

The Wand
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**Cognitio Arspobiae : Show Therapy at The Wand
July 14th - July 29th**

Open Hours: Saturday and Sunday July 15/21/22/28/29; 13:00 - 18:00 and by appointment.

Opening: July 14th, 2012, 19:00 - 22:00

Performance by Kelly Kleinschrodt featuring Isabella Lewandowski 19:30; Performance by Sarah Goodrum 21:00

Finissage: July 29th 13:00 - 18:00

Performance by Kelly Kleinschrodt featuring Isabella Lewandowski 15:30; Performance by Caitlin Berrigan (to be determined); Directed Performance by Melissa Steckbauer featuring Max Merz (throughout)

Featuring: Caitlin Berrigan, Peter Böhnisch, Jean-Ulrick Désert, Sven Drühl, Anneke Eussen, Felix & Mumford, Robert Gschwantner, Sarah Goodrum, John Isaacs, Stefan Kaminski, Annegret Kellner, Kelly Kleinschrodt, Anna Lehmann-Brauns, Catherine Lorent, Antje Majewski, Veronika Schumacher, Ulrika Segerberg, Caro Suerkemper, Klaus-Martin Treder, and Klaus Winichner.

We, Melissa Steckbauer and Alex Tennigkeit, are pleased to announce our first co-curatorial venture; in our exhibition project we address the transgression of fear. Fear is often experienced as a vacuous and irrational power, something which limits our emotional, physiological, and spiritual conditions. In this exhibition we explore the useful aspects of fear by first acknowledging it's daily presence in our lives, from development forward. We recognize that it is an important resource, providing information regarding our survival, the outside environment, and our own bodies; it is a vigil against harm. From the psychoanalyst, Fritz Riemann* it is also clear that there are phases of development wherein the overcoming of certain fears belongs to certain stages of development. I.e., only those people who have overcome said fears move into the next round of living and those who are retarded by fear are immobilized in life. Despite recognizing these limits of our biological and sociological positions, we as artists have the potential to use our fears as propulsion to hurdle ourselves into new levels by exploring the lost chapters of our personal narratives. Instead of giving fear more power over us, which may lead to the impetus to hide or contract, we are willing to experience pain and thus widen our awareness. We will transgress our fears in order not to sit at the level of "afraid"; the selected artists deal with this theme in variegated ways, from explicitly political to personal and poetic.

*Fritz Riemann (1902–1979) was a German psychologist. In 1961 he published the book Grundformen der Angst [Basic Forms of Anxiety].

Together with the graphic designer Catrin Sonnabend, we will produce a 48-page, black and white catalog.