



MONIKA ^{K.} ADLER / YGGDRASIL



LONDON 2015



MONIKA K. ADLER YGGDRASIL

One interpretation of the name Yggdrasil asserts that it refers to the old Norse word 'ygg' meaning "terror". Yggdrasil would then etymologically equate to 'tree of terror, gallows'. This rich and archetypal symbol runs through the pre-Christian religions and folklore of a number of Nordic and Germanic societies. Its fruit was connected to human births and it was said to continually grow and be destroyed as it was consumed by the mythic creatures that dwelt in its canopy.

The Family tree is often, similarly, a tree of terror. The legacy of our ancestors, their erroneous codes of life, anxieties, traumas, beliefs, auto-curses, misery, poverty, stupidity and emotional cruelty, were engraved on our subconscious before we were born.

The dead do not want to die to the end, their last food is those still living. The next generation has to fulfil the demands of the dead, give meaning to their defeat and bring justice to the world. But this mediation through time and history ends in tragedy and brings only new corpses. The dead eat the living.

Obedient to our ancestors we sink into their worlds. Once free no one has a power over us. Free yourself.

Monika K. Adler, July, 2015



Yggdrasil, 2015





Ashes Of Maya Deren, 2015



The Legacy of Ancestors, 2015



The Dead Eat The Living, 2015





Tree of Terror, 2015



Unchained, 2015



Ladder To Ascend The Heavens, 2015



Rejuvenate, 2015

BIOGRAPHY

Monika K. Adler (born 5 January 1982) is a Polish artist and film director based in London, The United Kingdom.

Monika K. Adler's film and photography work has been both critically acclaimed and generated a significant following drawn from audiences worldwide. She is currently working on her debut feature film SICK BACCHUS, 2016.

Her works have been shown in exhibitions, video art and film festivals internationally. These have included: Cannes Film Festival, Gwangju Biennale, South Korea, Gislaveds Konsthall, Sweden, The State Museum of Gulag, Moscow, Edinburgh International Festival, The National Art Gallery Wozownia, Torun, Poland, Facade Video Art Festival, Plovdiv, Bulgaria, The Nihilist International Film Festival, Los Angeles, International Feminism Conference 2013, The Institute of Education, London, National Press Gallery Seoul, Korea, Ilmin Museum, Seoul, Korea, One Billion Rising: London Arts Festival, Museum of New Art Detroit, Film Award For Films On Art, Portugal, Expressive Arts Institute, San Diego, Zeta Art Center & Gallery, Tirana, Albania, Galerie



La Tour, Paris and the II International Festival of Photography Lodz, Poland.

She is best known her avant-garde films such as *The Beauty of the Shadow*, 2011, *Chernobyl of Love*, 2012, *Purification*, 2012, *Misery of my soul*, 2012, *Wolfe von Lenkiewicz – Portrait of the artist*, 2012, *Come back to the trees*, 2013, *Mutability*, 2013, *On being an Angel*, 2014, *Involuntary Memory*, 2014, as-well as the photography collections: *Nokturn*, 2002, *Sacred Flesh*, 2003, *Mademoiselle Guillotine*, 2004, *Travel no End and other stories*, 2005-2010, *Chernobyl of love*, 2011, *Anxiety & Neurosis*, 2012, *Existence*, 2013, *Coyote*, 2013 and *Beyond Time*, 2014.

Monika K. Adler's films and image-based works have been the subject of a number of academic studies and essays and published in numerous magazines and publications.

“Historical violence haunts the short films of Monika K. Adler. The bodies of her female protagonists are carriers of traumatic memory. Even apparently consensual encounters carry this residue of past horrors. The contagion of mass violence, invading waves of fanatics inspired by the pure rage of true belief to shattering acts of violation and subjugation inform every frame of Adler's films. Yet her short films are intimate and minimal, the majority of them limited to two figures, one male, one female; domestic melodramas of desire,

estrangement, sorrow and rage. The males however continue to carry with them the threat or at least the echo of the past's marauding ravagers or act as inheritors and enforcers of oppressive and brutal orthodoxies: The women appear perpetually trapped in scenarios of betrayal, disappointment, subjugation and reduction, frequently if unknowingly complicit in their own bad outcomes.”

Robert Smart, *The Ambivalent Body: On The Short Films Of Monika K. Adler*, London, 2013.

“Cutting across boundaries between consciousness and unconsciousness, or of time, race or culture, Monika K. Adler's work exhibits and offers engagement: embracing anxieties, neurosis or delusions, which themselves can be full of all hidden secrets and/or memories (as in trauma related experiences and memories) of actual history (e.g. in terms of bodily and emotional abuse) in terms of our current state of being, ‘the now’. So eventually, with the power of the strength gained from coming through distress and suffering, liberation of the self as individual can be possible.”

Drs Kevin Zdaniecki, *Review Of Monika K. Adler's Photographic Work: A Psychological Perspective*, London, 2013.

