

Veronika Spierenburg

Aus-Höhlen

Areas 5 & 6

The two films by Veronika Spierenburg, on view here and in Area 6, are radically different versions of the same material. In both films Spierenburg places us within a series of monastery caves in Georgia, looking out at a framed bit of landscape as if in seated meditation.

The film in this gallery, completed four years after the first, introduces the voices of unseen women interviewed on the streets of Georgia's capital Tbilisi responding to questions from the artist that ask them to imagine their bodies as dwellings.

Veronika Spierenburg (b. 1981, Switzerland) is a multimedia artist. She studied in Basel, Amsterdam, and London in her early years. Her work is strongly influenced by her travels in Japan, China, Brazil, Mexico, and Georgia.

Area 5

Veronika Spierenburg
Aus-Höhlen ("From Caves"), 2015/2019
HD video, 12 min.
Director: Giorgi Bukhaidze
Camera: Tato Kotetishvili
Interviews: Elene Pasuri
Courtesy of the artist

Philippe Halsman
Photographs of a rehearsal for
Martha Graham's *Cave of the Heart*,
with set by Isamu Noguchi, c. 1946
Vintage print
10 x 8 in.
The Noguchi Museum Archives, 12824

Isamu Noguchi
Woman, 1969
Seravezza marble
10 1/8 x 13 x 10 in.
The Isamu Noguchi Foundation and
Garden Museum, New York
p657

Veronika Spierenburg, Aus-Höhlen is supported by the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia and, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council and from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

Mobile Guide

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Our experience of the first film, in this gallery, is of remoteness and silence. We are allowed to sample the spiritual power of isolation that presumably goes with a monk's seclusion. The title *Aus-Höhlen* (literally "from Caves") is a pun on the German verb "to hollow out," a hint that perhaps withdrawal from society is not the simple solution it seems.

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Area 6

Veronika Spierenburg
Aus-Höhlen ("From Caves"), 2015
HD video, 21 min.
Courtesy of the artist

Philippe Halsman
Photographs of a rehearsal for
Martha Graham's *Cave of the Heart*,
with set by Isamu Noguchi, c. 1946
Vintage print
10 x 8 in.
The Noguchi Museum Archives,
12828

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