

Galerie im Tempelhof Museum
26 April – 7 July 2024

Miji Ih Münder



© Miji Ih, „Dawn, on the A-Line Ferry from Kagoshima to Naha, November 12, 2023“, 2024

Miji Ih's ongoing artistic research project "Münder" ("Mouths") examines the effects of the Second World War on women in Korea, still undivided at the time, and Japan. The artist uses photography as a means to bring to life individuals who were unable or denied the chance to tell their own stories.

Miji Ih's works zero in on a Korean woman who in 1943/44 was taken to Okinawa under false pretenses and subjected to forced labor as a so-called "comfort woman" ("Trostrfrau"). In 1975, her story was partially taken up by the press, but little is known about the previous three decades in which she was considered stateless under the American occupation of Okinawa.

This is where Miji Ih's work begins. A dilapidated doorway, a bouquet of flowers, the railing of a ship, an exhausted bird, military infrastructure, a sign for tourists – the photographs are still and condensed, but they always bear a trace of mystery. They figure as an attempt to create a visual language against oblivion. At the same time, they deal with aspects of colonialism, patriarchal social structures, emancipation, stigmatization, shame, and the (im)possibilities of speaking, all of which are themes that reach into our present. Thus, Miji Ih reflects on the ability of photography – both the conceptual, artistic and the documentary kind – to give historical occurrences and people an image and to open up new levels of understanding that resonate with one's own time.

Miji Ih (b. 1990 in Seoul, South Korea) studied photography at the Kaywon School of Art and Design in South Korea and the University of the Arts Berlin (UdK), where she completed her studies in the class of Josephine Pryde. Miji Ih's work has been awarded and exhibited widely, e.g. at the Seoul Photo Festival and the Museum of Photography (Museum für Fotografie) in Berlin. She lives and works in Berlin.

Press information
April 2024

Exhibition
26.4. – 7.7.2024

Opening
Thurs, 25 April 2024
7 pm
Introduction
Diana Thun
Curator of the exhibition

Artist Talk
Thurs, 13 June 2024
7 pm
with Miji Ih and
Diana Thun

**Meet the Artist and
Finissage**
Wed, 3 July 2024
7-9 pm
with Miji Ih and
Diana Thun

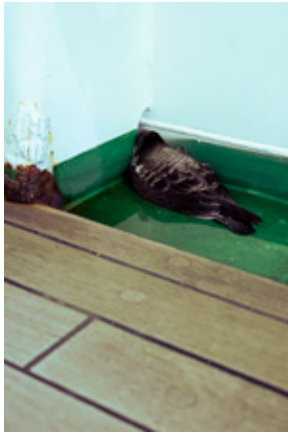
Address
**Galerie im Tempelhof
Museum**
Alt-Mariendorf 43
12107 Berlin
Tel: 90277-6964
www.hausamkleistpark.de

Free admission
No barrier-free access
Mon closed
Tue-Sun 1-6 pm
Thurs from 10 am

Press contact
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Press images
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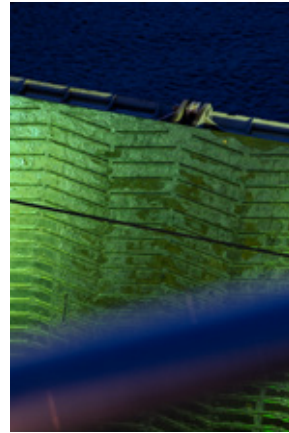
An exhibition of the Department of Art, Culture, Museums Tempelhof-Schöneberg. The project is funded by the KoGa-Fonds.



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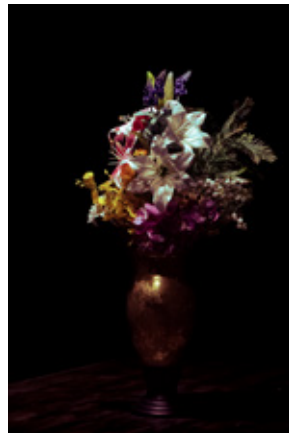
© Miji Ih, „Ryotei Sankiro, built in 1931, in Moji, November 9, 2023”, 2024



© Miji Ih, „Plan name: Elegant boat ride overlooking the islands! November 11, 2023”, 2024



© Miji Ih, „The side of an object concealed in the cultivated land behind Zamami Elementary School, on Zamami Island, November 15, 2023”, 2024



© Miji Ih, „Decorated flowers in the Commander's Office, Former Japanese Navy Underground Headquarters, February 12, 2023”, 2024



© Miji Ih, „In the Mouth of Hotel Texas, in Koza, November 20, 2023”, 2024