CONTACT

STUDIO E-MAIL

monikakadlerestate@gmail.com

WEBSITE

www.monikakadler.com

REPRESENTATION

Trinity .∴. London & Oslo

Tel. +44 (0)7960 991 550

General inquiries: aligntrinity@gmail.com

www.aligntrinity.com

Art + Commerce

531 West 25th Street, 4th Floor

New York, Ny 10001

Tel +1 212 206 0737 Fax +1 212 463 7267

52 Rue Bichat, 75010 Paris, France

Tel +33 (0)1 74 90 50 50 Fax +33 (0)1 74 90 50 59

Unit 9b Utopia Village, 7 Chalcot Road, London NW1 8LH

tel +44 (0) 20 7031 7301 fax +44 (0) 20 7031 7311

General inquiries: info@artandcommerce.com

Monika K. Adler's Photographic works are represented for commercial use by Art + Commerce/ PhotoVogue.

www.artandcommerce.com

EXHIBITIONS FILM AND FESTIVALS

2015

Time is Love.8 [Show 5]; National Institute of Fine Arts, Tetouan, Morocco

TIME is Love.8 [Show 4]; Sala Rekalde, Bilbao, Spain

TIME is Love.8 [Show 4]; Kalo Panafrican Creations, Bilbao, Spain

THE SELFIE SHOW, Museum of Photography and New Media, Troy, MI, USA

CeC 2015 – Carnival of e-Creativity, CologneOFF X, North Western Hills University Shillong, Meghalaya, India

TIME IS LOVE 8. (Show 3); Kulter. Gallery, Amsterdam, NL

TIME IS LOVE 8. (Show 2); Zeta Art Center & Gallery, Tirana, Albania

Christie's First Open – Christie's Auction House, London, UK (Shortlisted).

TIME IS LOVE 8. (Show 1); Expressive Arts Institute, San Diego, CA, United States

TIME IS LOVE Screening – international video art program curated by Kisito Assangni

2014

FILM AWARD for FILMS ON ART – PORTUGAL 2014, Festival Temps D'Images, Lisbon, Portugal

CologneOFF X – Damen & Herren eV Duesseldorf, Germany

Facade Video Festival 2014, Plodiv, Bulgaria

CologneOFF X – 10th Cologne International Videoart Festival, Germany

The Selfie Show, Museum of New Art Detroit, MI, USA

Edinburgh International Festival, 2014, C the Film, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

CONTINUUM, HEP "Love & Hate" included in the presentation by Uma Ray, Gallery Studio 21, Kolkata, India

Madonna "Live Art Curation": 14 April 2014, 7pm EST on BuzzFeed! The photograph Mademoiselle Guillotine

in a global digital initiative Art For Freedom.

International Video Art Festival «Now&After» '14 at the State Museum of GULAG in Moscow, Russia

2013

The Nihilist International Film Festival, Highways Performance Space, Santa Monica, California, USA

Human Emotion Project “Love & Hate”, Artreview, London, United Kingdom	One Billion Rising: London Arts Festival: Art Against Violence, London, UK	2007	Homeless Gallery, Zlota former Palacowa Kasa Przemyslowcow W-wskich, Warsaw, Poland
Art:screen: All Woman – Gislaveds Konsthall, Sweden	Bodies of silence #3: When Words Are Made Flesh – curated Giulia Casalini at Cuntemporary – Platform, Netil House, London, UK	Photography Show – The Pound, Montreal, Canada	2001
SIMULTAN FESTIVAL 2013 – ‘Popular Unknown’ – Sinagoga din Cetate Timisoara, Romania	Chinese Open 2013 – Q Park, Chinatown, Soho, London, UK	2006	Exhibition of photography by students of European Institute of Photography curated by Marian Schmidt, Cultural Centre, Lowicka – Warsaw, Poland
Douglasism Festival – curated by Kim Kim Gallery, Seoul, National Press Gallery Seoul, Korea	2012	Presentation of The Photographs Of Monika K. Adler and Masterpieces By Salvador Dali: 80th Anniversary of McKinsey & Company, McKinsey & Company Warsaw, Poland.	1999
Douglasism Festival – curated by Kim Kim Gallery, Seoul, Ilmin Museum, Seoul, Korea	Homeless Gallery 10th Anniversary show – Palace of Culture and Science, Warsaw, Poland	2005	Diploma Exhibition in Art & Design – PLSP, Warsaw, Poland
Feminism in London – The Institute of Education, London, UK	Gwangju Art Fair – Gwangju Biennale, Gwangju, South Korea	Monika K. Adler – La photographie moderne – Galerie la Tour, 111, Rue St. Honore, Paris, France (solo show)	1998
Purification – Exploding Cinema, London, UK	Edinburgh Art Festival, C the Film, Edinburgh, UK	Homeless Gallery & Parasolka Floats at Silk Mill, New York, United States	Biennial Exhibition of School of Fine Arts – PLSP, Warsaw, Poland
A Retrospective of the Film works of Monika K. Adler – The Edinburgh Festival: C-the- Film, Edinburgh, UK	Cannes Film Festival – Chernobyl of Love at Villa Garbo, Cannes, France	Homeless Gallery, Zlota former Palacowa Kasa Przemyslowcow W-wskich, Warsaw, Poland	1996
Magmart, International Video Art Festival – Italy	Screen from Barcelona – Espacio de Proyectos San Pere C. Barcelona, Spain	Virtual Memorial for the victims of the terror – “London” – curated by Wilfried Agricola de Cologne (CologneOff)	Biennial Exhibition of School of Fine Arts – PLSP, Warsaw, Poland
Wolfe Von Lenkiewicz – Portrait Of The Artist – Shortcutz Amsterdam, Netherlands	2009	2003	1994
In The Eyes of Women – Festival of Art and Music Evolution, Canary Wharf, London, UK	Contemporary Photography Show, Espacio_A_Rojo De Arte Contemporanea – Cordoba, Spain	II International Festival of Photography – Lodz, Poland	Biennial Exhibition of School of Fine Arts – PLSP, Warsaw, Poland
Exploding Cinema at MS Stubnitz, Canary Wharf, London, UK	2008	Beyond reality curated by Izabela Jaroszevska, National Art Gallery Wozownia – Torun, Poland	
Artists with iPhones – curated by Anders Weberg, Stockholm, Sweden	Contemporary Photography Show, Espacio Kubiko, Madrid, Spain	2002	
Misery of my Soul – Human Emotion Project, London, UK		Homeless Gallery, Stocznia Gdansk – Gdansk, Poland	

