

Sex and Security as seen from a revealing distance

Gallery Sammas is exhibiting installations by the British artist Miranda Housden. The exhibition has been promoted under headlines 'Works in Tallinn' and 'Fruitful'; this last common denominator strikingly embraces the ironically erotic objects on show at the gallery.

There are only four works in the gallery making space allowing the public a good opportunity to enjoy the exposition. The detailing of one of these three-dimensional compositions is dominated by sausage-like phalli and dug-shaped breasts. A flower-like object on one wall carries great resemblance to a womb, connoting the wider meaning of this sign.

Condoms, babies' dummies and artificial fur are used by the artist to express with playful humour the contemporary conception behind this very integrated exhibition. These impressive works carry qualities of the sinister and the delightful, the latter are more abundant, but both are over-exploited with purpose. M. H. considers the nature of satisfaction, sexuality as an aspect of gratification is questioned.

Consumption as regarded by society is a respectable activity. Each individual aspires to a notion of well being and dreams of its accomplishment. It would not be fair to condemn the dreamers, but one should be aware of the risk of growing fat or turning flat. Mental flattening is dangerous in making one passive and nourishing an ignorance that restricts one's interests and presses them into the narrow framework of consumption and dissipation through instant gratification. It ushers in the difficulty of achieving creative fertility in that total fulfilment would cause the subsidence of function.

Sex can be consumed, like food or luxury, without animation. Commodification has become the general tendency. There is no reason for the person of simplistic values to be optimistic for they will be the first to fall into the trap of ignorance.

A sense of freedom can only be sustained through avoiding the iron cage of rationalism and by taking a critical stance from a distance. This seems to be a lasting motif of MH's seriously funny exhibition.

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