

SchweigenPunkt

Schweigen. Schweigen. Verschwiegenheit. Verschweigen. Punkt. Punkt.

Installations of Franziska Greber, Switzerland

ABOUT

Speaking and silence is often in conflict with different interests. When, why and what women express depends on many factors and is also situation, land and culture specific. Values are an important reference, as is safety. It is a thin line whether the raised voices are resonant and powerful or fall silent again.

The international art project WOMEN IN THE DARK was initiated in 2016 by Franziska Greber. In cooperation with organizations in each country, women have the opportunity to write their experiences, injuries, wishes and hopes on white shirts (in India on dupattas/scarves) with red permanent markers. The writing process of women is the responsibility of the project partners. They define the appropriate framework and are available for advice as needed. With the consent of the participants, the writing is accompanied by interviews and documented with photos and videos.

So far, eight countries participate (Zimbabwe, Seychelles, Mauritius, China, India, Chile, Germany and also Switzerland), 13 project partners, more than 300 organizations as well as 1800 women that shared their experiences. The writing flows into the artistic process, which focuses on the messages of women's voices and leads to various installations. The voices become public.

THE ARTIST

Franziska Greber is a Swiss artist and psychotherapist. In her many years of work, she has dealt with discrimination, stress and violence, as well as with the exploitation of dependencies and committed to women's and human rights. She was the Co-leader at the Intervention Center against Domestic Violence of the Canton of Zurich's Directorate of Justice and Home Affairs and worked as a psychotherapist, teaching at universities and colleges and writing numerous articles in scientific journals and books.

She has worked in many theater projects and as a consultant and script employee in film projects. Her understanding of her art as a "culture of a lively and critical discourse" lays the substantive and structural foundation for WOMEN IN THE DARK. Cooperation and participation are anchors, the various media, such as installations, photography, videos and texts of the means of her artistic intervention.

Fundamental rights and equality are not yet a matter of course in the lives of women and girls. Again and again they are confronted with conflicts, tensions and dilemmas between, also within tradition, culture, religion, family and society. Franziska Greber examines these existential issues for women.

INSTALLATIONS

Entrance

SILENCE / POINT

Installation (2019)

400x400x800cm, 60 black trash bags hanging from strings

Installation (2019)

300x300cm, 500 white shirts, tied up with strings

First floor

PHOTOS

Photos of the writing process were taken by the women participating in WOMEN IN THE DARK, project coordinators and Franziska Greber (2016-2019)

WRITTEN SHIRTS AND DUPATTAS/SCARFS

Installation

300x200cm

VIDEO

Installation (2018)

'What do I fear of Losing?'

Second floor

VOICES

Video Installation (2019)

800x600cm, Mattresses and Bed Linen