



Silvia Levenson

Mindy Weisel

Wir laden Sie herzlich ein
zur Ausstellung

NOT NEUTRAL
Malerei, Objekte und Installationen

Vernissage
Freitag, 15. Februar 2013, 19-21 h

Finissage
Samstag, 30. März 2013, 16-18 h

You are cordially invited
to the exhibition

NOT NEUTRAL
Paintings, objects and installations

Vernissage
Friday, 15 February 2013, 7-9 pm

Finissage
Saturday, 30 March 2013, 4-6 pm

lorch+seidel contemporary

Tucholskystr. 38 | D-10117 Berlin-Mitte | di-fr 13-19 h, sa 12-18 h
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When I was young, back in Buenos Aires, I would spend hours playing on the swing. At some point, I remember taking off my shoes and standing on the swing, I would push myself pretending to fly and touching the sky. I remember the feeling of panic and challenge very precisely. Such a sensation has followed me throughout my life, during the period of the Argentine military regime as well, when more than 30,000 people were kidnapped and murdered. *She flew away* alludes to the emptiness left in our society by the *desaparecidos*, to the kids for whom the brave grandmothers of *Plaza de Mayo* are still searching, to the presences that have accompanied me through all of these years. SL

All my life, I have searched for light and joy through my art. My responses to the world are never "neutral" In fact, my intense reaction to suffering is matched by the need for and appreciation and love of beauty. This new body of paintings and glass works reflect my belief in the survival of the human spirit. MW

In meiner Kindheit in Buenos Aires konnte ich Stunden auf der Schaukel verbringen. Ich erinnere mich, dass ich einmal meine Schuhe auszog, auf der Schaukel stehend Schwung nahm und mir dabei vorstellte, zu fliegen und den Himmel zu berühren. Das Gefühl der Angst, aber auch der Herausforderung, ist immer noch sehr präsent in mir. Diese Empfindung hat mich mein Leben lang verfolgt, in der Zeit des Militärregimes in Argentinien, als mehr als 30.000 Menschen verschleppt und ermordet wurden. *She flew away* verweist auf die Leere in unserer Gesellschaft, die durch die *desaparecidos* entstanden ist, auf die Kinder, nach denen die mutigen Großmütter der *Plaza de Mayo* immer noch suchen, auf deren Gegenwart, die mich in all den Jahren begleitet hat. SL

Meine Kunst war für mich eine beständige Suche nach Licht und Freude. Meine Reaktion auf die Welt war niemals "neutral" ... Vielmehr ist mein Bedürfnis nach Schönheit, ihre bewusste Wahrnehmung und Verehrung, genauso stark wie meine intensive Auseinandersetzung mit dem Leid. Diese neue Werkserie ist Ausdruck des Glaubens an das Überleben des menschlichen Geistes. MW

Silvia Levenson was born in Buenos Aires in 1957. She and her family went into hiding for almost three years as political activists opposing the military dictatorship of General Jorge Rafaél Videla. In 1981, during the disappearances of the so-called *Dirty War* in Argentina, they fled the country and immigrated to Italy, where they eventually attained dual Argentine-Italian citizenship. Silvia Levenson studied at the *Martin Garcia School of Graphic Design* in Buenos Aires. She acquired glass-making skills at the *Musée-Atelier du Verre* (Sars-Poteries/FR) at workshops with Antoine Leperlier (pâte-de-verre, 1991) and Vincent van Ginneke (casting, 1994). Silvia Levenson lives in Lesa/Italy and Buenos Aires.

In 2004, Ms. Levenson received the *Rakow Commission Award* from the *Corning Museum of Glass* in New York; in 2008, she was shortlisted as a nominee for the *Bombay Sapphire Prize*. Her works have been exhibited throughout Europe, America, and Asia, and are found in numerous public collections including the *Houston Museum of Fine Arts*, the *New Mexico Museum of Art* (Santa Fe), the *Alexander Tutsek-Foundation* (Munich), the *Ernsting-Foundation* (Coesfeld/DE), the *Corning Museum of Glass* (Corning, NY), and the *Museo del Vetro* (Altare/IT).

Silvia Levenson | *She flew away* | 2011
Kilnformed glass, steel rope | 40 x 50 cm

Mindy Weisel was born in the displaced persons camp of Bergen-Belsen in 1947, the only daughter of Auschwitz survivors. In 1950, the family immigrated to the USA; Mindy Weisel grew up in New York City. She studied painting at *California State University*, at the *Otis Art Institute* (both Los Angeles, CA), and received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1977 from *George Washington University* (Washington DC). In 2005, she started working with glass and attended workshops at the *Pilchuck Glass School* (with Therman Statom), the *Corning Museum of Glass* and Kari Minnik's glass studio in Silver Spring MD. Mindy Weisel lives in Washington DC and Jerusalem.

Mindy Weisel's art has been exhibited in museums and galleries throughout the USA, and in Germany and Israel. Her work is found in permanent collections such as the *Hirshhorn Museum*, the *Smithsonian Institution*, the *National Museum of American Art*, the *Baltimore Museum of Art*, the *Israel Museum*, and the *Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Museum*. Ms. Weisel has been honored by inclusion in the *Smithsonian Archives of American Artists* and has received *The Rutgers National Works on Paper Award* (Stedman Art Gallery, 1986). She is the author and publisher of several books, has designed two book covers for works by Primo Levi, and has contributed to numerous lectures and panel discussions on *Art As Autobiography*.

Mindy Weisel | *The Queen of Oranges* | 2012
Painting and silk screen on glass, kiln-fired | 35 x 25 cm