

Mirjana Rukavina

Closeness and other stories

Opening Friday, March 9th at 8pm

KiBela, space for art / Multimedia centre KIBLA

The exhibition **Closeness and other stories** delves inside two of the fine arts' fundamental genres: the portrait, the nude and the intertwinement of both. The compositions of the portrayed persons, who are allowed to dress, undress and express themselves freely, in front of the camera address the issues of self-representation of the individual in a society that is entirely saturated by visual messages, and at the same time problematizes the often vague distinction between artistic and highly aestheticized fashion photography.

Some of the models, like the Kurd women, were found by chance on the streets of Vienna and thus pose for the first time in front of a professional photographer. They are portrayed inside the Central European Viennese context and are in a way connected to genre painting. Others are professional models, accustomed to the camera, but not to nudity. They are all placed inside a situation where they can freely present themselves, as well as provoke and dare the surroundings and the ever-implicated observer. They face the dilemma of whether to just pose for the camera or open up and strip – both literally and metaphorically – in front of it. Through an undeniable trust in the photographer their relationship progresses from a chance meeting into an overwhelming personal story.

Mirjana Rukavina (b. 1969) concluded the study of painting at the Faculty of fine arts in Vienna in 1997. The core of her opus is formed by fashion and art photography, but she often also stretches into the fields of film and performance.

Aleksandra Kostič and Žiga Dobnikar

Kindly welcome! Admission free.

The exhibition will be showing until March 31st 2012.

March 9th – March 31th 2012

Opening: March 9th 2012 at 8pm

KiBela / KIBLA Maribor

KiBela, space for art, is open on weekdays and Saturdays between 9am and 10pm, closed on Sundays.

Support: Ministry of the Republic of Slovenia for Culture, Ministry of economic development and technology in the framework of OP IPA SI-HR 2007–2013, Municipality of Maribor, and Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth and EU agencies (EACEA, Program Culture, Leonardo da Vinci, Youth in Action, Brussels).