

BG

Press Kit
Berlin, 13.9.21

Alicja Kwade, Selbstporträt, 2020.
Courtesy of the artist; KÖNIG GALERIE, Berlin/ London/ Seoul/ Decentraland, Foto: Roman März



Alicja Kwade

In Abwesenheit (In Absence)

18.9.21 – 4.4.22

**BERLINISCHE
GALERIE
MUSEUM OF
MODERN ART**

BG

Contents

Press release

Alicja Kwade

P.3

Biography

P.5

Exhibition text

P.9

Programme

P.10

Press images

P.11

Contact

P.12



Alicja Kwade, Principium, Detail, 2020.
Courtesy of the artist; KÖNIG GALERIE, Berlin/ London/ Seoul/ Decentraland, Foto: Roman März

Alicja Kwade **In Abwesenheit (In Absence)**

18.9.21 – 4.4.22

The work of Alicja Kwade (*1979) is inspired by philosophical, scientific and social enquiry. She engages in her sculptures with models and constructs that inform our perceptions of reality, questioning the potential for subjective and objective knowledge. “In Abwesenheit” (In Absence) is founded on recent works by Kwade that might in a broad sense be read as self-portraits. The artist explores how a person and their physical presence in space can be described from various methodological perspectives.

The work “Self-Portrait” consists of 24 glass ampoules containing, in pure form, the chemical elements that make up the human body. There is a large installation based on the artist’s fully sequenced DNA, printed out on 314,000 pages of paper. The human genome in the digital era is also the theme of the bronze stela: here the artist has shaped numerous overlapping smartphones into a double helix.

The central piece locates an individual physically in time and space. A ring of black steel in the middle of the hall reaches almost to the ceiling. 24 loudspeakers have been mounted on it and transmit the artist’s heartbeat into the exhibition room.

The show was conceptualised in 2019 and was originally scheduled for spring 2020, but the opening was postponed until autumn 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In the book accompanying the exhibition, Kwade presents historical and contemporary illustrations of some of those systems which serve directly or indirectly as a reference framework for her works. The visual material ranges from anatomical drawings and historical maps to atomic structures seen through an electron microscope. Like Kwade’s works themselves, these illustrations are aesthetic visualisations of abstract scientific and philosophical theories. The chosen images thus constitute both a collection of materials and a record of the research process undertaken by the artist. At the same time, they create a subtext that connects with the works to form narrative structures.

Kwade’s site-specific installation in the first big exhibition hall is the latest addition to the successful format devoted by the Berlinische Galerie to in-situ projects by contemporary artists working in this city. Kwade studied at Berlin’s University of the Arts from 1999 to 2005 and is now one of the most sought-after artists in the international arena. She has recently exhibited in, among other places, New York, Tours, Helsinki, Copenhagen, Zurich, Barcelona, Shanghai, Reykjavik, Venice and London.



Exhibition catalogue

The accompanying book contains views of the exhibition and above all records how the artist went about her research beforehand. It compiles a variety of models used to explain the world, from historical anatomical drawings to the latest theories in philosophy, mathematics and physics, and links these to themes in the exhibition.

Title: Alicja Kwade. In Abwesenheit (In Absence)

Concept: Alicja Kwade

Languages: German/English

With text by the curator: Guido Faßbender

Publication date: middle of November 2021

Press images

bg.berlin/press-images/alicia-kwade

Online tickets

bg.berlin/en/online-tickets

Social media

#AlicjaKwade

#AlicjaKwadeBG

#berlinischegalerie

Contact Berlinische Galerie

Ulrike Andres

Head of Communication and Education

Tel +49 (0)30 78 902 829

andres@berlinischegalerie.de

Berlinische Galerie

Berlin's Museum of Modern Art,

Photography and Architecture

Alte Jakobstraße 124–128

10969 Berlin

Tel +49 (0)30 78 902 600

berlinischegalerie.de

Admission 12 €, concessions 9€

Wed–Mon 10 am–6 pm

Tue closed

Contact Press

Bureau N

Friederike Wode

Tel + 49 (0)30 62736102

friederike.wode@bureau-n.de

Biography

Alicja Kwade

1979

Alicja Kwade was born in Katowice, Poland. Today she lives and works in Berlin.

