

Anael Berkovitz, Lives and works in Tel-Aviv.

Berkovitz received her Bachelor degree in Photography at Minshar art institution, Tel-Aviv, and did an exchange semester at Folkwang University, Essen. After receiving her BFA, she continued her studies at the Hunter College MFA program in NYC.

In 2018 Anael Berkovitz received a 3-month studio scholarship at Haus Schlemmer in Dessau - one of the former Bauhaus Meisterhäuser in Dessau. There she developed the work *tatsache, mädchen, traum*, which combines settings from the early films of Oskar Schlemmer's triadic ballet with personal texts in German written by Berkovitz (who doesn't speak German).

During her art studies in New York at Hunter College, Berkovitz discovered that her great-grandfather Fritz Schminke commissioned the iconic Haus Schminke in Löbau from the architect Hans Scharoun. The owner of the noodle factory (Ankernudeln) in Löbau had a strong interest in Modern Architecture, which is reflected in the factory owner's villa which is located on the neighboring property of the factory. Fritz Schminke allowed Hans Scharoun many artistic freedoms in the design of the house between 1930 and 1933. During the phase of the building's construction, a very warm relationship developed between the family and the architect. The house as a listed architecture monument, is part of a foundation that makes it possible to visit the place.

The solo exhibition at Scharaun is connected to the planned project of Anael Berkovitz at the Haus Schminke in Löbau and depicts both places in the context of cultural transfer. Berkovitz's exhibition project *Kirschallee* in 2017, which refers to the address of Haus Schminke in Löbau, was shown for the first time in New York at Hunter College.

Berkovitz's Grandmother, Gertraude Bleks (born Schminke), grew up as the eldest daughter of Fritz and Charlotte Schminke in the house in Löbau. As being the second eldest daughter of Gertraude Bleks, Tina Berkovitz (born Bleks) and mother of Anael Berkovitz, emigrated to Israel in the 1970s in order to find a new center of life far away from her origins.

At the current solo exhibition, Starting from her current apartment in the White Settlement in Tel Aviv (Mapu 27, video), Anael Berkovitz links idiosyncratic observations such as the nesting of a crow on the sun roof of her balcony with a local peculiarity of her longtime apartment in Brooklyn, the so-called 80% regulation, which states that this particular percentage of the apartment must be carpeted for noise protection reasons (Not a 100%, video installation). In her new video work (Lorimer & Metropolitan Ave (ft. Kirschallee)), spatially and temporally separated places of her family history merge, as Berkovitz scans the music of cars driving past her Brooklyn apartment with the music recognition software Shazam and underlays this music as a playlist with footage of a visit to Haus Schminke in Löbau. The house is animated by the beat of the music and the light fixtures begin to flicker briefly as if by magic.

Identity, memory, place and context play an important role in Berkovitz's work. At Scharaun the biographical culminates in the video (A Mid-summer Afternoon's Dream), which in a unique

way underlies individual mythology in collective as well as cultural memory with the artist's own family architecture. Anael Berkovitz stages her mother in a hospital room performing a humor-filled book of poems in the style of Shakespeare. The author of the photo booklet, which is still in her family's possession, is none other than Hans Scharoun, in collaboration with his wife Aenne and the photographer Alice Kerling. The place of origin of this work from 1933 of the Siemensstadt trio is possibly the former apartment of the Scharouns located below Scharaun, but that is another story.



Still from *tatsache, märchen, traum*, 2018



*Bed I, Bed II, from the project Kirscallee, 2017, Installation view*



*Maybe That's What it Means, 2018, Installation view*



*Lorimer & Metropolitan Ave (ft, Kirschallee), 2021, Installation view*



*Nose Soap*, 2021. Installation view



As a pledge for this endeavor,  
We send this picture book.

Still from *A-Mid Summer Afternoon's Dream*, 2021