft', HfbK Galerie, Hamburg

,Brunnen', Hotel Hamburg, Hamburg

,ARCHAEA', Beton Art Space, Kopenhagen, Dänemark

2013

,Separated', Gallopperiet, Kopenhagen, Dänemark

,Fleischerei Fachausstellung', Speckgalerie, Hamburg

2012

,Mullican Klasse', Wiensowski & Harbord, Berlin

,Giacometti. Alberto – Der Mensch.', Fabrique, Hamburg

2011

,Pferde laufen“ Videoinstallation, Druckerei im Gängeviertel, Hamburg

,Urban Revolution“ , Kreuzbergpavillion, Berlin

2010

,schwinden“ permanent zu sehen in Nicola Richters Haut, linke Schulter

,Papergirl“, Kupferdiebegalerie, Hamburg

2009

,It's a thin line“, Gängeviertel, Hamburg

Grants & Prizes

2019 Artist-in-Residence Tsukiyo to syonen, Osaka, Japan

2019 Curator-in-Residence Tsukiyo to syonen, Osaka, Japan

2016 Projektförderung des Materialverlages Hamburg

2015 Förderpreis des Freundeskreises der HfbK Hamburg

2014 Visiting-artist-researcher Award – Stipendium in Kooperation mit dem Max-Planck-

Insitut für Metereologie und CliSAP- Hamburg

Publications

2019 ,FESTER', Künstlerbuch

2018 ,proof positive', Künstlerbuch

2017 ,Jessica Leinen' , Katalog

2016 ,BEVOR', Künstlerbuch

Projects

2011 ,q² zu freien Verfügung“ Aktion im Zuge der RAS- Demonstration, Hamburg

2011 ,Hamburg meets Beirut“ Beirut Green Project, Beirut, Libanon

2010 Deutsch- Israelisches Workshopprojekt ,Sicherheit/Unsicherheit' mit Bezalel Academy,

Jerusalem, Israel

2010 Aktion ,oh, Olafur“ mit der Freien Klasse Hamburg in der Hamburger Kunsthalle

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