1999-2005

Studied Fine Arts, Universität der Künste, Berlin, Germany

Awards

2015

· Hector-Prize of the Kunsthalle Mannheim, Germany

2011

- Robert Jacobsen-Preis
- Karl Schmidt-Rottluff Stipendium
- Arbeitsstipendium Stiftung Kunstfonds
- Bremerhaven-Stipendium

2008

· Piepenbrock Förderpreis für Skulptur 2008

2007

· Kunstpreis Junger Westen für Skulptur, Kunsthalle Recklinghausen (2. Platz)

2006 – 2007

· DAAD Postgraduierertenstipendium, Warsaw, Poland

2005 – 2006

· NafoG-Stipendium

2005

· IBB Förderpreis für Fotografie (2. Platz)

2002 – 2005

· Stipendium der Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes

2002

· Erasmus/Sokrates Stipendium, Chelsea College of Art and Design, London, UK

Upcoming

2021

- Albion Barn, Oxford, UK (group)
- Alicja Kwade, In Abwesenheit, Berlinische Galerie, Berlin, Germany (solo)
- Spatial Affairs, Ludwig Museum – Museum of Contemporary Art, Budapest, Hungary (group)
- The Same Sea, Helsinki Biennial, Vallisaari Island, Finland (group)

Solo Exhibitions

2021

· Alicja Kwade, Louise Nevelson. Face-à-face, Kamel Mennour, Paris, France

2020

- Kausalkonsequenz, Langen Foundation, Neuss, Germany
- XXV. Rohkunstbau Zärtlichkeit/Tenderness - Vom Zusammenleben/About Common Living, Schloss Lieberose, Lieberose, Germany
- Petrichor, KÖNIG TOKIO, Tokyo, Japan

2019

- Alicja Kwade: In Between Glances, MIT List Visual Arts Center, Cambridge, MA, USA
- Moving in Glances, Dallas Contemporary, Dallas, TX, USA

· WeltenLinie, Palazzo Biscari, Catania, Italy

· ParaPivot, Rooftop Garden Installation, The Metropolitan Museum, New York, NY, USA

· The Resting Thought, Centre De Création Contemporaine Olivier Debré, Tours, France

2018

- GLANCES, Blueproject Foundation, Barcelona, Spain
- Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Charlottenborg, Denmark
- EMMA – Espoo Museum of Modern Art, Helsinki, Finland
- ENTITAS, KÖNIG GALERIE, Berlin, Germany
- TunnelTeller, Castle Hill on the Crane Estate, Ipswich, MA, USA
- “Being...”, Neuer Berliner Kunstverein, Berlin, Germany
- MATERIA, PER ORA, Fondazione Giuliani, Rome, Italy
- AMBO, Kunsthalle zu Kiel, Kiel, Germany
- LinienLand, Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich, Switzerland

2017

- ReReason, Yuz Museum, Shanghai, China
- Phase, KÖNIG GALERIE, Berlin, Germany
- A Trillionth of a Second, i8 Gallery, Reykjavik, Iceland
- Sichtbare Unsichtbare Grenzen, Sigmar Polke – Alicja Kwade, Museum Frieder Burda, Salon Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy
- Medium Median, Whitechapel Gallery London, London, UK

- Deconstructing Borders, Sigmar Polke – Alicja Kwade, Museum Frieder Burda, Salon Berlin, Berlin, Germany

2016

- In Aporie, Kamel Mennour, Paris, France
- I Rise Again, Changed But The Same, 303 Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- Alicja Kwade, De Appel Arts Centre, Amsterdam, Netherlands

2015

- Nach Osten, TRAF0 Centre for Contemporary Art, Szczecin, Poland
- Monolog aus dem 11ten Stock, Haus am Waldsee, Berlin, Germany
- Against the Run, Public Art Fund, New York, NY, USA
- Hector-Prize, Kunsthalle Mannheim, Mannheim, Germany
- Etwas Abwesendes, dessen Anwesenheit erwartet wurde, KÖNIG GALERIE, Berlin, Germany
- Warten auf Gegenwart II, Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Nürnberg, Germany
- Die bewegte Leere des Moments, Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

2014

- Warten auf Gegenwart, Kunstmuseum | Kunstverein St. Gallen, St. Gallen, Switzerland
- Forecasting Horizon, Galleri Nicolai Wallner, Copenhagen, Denmark

