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GALERIE ART CRU BERLIN · ORANIENBURGER STRASSE 27 · 10117 BERLIN-MITTE
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DÜNNE HAUT BELHE ZAIMOGLU and MICHAEL BEHRENS Art from the Open Atelier St. Hedwig Hospital

Vernissage: Thursday, 09.07.2015, 6 pm
Exhibition: 10.07. – 12.08.2015
Opening Hours: Tuesday–Saturday, 12–6 pm
Galerie ART CRU Berlin, Oranienburger Str. 27, 10117 Berlin-Mitte, Germany

Greetings: Alexander Grafe
Regional CEO Alexianer St. Hedwig-Kliniken GmbH
Dr. Christian Hanke
Deputy Mayor and City Councilor for Health of Berlin Mitte
Dr. Christiane Montag
Senior Physician Psychiatrische Universitätsklinik der Charité im
St. Hedwig-Krankenhaus

Introduction : Paula Schmidt-Dudek
Artistic Director Open Atelier St. Hedwig

LIVE MUSIC NOW: Andrey Lakisov and Timofei Sattarov
Laccasax

Galerie ART CRU Berlin is showing paintings and drawings by Belhe Zaimoglu (belruby) and photos by Michael Behrens. Both artists are working at the Open Atelier St. Hedwig-Hospital.

The very personal works by **Belhe Zaimoglu** provide insights into inner worlds, which usually remain hidden in everyday life. The artist combines an unsparing openness with graphic playfulness. One image shows a half-nude female only covered by a “veil” of loose colorful lines, which seems as if it was about to be lifted. A different work shows a figure whose skin appears transparent and reveals an intricate network of nerves under its surface. A third picture depicts a woman’s head whose eyes have four pupils, painted on a consecutively numbered calendar sheet in light yellow, orange and purple tones that are characteristic for Zaimoglu. The artist was born in 1966 in Germany to Turkish parents. Her works witness an eventful and partly painful biography. Torn between cultures, she worked as a bank employee in Ankara and later successfully as a trained actor on German theatre stages until she was forced by her illness to stop. Today she is an artist who makes her own state the subject of discussion in her works and tells her stories on canvas using a mix of different painting techniques.

Michael Behrens (born 1948, Bonn) is a trained photographer and was already working in this field for several years before moving to Berlin in 1989. He has been going to the Open Atelier since 2011. In his first years as a member, he created ornamental pictures. The formerly reclusive artist suddenly picked up his old profession and began to take photos of his own X-ray images: an extraordinary artistic experiment visualizing the

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Oranienburger Straße 27
10117 Berlin-Mitte

Vorstand:
Alexandra von Gersdorff-Bultmann
Ralph Stabbert
Wolfram Voigtländer

Spendenkonto:
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artist's corporeality and investigating the issue of its medial representability, inspired by the works and theory of photographer Andreas Feininger. Behrens glued his X-rays to the windows of the Atelier and then photographed them. The translucent quality of these medical images allowed the artist to capture facets of the surroundings (trees, hospital buildings) in the emerging photographs. The illuminated pelvic bones, ribs and skulls become multimedia Memento Mori, reproductions of reproductions puzzling the viewer. They are a unique combination of varying view points, medical and photo techniques as well as mind and body of the artist.

Galerie ART CRU Berlin is Berlin's only gallery for so-called Outsider Art since 2008. The term (introduced in 1945 by painter Jean Dubuffet as "Art Brut") refers to art by people with psychiatric disorders or mental disabilities. We are convinced that the particular perception these artists have allows them to create art of high authenticity. With our exhibitions we present works by "outsiders" as a crucial part of contemporary art and aim to foster discourse within the established art world. Being located at the Kunsthof on Oranienburger Straße, the gallery presents works by people with disabilities right in the centre of Berlin's art scene. Galerie ART CRU Berlin is backed by the non-profit federation PS-Art e.V. Berlin – a network of different institutions.

For its five-year jubilee the gallery published a chronicle comprising all exhibition catalogues from 2008-13. In 2014 we took part at the *Outsider Art Fair* in *Paris*, the world's leading fair in this field. The same year saw the nomination of five artists from the network of PS-Art e.V. Berlin for the international art prize *Euward*.

For further information and images please contact us:

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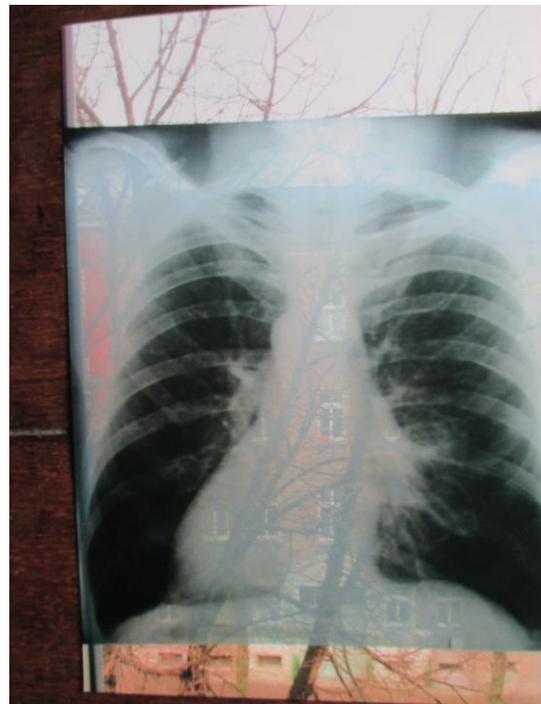
Belhe Zaimoglu belruby, Dünne Haut, 2015,
acrylic, pastel, paper, 64x50



Belhe Zaimoglu belruby, Ohne Atem, 2015
mixed media, paper, 85x62



Michael Behrens, Ohne Haut, 2015
photo, digital print, 70x50



Michael Behrens, Ohne Haut, 2015
photo, digital print, 70x50

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