

# PRESS RELEASE



GALERIE ART CRU BERLIN · ORANIENBURGER STRASSE 27 · 10117 BERLIN-MITTE  
WWW.ART-CRU.DE · FACEBOOK.COM/GALERIEARTCRUBERLIN

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## ZWISCHENRÄUME STEPHANIE BIALEK

**Vernissage:** Thursday, 29.10.2015, 7 pm  
**Exhibition:** 30.10. – 05.12.2015  
**Opening Hours:** Tuesday–Saturday, 12–6 pm  
Galerie ART CRU Berlin, Oranienburger Str. 27, 10117 Berlin-Mitte, Germany  
**Greetings:** Stephan Bloesy  
Kaspar Hauser Stiftung  
**Introduction:** Anke Heinze  
Pinel gGmbH

**Galerie ART CRU** is presenting paintings by **Stephanie Bialek**. Her pictures mostly depict landscapes or sceneries in nature which she paints with a minimalistic approach. These landscapes are complemented by works showing abstracted figures with a vigorous appeal.

Using her diverse palette of oil- and tempera colors the artist creates pictures that remind of expressionist landscape paintings or works by Edward Munch. In her earlier pieces, which depict figures, the painter concentrated on expression. In one (almost) duochromatic work you see a ghostly yellow figure which seemingly disperses into the deep blue background. Further figures are holding their heads or are screaming. The furious power of her painting technique give the images their emotional nature. The images are so strong that they tend to pull the viewer in and at times the painter has lost herself inside them.

In her later works Bialek started to focus on landscapes and prove herself as a master of atmosphere. The change of subject in the oeuvre helped to ground the artist. She has a unique ability to enrich seemingly harmonic motifs with a touching depth. She continually paints trees, which are standing alone or in small groups. Bialek lets them sway in the wind dramatically or dips them in dark red or blue tones for sunrises or –sets. The supposedly idyllic paintings appear slightly deceptive on the viewer. There seems to be more behind the dislocated trees and the views on the sea or mountain villages than just nature romanticism. During her studies Bialek's reception of her surroundings changed, which she more and more perceived as a threat. For the artist painting was the only way to deal with these feelings: "No matter how great my misery was, I always wanted to bring color into the pictures."

The trained architect Bialek has been painting since 2003 in the studio of sculptor Karin Gralki and at Maria Neumair of Kaspar Hauser Stiftung. She lives in a sheltered housing project of Pinel gGmbH.

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**Trägerverein:**  
PS-Art e.V. Berlin  
Oranienburger Straße 27  
10117 Berlin-Mitte

**Vorstand:**  
Alexandra von Gersdorff-Bultmann  
Ralph Stabbert  
Wolfram Voigtländer

**Spendenkonto:**  
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft  
IBAN: DE42100205000001082600  
BIC: BFSWDE33BER

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**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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Stephanie Bialek, o.T., 2007,  
gouache on paper, 50x70



Stephanie Bialek, Begegnung, 2011,  
gouache on canvas, 40x30



Stephanie Bialek, Kröslin im Herbst, 2011,  
gouache on canvas, 30x40



Stephanie Bialek, o.T., 2007,  
Gouache on paper, 50x70

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