

Claudia Hart

THE DOLLS HOUSE

April 23 – June 4th, 2016



Still from 'The Dolls House' from Claudia Hart, 4K Video, Edition of 3 + 1AP 2016

TRANSFER is pleased to present '**The Dolls House**' the gallery's first solo exhibition with Claudia Hart including a special sound track by Kurt Hentschager.

'**The Dolls House**' is a new series of video, drawing and sculptural work from Claudia Hart, inspired by her media ballet '**The Dolls**' which is based in the philosophical idea of the "eternal return" – the notion that history endlessly renews itself through a process of decadence, decay and rebirth. To embody this, Hart has molded mathematical cycles into visual form, a figurative flicker film defined by rhythmic animations of pulsing patterns that are mesmerizing and intentionally hypnotic as a result of their algorithmic qualities.

Hart imagines an abstract computer warehouse filled with old dollhouses culled from the junk heap of some future history. She scoured Google's 3D Warehouse – available as shareware for all users of Internet – for architectural monuments from a decadent history, past empires from all over the world. These include *The Arch of Labna* (a Mesoamerican archaeological site and ceremonial center of the pre-Columbian Maya civilization), the Roman *Forum-of-Ceasar*, Marie-Antoinette's *Le Petit Trianon* (the small chateau on the grounds of Louis XIV's Versailles, where she dressed as a milkmaid with her ladies-in-waiting), a *Queen Anne House* from Victorian England; the *Dragomir Mansion* from Bucharest; and the *Paulwall House* - still standing in our own ruined Detroit.

Like her doll houses, Hart's 3D modelled tutus are also drawn from the scion of a fallen empire: the gowns of Margaret Theresa of Spain, among the last of the Spanish Habsburgs. This child princess was the central figure in the famous painting *Las Meninas*, a canonical masterpiece by the great 17th-century court painter, Diego Velazquez, and the subject of many of his paintings. Hart's Velazquez princess dresses are modeled by computer and produced as mixed-media works on paper with projection mapping, and 3D printed sculpture for the exhibition.



Hart's brightly colored, algorithmic flickering patterns are the ultimate component of her contemplation on the passage of time and the death of kings. The passage of time is marked by a cyclical animation in which a track light moves around the virtual set, and cast shadows rotate from sunrise to sunset. The animated patterns are also based on the symbols of further collapsed empires - from the Faberge eggs of The House of Romanov to the banners and heraldry of Gengis Kahn and the Mongol Empire. Distributed among these are the current logos and graphical icons of our own multinationals corporations. The end result is in some ways like a stroll through Times Square or a glitzy night in Vegas. But it is also paradoxically and strangely quite trance inducing and meditative, a vehicle for some kind of enlightenment.

The music for 'The Dolls' was specially composed by the media artist and digital composer Kurt Hentschlaeger and adapted for the dual-channel audio in 'The Dolls House'. *A full inventory of work from 'The Dolls House' is available from the gallery. Please inquire with the director@transferyallery.com to request information.*

ABOUT THE ARTIST :::

Claudia Hart has been active as an artist, curator and critic since 1988. She creates virtual representations that take the form of 3d imagery integrated into photography, multi-channel animation installations, performances and sculptures using advanced production techniques such as Rapid Prototyping, CNC routing and augmented-reality custom apps. Her works deal with issues of representation, the role of the computer in shifting contemporary values about identity and the real, and specifically questions ideas about what might be considered "natural." Her project is to feminize the masculinist culture of technology by interjecting emotional subjectivity into what is typically the overly-determined Cartesian world of digital design.

For further information: www.claudiahart.com

Kurt Hentschlaeger, who created the music for "The Dolls," is an audio visual artist whose work has been shown internationally since the late 80s. For further information: www.kurthentschlaeger.com

EXHIBITION & EVENTS :::

OPENING RECEPTION

Saturday, April 23th from 6 - 10PM

1030 Metropolitan Avenue in Brooklyn, NY 11211

PRIVATE PERFORMANCE

'The Dolls'

A special production of Hart's expanded cinema piece 'The Dolls' will be performed in NYC in conjunction with this exhibition. If you would like to request an invitation please write to the director@transferyallery.com

GALLERY HOURS

Saturdays, April 23 - June 4 from 12PM-6PM or by appointment anytime

Schedule a private viewing or inquire for more details with director@transferyallery.com

TRANSFER explores the friction between networked studio practice and its physical instantiation. The gallery supports artists working with computer-based practices to realize aggressive installation projects within our walls, and exhibits internationally at art fairs to engage the growing market for media-based artworks.

TRANSFER Gallery ::: 1030 Metropolitan Ave Brooklyn, NY 11211 More info: <http://TRANSFER.gallery>