DAM GALLERY

EDUARDO KAC

Inner Telescope

Preview: Friday, November 9th, 2018, 7-9pm **Exhibition:** November 10th to December 30th, 2018

The American artist Eduardo Kac (*1962) works on the interface of electronic art and biological systems, of computer tech and transgenetics, of video art and biotelematics. The artistic interlinking of nature and technology is his way of philosophically questioning processes of communication. In this, he is particularly interested in the communication between species, for example the processual exchange between human and plant by means of technology, presupposing organic processes and technical sequences as non-verbal forms of communication. Human, biological, and technical language systems are codings by which information is communicated, received, and processed. Eduardo Kac examines in his artistic work to what extent verbal and non-



verbal language systems are able to complement and change one another by reciprocal influence, as well as which superordinate significance they are thereby able to gain.

In the exhibition *Inner Telescope*, Eduardo Kac fathoms in videos, photographs, drawings, and textile works the linguistically coded versus the figurative representation of the self, along with the localisation of the self in the context of the respective environs. The video work of the same title positions a simple paper object within a technical construct in the infinity of space – a representation of the self as an ephemeral and fragile element of the all-encompassing nature, organically structured and creatively made with simplest codes in an environment of highly complex technologies.

Bound to our planet by gravity, it is all too easy to lose sight of the fact that the human is part of a larger picture, which is hardly graspable in its spatial limitlessness. In the eyes of the artist, gravity is the umbilical cord that keeps us connected with our planet. In order to expand sight and perception and to enable a new dialogical exchange between the self and the environs, this connection is symbolically cut off in the video, thereby cancelling out gravity.

Free-floating, visible from all sides, without a top or a bottom and not subjected to gravity, the self, coded in object and image representations of the human, attains liberating detachment of visual constraints. Overall, *Inner Telescope* is a philosophically poetic reflection on localisation and metaperspective.

Kristina von Bülow