

## Bettina Hoffmann - Bio

Bettina Hoffmann's work is located at the intersection of photography, film, sculpture, dance and theatre that results in video tableaux and performances using 'displaced movements' to facilitate the examination of the underlying mechanisms of social relations, conflicts and communication.

Using rules that limit the range of body movements that does not allow for habitual or instinctive movements and consequently force the dancer to work against it, she is mirroring the process and mechanisms that form a community or society - adopting behaviour, obeying rules - while demonstrating its arbitrariness.

Sculptural and spatial parameters like verticality and horizontality are used to reflect on power and vulnerability. The ability to move independently or only with the help of others suggests the interdependence of people in a system, visualises social (dis)engagement, but also the conflict between the mental and the corporeal. Through her work she is interrogating our notions of subjectivity, interiority and exteriority, as well as reality and its construction.

Hoffmann's work was exhibited in Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, United Kingdom, Rumania, South Korea, Japan, USA and Canada.

Solo exhibitions include *Choreography of Movements*, Goethe Institut Montreal, 2019, *Touch at Occurrence*, 2016, *Drain* at Oboro, Montreal, 2014, *Émile*, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, 2009, *Décalage* at Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art, Toronto, Kristi Engel Gallery, Los Angeles 2008, *Mois de la Photo à Montréal*, 2007.

Her videos were presented at film festivals + video art fairs internationally, e.g. *L'atypique trouble*, *Traverse Vidéo*, Toulouse, France, *Video Art Award* at Sculpture Museum Marl, Germany, *Crossroads*, Cinematheque San Francisco, USA, *Movement on Screen*, Liverpool, UK, *Document*, European Media Art Festival, Osnabrück, Germany, and several times at the *VAD* video festival, Girona, Spain during which she received a special award.

Her performances were presented at the Darling Foundry, Tangente and Occurrence in Montreal and several venues in Tokyo. Her work is in several private and public collections in both North America and Europe. e.g. the Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago, The Audrey and Sydney Irmis Collection, Los Angeles, Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, Musée national des beaux-arts de Québec, Berlinische Galerie in Berlin.

Hoffmann received a Master of Fine Arts degree from Hochschule der Künste, Berlin and attended the California Institute of the Arts and the Rijksakademie van beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam.