

Translation:

Kunst New Pop

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Excerpt:

“ ... there were heated discussions between Berlin-based New Yorker Mara De Luca and her counterpart, David Cerny from Prague for the exhibition ‘Political Pop’. ‘East meets West’ was not only proclaimed and practiced, but also placed in direct confrontation using political and religious formulas and symbols.

While Cerny’s sculpture ‘Maso’, a gigantic red fiberglass skin in the shape of a car hung on an oversized nail, implies associations of martyrdom and crucifixion, Mara De Luca quotes Bible passages from Exodus in her video work ‘Mannah’. The biblical legend of bread raining in the middle of the desert serves as her motif for the current political confrontation. She layers text and image to form a complex installation reacting to the Afghanistan conflict: bread and bombs, humanitarian aid and military action become an interwoven fabric of terror and religion.

Both juggle with emblems and symbols commenting on world politics, infiltrating in their absurdity while achieving the surreal through a flood of medial images.

Mara De Luca has developed panels with flag motifs populated by pictograms of symbolic images. Proposed as modern-day icons, they are surrounded by wreaths of rays and stars. Made entirely in signal red color, her intentional modification of the American flag works as persiflage on socialist hero propaganda...”