IDEOL O GUE

KATHRYN ANDREWS
American Hobo

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The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts
Grandeur Peak Funds
THE FUNNY THING ABOUT ORTHODOXY

Framed within the animated climate of another presidential election year, Ideologue evokes the subtle structures that shape societal values, such as individual freedom, progress, nationalism, and identity. Through whimsical and subversive representations of social behaviors and political paradigms, the projects in this exhibition examine how the vast image culture of our globalized world elicits, demystifies, and resists current discourses on ideologies.

Iván Argote and Larissa Sansour immerse the viewer into unexpected contexts. Argote’s Blind Kittens (2014), a 3-D animation of iconic ion sculptures from Iraq, China, and Italy who3 ambitiously tumble around with a bull, Sansour’s With A Space Envy (2009), in which the artist offers a hopeful vision for a Palestinian future by merging references to Neil Armstrong’s moon landing with Stanley Kubrick’s thematic concerns for human evolution and progress.

Focusing on the historic image of the American hobo, Kathryn Andrews collides themes of consumer culture with political platforms to critique the excesses of capitalism. Jula Wechel juxtaposes Vegas showroomgirls with a drawing by a nine-year-old Syrian refugee, a gesture that grapples with the function of images in modern society and the socio-political landscape of our time.

Basim Magdy, Jeremy Deller, and Christoph Büchel locate contradictions and absurdities within dominant ideological forces. Magdy’s text-based works, Clowns (2014) and The Future of Your Head (2000) reflect the artist’s interest in the poetic quality of ambiguity, as the sardonic statements point to the deceptive perspectives and obscure rules that animate our lives. Deller’s Doctor David Kelly (2012) references the British scientist whose life ended shortly after being identified as the source for a controversial report on Iraq’s supposed WMD program. Deller’s site-specific enterprise remixes elements of Manifest Destiny to resurrect elements of Manifest Destiny to a future New World might look like. Through a process of erasure and rediscovery, Mils creates an idiosyncratic system of cartography complete with annotations and visualizations of how current data about wars and conflicts will influence future U.S. annexations.

By exploring the visual cues that direct our senses of belief and belonging, the projects in this exhibition remind audiences of the power of humor in opening new modes of interpretation and understanding.

In keeping with the delirious spirit of U.S. campaign rhetoric and geopolitical conversations, Ideologue offers unconventional spaces of abstraction and reflection, encouraging a playful look at how contemporary artists joke, fun at the political universe and its claims to social truth.

Rebecca Maksym Curator

LIST OF WORKS

KATHRYN ANDREWS

American Hobo, 2014
ink on paper and Plexiglas, aluminum, paint, mixed media
Courtesy of Mar Mar Family Collection, Los Angeles
Hobe (Untitled), 2014
ink on paper and Plexiglas, aluminum, paint, mixed objects
Courtesy of the artist and David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles
Hobe (Happy Days), 2014
ink on paper and Plexiglas, aluminum, paint, mixed media
Courtesy of the artist and David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles
Hobe (Lemonhead), 2014
ink on paper and Plexiglas, aluminum, paint, mixed media
Courtesy of Darren and Candice Romanelli

BASIM MAGDY

The Future of Your Head, 2008
Two-way mirror, willow wood, Christmas lights and electric wiring
Courtesy of the artist and Marisa Newman Projects, New York
Clowns, 2014
text, acrylic, and fluorescent paint
Courtesy of the artist and Marisa Newman Projects, New York

DAN MILLS

US Future States Atlas, 2003-ongoing
Watercolor, acrylic, collage, graphite and ink on paper
USE Embassy Documents, 2008-ongoing
ink, graphite, and watercolor on paper
All works courtesy of the artist and Zolla Lieberman Gallery, Chicago

CHRISTOPH BÜCHEL

Palestinauts, 2010
24 hard vinyl sculptures
All works courtesy of the artist and Sabrina Amram Gallery, Madrid

JULIA WACHTEL

Showgirl, 2014
oil, flashe, and acrylic ink on canvas
Courtesy of the artist and Elizabeth Dee, New York