



## Project Space & Residency Program

Novalisstraße 7, 10115 Berlin  
Opening hours Wed - Sat 1-7pm  
and by appointment

t +49 (0)30 3384 7393  
info@discursus.info  
www.discursus.info  
f. diskursberlin

# KILL MOTHER

10.06 - 30.09.2018

with

**Ka Hee Jeong, Marcus Steinweg,  
Rosemarie Trockel & Haegue Yang**

curated by

**Jung Me Chai & Marcus Steinweg**

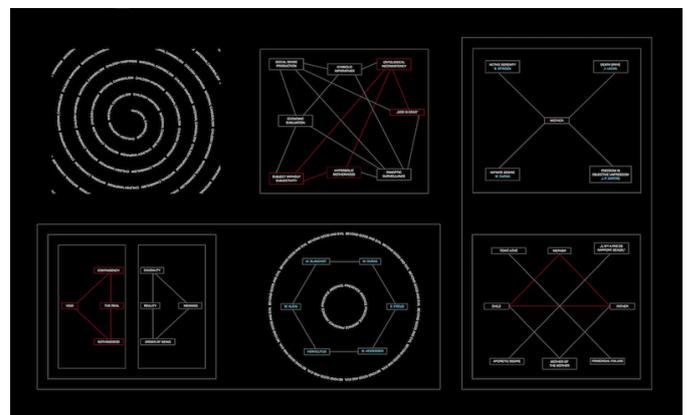
With its provocative title, the exhibition 'Kill Mother' attempts to deconstruct the patriarchy by tackling exactly what it holds most sacred: the role of the mother. Extracting femininity through philosophical frameworks, Rosemarie Trockel and Marcus Steinweg have created two new pieces developed especially for DISKURS. Alongside the fresh pieces, Korean artists Ka Hee Jeong and Haegue Yang contribute with previously instantiated personal accounts of their relationships with their mother and grandmother respectively.

*'The best thing, according to Sophocles in Oedipus at Colonus, would be to not be born. Emil M. Cioran, in turn, titled his book De l'inconvénient d'être né/ The Trouble With Being Born (1973). One might say that to live is to take revenge for being alive. Along the same lines, Marguerite Duras conceives of the mother as a murderer. She kills her child while she gives birth to it. Nothing would be as close to murder, as the act of giving birth. Released into a harsh reality, the newborn experiences his birth as a problem. Reality becomes a narcissistic suffering when it threatens the (supposed) integrity or intactness of the subject. The one to blame is the mother. Torn between feelings of guilt and unacknowledged accusations against her, the child experiences its existence as precarious. The mother takes on a double role in this narrative: she is both a protective power and an unavoidable authority. Duras once said that she could not imagine a world without violence. Her heightened realism is fully resistant to whitewashing. Perhaps to live means to accept this irreducible violence that exists at the heart of intimacy, love and friendship.'*

- Marcus Steinweg, trans. Beatrix Joyce



Rosemarie Trockel: 'Untitled', 2018



Marcus Steinweg: 'DIAGRAM: MOTHER', 2018

## BIOGRAPHIES

**Jung Me Chai** is the director of DISKURS Berlin. From 2011 to 2013 she has worked as project manager for the project "Transfer Korea - NRW " at the NRW Kultursekretariat as well as an assistant curator at the Kunstmuseum Bochum. She has curated exhibitions such as No More Daughters And Heroes, Aram Art Gallery, The Goyang Cultural Foundation, Korea // Organ Mix, Total Museum, and Korea // Kleines Affektchen (Part Film, Video, Performance), Museum Bochum. She has contributed articles to, among others, the well known art magazine Wolgan Misul. Most recently she has been invited as a guest curator for the Asia Triennial in Manchester in 2018.

**Marcus Steinweg** is a German philosopher based in Berlin. He specialises in working between the fields of art and philosophy. He is an editor of the journal Inaesthetics. Steinweg has worked on collaborations with artists such as Thomas Hirschhorn and Rosemarie Trockel. In 2011 he curated the exhibition Kunst und Philosophie (Art and Philosophy) at the Neue Berliner Kunstverein. He has given numerous talks, published many texts and participated in art exhibitions.

