

JANNEKE VAN LEEUWEN

Janneke's work revolves around psychological issues (she has a degree in Neuropsychology), taking inspiration from observing people in everyday situations. Although the topics she works around are derived from her own interest, she selects them on the basis of their relation to general issues, confronting others with their own questions. The translation or reading of the human mind she does is unique, being able to create a conceptually fantastic and amazing world, through photographs taken with a "clinic aesthetic" we would say, in the use of the material and interpretation of colour. The visualizations of the thoughts, emotions and intellectual mechanisms of Janneke, with her fluency and in some cases fragility, introduce us into claustrophobic and frustrating environments that reflect their dominance and intelligence at the time of conceiving and her ability to engage us in them. Janneke Van Leeuwen describes her style as: "Attached to the Japanese aesthetic, focussing on a fragile balance and detail in a minimalist composition. " Janneke not only masters the photographic technique, she is also able to create amazing installations and an own universe. Without doubt, a beautiful interpretation of some mysterious still lifes. She introduces us two new series, Negatives Spaces and Stripped Rooms , both made between 2010 and 2011, in which she materialized physicality, ideological concepts of negativity and mental illness, in the end capturing them in her photography. In previous series of Van Leeuwen as Bonding Rooms she investigates affective bonding in aseptic spaces.

In Cable Rooms and Darkrooms she shows strange and challenging sculptures, white and isolated against an also equally white background, giving the impression of being strange laboratory experiments. In Van Leeuwen's work, scientific and artistic research are crossing. Is it not that the exhibition space, the famous "white cube" , is actually an artistic laboratory?

These inner spaces make us waver between science and art, between reason and emotion, two worlds in a state of constant interaction.

Antonio Jiménez.
Sevilla, March, 2011

"When I was 8 years old I thought that people with brown eyes saw the world darker than me with my blue eyes. And when I put sunglasses on I would say to myself "This is what you see when you have brown eyes". I am still fascinated by the fact that we on the one hand all see the world differently, but on the other hand often communicate through images in the expectation others will understand them naturally. In my photography I investigate this assumed objectivity of visual language by placing my personal view of the world out of an everyday context, using universal materials to construct abstract scalemodels of immaterial subjects of life"

Janneke van Leeuwen