2013

- Solid Stars and other Conditions, i8 Gallery, Reykjavik, Iceland

- Degree of Certainty, Kunstmuseum Krefeld | Haus Esters, Krefeld, Germany

- Nach Osten, ST. AGNES, Berlin, Germany

- Gegenwartsdauer, Kamel Mennour, Paris, France

- Alicja Kwade, Kunstmuseum Bremerhaven, Bremerhaven, Germany

2012

- The heavy weight of light, Harris Lieberman, New York, NY, USA
- Die Gesamtheit aller Orte, Kunsthal 44 Møen, Askeby, Denmark
- In Circles, KÖNIG GALERIE, Berlin, Germany

2011

- Sensor - Zeitraum für junge Positionen, ZKM Karlsruhe, Karlsruhe, Germany
- Alicja Kwade, Villa Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
- Belebung toter Einheiten, Oldenburger Kunstverein, Oldenburg, Germany

- Alkahest, Kunstverein Bremerhaven, Bremerhaven, Germany

2010

- backyardoutdoorsculptureseries #6 - KOHLE (1T Rekord), KÖNIG GALERIE, Berlin, Germany
- Probleme massereicher Körper, Westfälischer Kunstverein, Münster, Germany
- Ereignishorizont, Kestner Gesellschaft, Hannover, Germany

Group Exhibitions

2021

- Colección Jumex: Ambient Temperature; Museo Jumex, Mexico City
- Alicja Kwade & Gregor Hildebrandt: Mucho Más, Galeria Pelaires, Palma, Illes Balears, Spain
- Alicja Kwade & Gregor Hildebrandt: A secret show for a secret person in Ireland, Kunstraum Konrad, Puchberg am Schneeberg, Austria
- The Looking Glass, The Shed, New York, NY, USA
- Diversity United. Contemporary European Art. Berlin. Moscow. Paris, Flughafen Tempelhof, Berlin, Germany
- DESERT X 2021, Coachella Valley, CA, USA
- SUPERMARKT – Frische Lieferung, REWE Premium, Munich, Germany

2020

- NGV Triennial, Melbourne, Australia
- Studio Berlin, Berghain, Berlin, Germany
- Down to Earth, Berliner Festspiele / Gropius Bau, Berlin, Germany
- Szene Berlin, Hall Art Foundation, Schloss Derneburg Museum, Derneburg, Germany
- zeitlos / Vom Wesen der Zeit, Kunsthalle Göppingen, Göppingen, Germany
- Good Vibrations, Fath Contemporary Galerie, Mannheim, Germany
- Who am I?, Tang Contemporary Art, Beijing, China

BG

- So wie wir sind 2.0., Weserburg, Museum für moderne Kunst, Bremen, Germany
- Berlin - there must be something in the water, Collaborations, Copenhagen, Denmark

2019

- Listen to the Image, Look at the Sound, KAI 10 - Arthena Foundation, Dusseldorf, Germany
- Syncopation: Contemporary encounters with the Modern Masters, Pola Museum of Art, Kanagawa, Japan
- Salon Hansa: InterINTIMES_Auto- PORTRAIT, Lachenmann Art, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
- Alicja Kwade and Nino Kvrivishvili, Kunsthalle at State Silk Museum, Tbilisi, Georgia
- Szene Berlin Okt.19 - König Galerie zu Gast bei Ketterer Kunst, Munich, Germany
- Chronos Cosmos: Deep Time, Open Space, Socrates Sculpture Park, Long Island, NY, USA
- Laufrichtung, SMAC, Berlin, Germany
- Intergalactic, BNKR, Munich, Germany
- Blickachsen 12, Stiftung Blickachsen, Bad Homburg v.d.H., Germany
- Think in Pictures, Amelchenko, New York, NY, USA
- Negativer Raum, ZKM, Zentrum für Kunst und Medien Karlsruhe, Germany
- The Moon. From Inner Worlds to Outer Space, Henie Onstad Kunstsenter, Høvikodden, Norway
- Gorillas in our midst, MONA, Museum of Old and New Art, Tasmania, Australia

- I will be dead. König London, London, UK
- Less is More, Voorlinden Museum, Wassenaar, Netherlands

