



Image: Kaucyila Brooke, Untitled #32

PLEASE JOIN THE MAK CENTER FOR ART AND ARCHITECTURE AT THE SCHINDLER HOUSE FOR:

**Kaucyila Brooke, *Vitrinen in Arbeit*
Book Launch and Conversation with Virginia Heckert**

Wednesday, November 11, 2009

7:00 pm

Co-hosted by R.A.M. Publications

The MAK Center at the Schindler House and R.A.M. Publications are pleased to present artist Kaucyila Brooke and Virginia Heckert, Associate Curator of Photographs at the J. Paul Getty Museum, as they discuss Brooke's recent monograph, *Vitrinen in Arbeit*.

Vitrinen in Arbeit is a visual investigation of the Natural History Museum in Vienna, Austria. At the MAK Center, Brooke and Heckert will consider the Natural History Museum in relation to projects by artists who have addressed the subject of museum display as well as Brooke's prior artworks.



CENTER

EMAIL: OFFICE @ MAKCENTER.ORG
WWW.MAKCENTER.ORG

835 N. KINGS ROAD
WEST HOLLYWOOD
CALIFORNIA 90069

323 651 1510
FAX 651 2340

About *Vitrinen in Arbeit*

In 2002, Kaucyila Brooke first visited the Natural History Museum in Vienna while researching material for an ongoing photomontage novella-roman-cartoon project. At the Museum, she encountered a partially disassembled Shark exhibit. A sign indicated a remodeling of the room, which was elegantly cordoned with stanchions that prevented visitors from entering. Contemporary economic trends towards privatization in formerly state funded institutions had affected the Natural History Museum, which first opened its doors in 1889. Now heavily dependent on visitor entrance fees to meet its financial obligations, the institution had begun to adapt its exhibits to be more visitor-friendly and to conform to current standards in museum display.

Brooke began to photograph this process of transformation. Over a period of three years, she observed the progress of the full, empty and modified interior space of the building. Her investigation resulted in the creation of several hundred color photographs that show the architecture and ideology of the family and colonist era of discovery, the fullness of the collection, the traces of the past, the empty containment of changing ideas about display, the contrast of historic and contemporary wall décor, and the emergence of more "didactic" forms of exhibiting.

About Kaucyila Brooke

Kaucyila Brooke is an artist based in Los Angeles. Her solo exhibitions include Silberkuppe, Berlin; Alfred Ehrhardt Foundation/ Forum für Fotografie, Cologne; Galerie Andreas Huber, Vienna; Andersen-s Contemporary, Copenhagen; The Neu Aachen Kunstverein, Aachen; and Michael Dawson Gallery, Los Angeles. Brooke co-edited the book *Gendered Geographies* (2002). An earlier artist book version of *Vitrinen in Arbeit* was published by Michael Dawson Gallery, Los Angeles in 2004. Kaucyila Brooke is the former Director of the Program in Photography and Media at CalArts in Los Angeles where she has been a regular member of the faculty since 1992.

About Virginia Heckert

Since 2005, Virginia Heckert has been an Associate Curator at the Getty Museum. Prior to joining the Getty she was the inaugural Curator of Photography at the Norton Museum in West Palm Beach, Florida. Virginia Heckert has organized exhibitions on the work of Albert Renger-Patzsch, August Sander, Candida Höfer, and Irving Penn.

MAK

CENTER

EMAIL: OFFICE @ MAKCENTER.ORG
WWW.MAKCENTER.ORG

835 N. KINGS ROAD
WEST HOLLYWOOD
CALIFORNIA 90069

323 651 1510
FAX 651 2340

About the Book:

Vitrinen in Arbeit (on sale at the MAK Center for Art and Architecture)

Published by the Alfred Ehrhardt Stiftung, Germany, August 2009 /English & German/ Exhibition catalog / Hardcover

12 x 11 1/2 inches / 132 pp / 140 color

ISBN: 978-3-932187-69-8

Retail Price: \$75.00

For more information about *Vitrinen in Arbeit*, please visit R.A.M. Publications at <http://www.rampub.com>

MAK Center for Art and Architecture at the Schindler House

835 North Kings Road

West Hollywood, CA 90069

Open: Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am to 6 pm

323 651 1510 phone

323 651 2340 fax

visit: www.MAKcenter.org

contact: office@makcenter.org

Regular admission is \$7/\$17 with the guide book, *Schindler By MAK*; students and seniors, \$6/\$16 with book; free for Friends of the Schindler House and on Fridays, 4 to 6 pm.

Parking is available at the public structure at the northeast corner of Kings Road and Santa Monica Boulevard.

First Fridays: The Mackey Apartments and the Fitzpatrick-Leland House are open for viewing the first Friday of every month. Admission to view the Mackey Apartments, the Fitzpatrick-Leland House, and the Schindler House is \$50/\$42 for students and seniors and \$30 for Friends of the Schindler House. Admission to view only the Fitzpatrick-Leland House is \$34/\$32 for students and seniors and \$20 for Friends of the Schindler House. For further information, please contact www.MAKcenter.org or call (323) 651-1510.