

Statement

Ea Vasko

Reflections of the ever-changing (The short history of now)

Where is the picture that will show us the world as it really is?

Is it in our ability to see, or to think?

Why does the world seem different to me and to you?

Can we even define the essence of it?

So, is everything we see and think just a truth of our own?

And how do we know if our truth is ever-changing too, just like the world around us?

Can we even make objective conclusions about the world, because we are a part of it?

How do the situations really look like when they are happening? Can we really tell?

Who would see the real nature of the things, the entity?

Can we believe in a picture, or is it as far from the reality as the shadows on the wall of the Plato's cave?

Is the world different now compared to the moment when you started reading this?

Ea Vasko's artwork focuses on questions concerning seeing and perception. Her photography is often abstract - her intention is that viewers can determine the visual contents of her pictures for themselves. Vasko investigates looking as an action, and how looking can be influenced through pictures. Seeing as a function is an important point of departure for her works: How many or how few recognizable elements does our brain need in order to form a complete visual perception? An abstracted photograph rarely stays on the level of abstraction, because one always attempts to find references to reality and the location where the picture was taken. During the experience of looking, an abstract photograph changes from an abstraction into something else - from a detail into a landscape, from the meaningless into the meaningful, from abstract into representational, from surface into space.

Vasko's works examine urban environments. A city space is alluring because of its motion and changeability; it is vast and multiform, but very difficult to perceive. As a space, a city is not absolutely definable. Instead, its character depends on individual experience. The spatial experience has been a very important theme for Vasko in her artistic processes. In her recent series she concentrates on the momentary experiences that she has encountered in a nightly cityscape.

Reflections of the ever-changing (the short history of now) is Vasko's latest series of photographs. She has photographed reflections in nightly cities from a very close distance. Through the reflections she pictures the constant change and movement that is happening in a city space. A reflection has an ability to gather the light surrounding it to one, abstract picture on a surface. Vasko compares these reflections to momentary experiences: The experience of now is fresh, abstract and still apart from a logical timeline of history that we tend to build in our heads. The abstraction and a certain kind of unpredictable quality of now is just like the picture seen in a reflection: It is not totally definable yet – it is just a sighting. The reflection can be captured to a photograph, but it looks like the camera is too slow for the ever-changing world as well. Something in the picture has moved already during the exposure.