**Rosemarie Trockel** is a German artist. She is a professor at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf in Nordrhein-Westfalen. In 1983 she presented her first solo shows at the Monika Spruth Galerie, Cologne, and the Galerie Philomene Magers, Bonn. In the mid-1980s Trockel began to make large-scale paintings produced on industrial knitting machines. These regularly featured geometric motifs or logos such as the Playboy Bunny or a hammer and sickle, and the trademark: made in West Germany. In 1994 she created the Frankfurter Engel monument for the city of Frankfurt. In 2011 she won the Wolf Prize for painting. Since the late 1990's Trockel has worked extensively with clay and has also continued to produce both hand and machine knitted paintings. Several of these paintings were exhibited in her major mid-career retrospective, Post-Menopause at Ludwig Museum, Kassel in 2005. In 2012 The New Museum, New York, presented a major exhibition of Trockel's work, curated by Lynn Cooke, titled Rosemarie Trockel: A Cosmos.

**Ka Hee Jeong** is an artist and curator who lives and works in Berlin. Her first major was in Media Art at Kay Won University of Art and Design in Korea. She moved to Berlin in 2010 and studied Fine Art with Prof. Thomas Zipp at Universität der Künste Berlin. There she received her Absolvent and Meisterschüler degrees in Art. In 2014 she was an artist visitor in a group Action and Mind with Prof. Patrick Haggard in the Institute of cognitive neuroscience at University College London. Her focuses are on media art, art and science. Besides her artistic work, she works as a curator at the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, Germany since 2016, where she rebranded the gallery space to gallery damdam. Her latest exhibitions are PLENUM, a solo exhibition of European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) award winner Yunchul Kim, and Transkoreaning, 2016, a solo exhibition by media-artist Kate-Hers Rhee.

**Haegue Yang** is a South Korean artist, working between Berlin and Seoul. Yang often uses standard household objects in her works which she liberates from their functional context, hereby applying other connotations and meanings to them. After receiving her B.F.A., Yang moved to Berlin and began her artistic career in the late nineties. She is known for her creative use of the Venetian blinds. She uses mundane objects and materials to create complex and nuanced installations that are informed by poetry, politics, and human emotions. Yang has participated in the 2006 São Paulo Art Biennial, the 55th Carnegie International in Pittsburgh, the 2008 Turin Triennale, the 2012 dOCUMENTA (13) in Kassel, Germany and she represented South Korea in the 53rd Venice Biennale in 2009. Yang's first exhibition in the United States, titled Brave New Worlds, was presented at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota in 2007. In 2015, Haegue Yang participated in the Biennale de Lyon, the Sharjah Biennial and the 8th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art. The artist has also had institutional exhibitions in Asia, at the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, and the Leuum, Samsung Museum of Art, Seoul.

## ABOUT

**DISKURS Berlin** (project space & residency program) presents an international program of exhibitions and simultaneously acts as a discussion platform. It focuses on an international curatorial exchange program, collaborates with public and private institutions, manages projects, offers training opportunities and a research program for international curators.

**DISKURS Berlin** acts as a liaison between institutions, artists, curators, and collectors in Germany and Asia, particularly in Korea. For some years now, major biennials have been organised in Korea; the Gwangju Biennial, the Busan Biennial, and the Mediacity Seoul. These are not only regarded as important events in Asia, but also in the Western art world. In addition, there is a growing interest in Korea for the establishment of museums of contemporary art, off-space galleries, and artist residency programs in the larger cities. Since the end of the crisis in the world economy, the outlook for realising such projects is better than ever before. As a negotiator and a facilitator of exchange between Germany and Korea, DISKURS Berlin's mission is to achieve structural improvements within the art scene, to organise contacts and to establish a network of artists, curators, art theorists and art scholars.