FILMOGRAPHY

FEATURE FILMS

2016 – SICK BACCHUS

SHORT FILMS

2014 – On being an Angel

2013 – Mutability

2012 – Purification

2012 – Chernobyl of Love aka Drink Blood of your Sin

2012 – Come Back to The Trees

2011 – The Beauty of the Shadow

2010 – I know (Script, Direction: Monika K. Adler and Arthur Schmidt)

DOCUMENTARY FILMS

2012 – Wolfe von Lenkiewicz – Portrait of the Artist

VIDEO ART

2013 – Memoire involontaire [Involuntary Memory]

2013 – Misery of my Soul

FILM PRODUCTION

2016 – SICK BACCHUS (feature film)

2014 – On being an Angel (short film)

2013 – Memoire involontaire (video art)

2013 – Mutability (short film)

2012 – Misery of My Soul (video art)

2012 – Purification (short film)

2012 – Chernobyl Of Love (short film)

2012 – Come Back To The Trees (short film)

2011 – The Beauty Of The Shadow (short film)

2010 – I Know (music Video)

ACTING

2016 – SICK BACCHUS – supporting role as Miroslava Kuchar-ski

2013 – Mutability – lead as Monika

2012 – Chernobyl of Love – lead as Irene Adler

2012 – Come Back To The Trees – lead as She-Wolf

2011 – The Beauty of the Shadow – lead as Monika

2010 – I know – lead as Rita directed by Arthur Schmidt

WRITING

2016 – SICK BACCHUS (screenplay with Aeon Rose)

2014 – On being an Angel (screenplay)

2013 – Mutability (screenplay)

2013 – Memoire involontaire (screenplay)

2012 – Misery of my Soul (screenplay)

2012 – Wolfe von Lenkiewicz – Portrait of The Artist (screen-play)

2012 – Purification (screenplay)

2012 – Chernobyl of Love aka Drink Blood of your sin (screen-play)

2012 – Olympia 2012 (screenplay)

2012 – Come back To The Trees (screenplay)

2010 – Amnesia (screenplay))

2008 – The Beauty of the Shadow (screenplay)

1998 – Late Fall (screenplay)

1998 – Two Loves (screenplay with Kamil Polak)

Published in London, August, 2015

Catalogue Design and Production by Aeon Rose, London.

Printed by 1st Byte Printing, Clerkenwell, London, October, 2015.

All images Copyright © 2015 Monika K. Adler,
All Rights Reserved.

Unauthorized commercial publication or exploitation of the
images or text in this publication is specifically prohibited.
If you wish to use any text or image from this publication for
commercial use you must contact us to request and receive
prior permission.

Texts:

Yggdrasil by Monika K. Adler, Copyright © 2015
Monika K. Adler.

The Ambivalent Body: On The Short Films Of Monika K. Adler
by Robert Smart, Copyright © 2013 Robert Smart.

Review of Monika K. Adler's Photographic Work: A
Psychological Perspective by Drs. Kevin Zdaniecki,
Copyright © 2013 Drs. Kevin Zdaniecki.



MONIKA ^{K.} ADLER / YGGDRASIL