2018

- Berlin-Sofia. A Shortcut – eine Abkürzung - пряк път, Structura Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria
- Au, Station, Melbourne, Australia
- Kunst und Kohle: Alicja Kwade. Spurensuche, Museum Gelsenkirchen, Gelsenkirchen, Germany
- Reichtum. Schwarz ist Gold (Wealth. Black is Gold), Lehmbruck Museum, Duisburg, Germany
- Alicja Kwade/Jorinde Voigt, Villa Schöninggen, Potsdam, Germany
- Papier.Salon., Wenstrup, Berlin, Germany

2017

- Liaisons/Links, with Lara Favaretto and Latifa Exhakhch, Villa Medici, Rom, Italy
- Perception is Reality - Über die Abbildung von Wirklichkeit und Virtuellen Welten, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
- Deutschland 8, Beijing, China
- Sterne, Kosmische Kunst von 1900 bis heute, Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz, Linz, Austria
- Corridor 3: Valdemar Daa, Kunsthalle Viborg, Viborg, Denmark
- Viva Arte Viva, 57th International Art Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy
- What's up II, 132 Tenth Avenue, New York, NY, USA
- Blickachsen 11, Bad Homburg v.d.H., Germany

- EUROVISIONS: Contemporary art from the Goldberg Collection, Sydney, Australia
- THE GARDEN – End of Times; Beginning of Times, Aarhus, Denmark
- Frieze London Kamel Mennour Outside Sculpture, London, UK

2016

- Forming in the pupil of an eye, Kochi-Muziris Biennale, Various Venues, Kochi, India
- Die Kerze, Museum Frieder Burda, Baden-Baden, Germany
- Nuit Blanche, Paris, France
- Food, 13th Fellbach Small Sculpture Triennial 2016, Fellbach, Germany
- EchtZEIT. Die Kunst der Langsamkeit, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn, Germany
- ICH, Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
- OTHER PEOPLE'S FEELINGS, Johann König | Dessauer Straße, Berlin, Germany

2015

- On Curbstone Jewels and Cobblestones, Daimler Contemporary Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- Night Begins the Day: Rethinking Space, Time, and Beauty, Contemporary Jewish Museum, San Francisco, CA, USA
- Diamonds Always Come in Small Packages, Kunstmuseum Luzern, Lucerne, Switzerland
- Glasstress Gotika, Palazzo Franchetti / Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Venice, Italy

2014

- Trame. Copper Crossing in contemporary art and technology, Triennale di Milano, Milan, Italy

- Blow-Up, Albertina, Kunst Museum Palais, Vienna, Austria
- Der Baum der Erkenntnis. Kunst und Alchemie, Museum Kunstpalast, Dusseldorf, Germany
- 2013 Lightness of Being, Public Art Fund, City Hall Park, New York, NY, USA
- KölnSkulptur #7, Skulpturenpark Köln, Cologne, Germany
- Back to Earth. Die Wiederentdeckung der Keramik in der Kunst, Herbert Gerisch Stiftung, Neumünster, Germany
- Novecento mai visto. Capolavori dalla Daimler Art Collection. FROM ALBERS TO WARHOL TO (NOW), Museo di Santa Giulia, Brescia, Italy
- An Idea of Beauty, Palazzo Strozzi Fondazione, Florence, Italy

2012

- When Attitudes Became Form Become Attitudes, CCA Wattis Institute, San Francisco, CA, USA
- One-on-one, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin, Germany
- Karl-Schmidt-Rotluff Stipendium, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, Dusseldorf, Germany
- Grey peak of the wave, Harris Lieberman, New York, NY, USA
- The Garden of Eden, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France

Bibliography (selection)

- Alicja Kwade: Kausalkonsequenz. Langen Foundation, Neuss, Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, Cologne 2021.
- Alicja Kwade: ParaPivot. The Roof Garden Commission. Ed. by Briana Parker, Kelly Baum and Sheena Wagstaff, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, New York 2019.
- Alicja Kwade: LinienLand. Ed. by Sabine Schaschl, Stiftung für konstruktive, konkrete und konzeptuelle Kunst, Museum Haus Konstruktiv, Zürich, Zurich 2019.
- Alicja Kwade: In Aporie, Hatje Cantz (DE) and Roulette Russe (DK), Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen (DK) and EMMA – Espoo Museum of Modern Art, Espoo, (FIN), Berlin 2019.
- Alicja Kwade: Medium Median: Ed. by Cameron Foote, Whitechapel Gallery, London, London, 2017.
- hectorpreis 2015. Alicja Kwade. Ed. by Ulrike Lorenz, Kunsthalle Mannheim, Distanz Verlag, Berlin 2015.
- Alicja Kwade. Die bewegte Leere des Moments. Ed. by Matthias Ulrich / Max Hollein, Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt am Main, Frankfurt 2015.
- Warten auf Gegenwart II, Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, Cologne 2015.
- Alicja Kwade: Grad der Gewissheit. Ed. by Sylvia Martin, Kunstmuseum Krefeld, Museum Haus Esters, Distanz Verlag, Berlin 2014.
- Wie kommt das Neue in die Welt? Neun internationale Bildhauer in

Berlin. Ed. Katja Blomberg, Haus am Waldsee, Berlin, Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, Cologne 2012.

· Alicja Kwade. Ed. by Kestnergesellschaft, Hannover & Westfälischer Kunstverein Münster, Distanz Verlag, Berlin 2010.

BG

Exhibition text

The work of Alicja Kwade (*1979) is inspired by philosophical, scientific and social enquiry. In her sculptures, she engages with models and constructs that inform our perceptions of reality, questioning the potential for subjective and objective knowledge.

“In Abwesenheit” (In Absence) is based on recent works by Kwade that might be read as self-portraits in a broad sense. The artist explores how a person and their physical presence in space can be described: by a heartbeat, an individual DNA code or a combination of chemical elements.

Alicja Kwade studied at Berlin’s University of the Arts from 1999 to 2005 and is now one of the most sought-after artists in the international arena. She has recently exhibited in, among other places, New York, Tours, Helsinki, Copenhagen, Zurich, Barcelona, Shanghai, Reykjavik, Venice and London.

BG

Alicja Kwade, Selbstporträt, 2020, Courtesy of the artist; KÖNIG GALERIE, Berlin/ London/ Seoul/ Decentraland, Foto: Roman März



Programme

Alicja Kwade
In Abwesenheit (In Absence)
18.9.21–4.4.22

Contact
Berlinische Galerie
Christine van Haaren
Head of Education and Outreach
Tel +49 (0)30 789 02 836

Katrin-Marie Kaptain
Education
Tel +49 (0)30 789 02 837
bildung@berlinischegalerie.de

Guided tours

Tours by the curator (in German)

Mon 27.9., 1.11., 22.11. und 13.12. 2 pm

Included in museum's admission

Registration on-site, limited capacities

Public guided tours in English

Mon 1.11., 3 pm and every Sat, 4.15 pm

Included in museum's admission

registration at the cash desk (at the day of the tour),
limited number of participants

More information

berlinischegalerie.de/en/visit/calendar

BG

Press images



Alicja Kwade, Detail Installationsansicht Gegebenenfalls die Wirklichkeit (2018),
LinienLand at Haus Konstruktiv, Zürich, 2018.
Courtesy of KÖNIG GALERIE, Berlin/ London/ Seoul/ Decentraland, Foto: Roman März



Alicja Kwade, Detail Installationsansicht Clout-Count (2018),
GLANCES at Blueproject Foundation, Barcelona, 2018. Courtesy of the artist, Foto: Roman März



Alicja Kwade, Principium, Detail, 2020.
Courtesy of the artist; KÖNIG GALERIE, Berlin/ London/ Seoul/ Decentraland, Foto: Roman März



Alicja Kwade, Selbstporträt, 2020.
Courtesy of the artist; KÖNIG GALERIE, Berlin/ London/ Seoul/ Decentraland, Foto: Roman März



Contact **Berlinische Galerie**

Ulrike Andres
Head of Communication and Education
Tel +49 (0)30 78 902 829
andres@berlinischegalerie.de

Contact **Press**

Bureau N
Friederike Wode
Tel + 49 (0)30 62736102
friederike.wode@bureau-n.de

Contact **Programme**

Christine van Haaren
Head of Education and Outreach
Tel +49 (0)30 78 902 836
haaren@berlinischegalerie.de

Katrin-Marie Kaptain
Education
Tel +49 (0)30 78 902 837
kaptain@berlinischegalerie.de

Berlinische Galerie
Berlin's Museum of Modern Art,
Photography and Architecture
Alte Jakobstraße 124–128
10969 Berlin
Tel +49 (0)30 78 902 600
berlinischegalerie.de