

Lars-Andreas Tovey Kristiansen

Galleri Lilith Waltenberg 17 - 27 februari - 2011



**Lars-Andreas Tovey Kristiansen, Halden, Norway, 1983.
Lives and works in Malmö, Sweden.**

Zone of Alienation

The Zone - it's ... a very complicated system ... of traps, let's call it, and all of them are deadly. I don't know what's going on here when humans are away, but the moment someone shows up, everything starts moving.
"Stalker", STALKER (Tarkovsky, 1979)

In Andrei Tarkovsky's film STALKER released in 1979 three men - a stalker, a writer and a professor, ventures into a place they call "the Zone", where the landscape is in constant alteration. The inspiration for this Zone came supposedly from the Mayak nuclear facility in the Soviet Union, which had seen an accident in 1957 rendering the surrounding area extremely hazardous to humans. Tarkovsky used ruins surrounding the Tallinn power station in Estonia as film location. This area was badly polluted, something claimed to be the reason for his untimely death due to lung cancer in 1986.

At 1.24 am on 26 April 1986 an accident occurred at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, causing one of the reactors to explode. 36 hours after the accident the almost 50,000 inhabitants of Pripjat, a city only 3 kilometres away, were evacuated at two hours' notice and with a promise that they would be able to return after three days. An area of 30 square kilometres, including Pripjat, was closed off and has remained uninhabitable because of the radioactive contamination from the accident.

June 24, 2010 I gathered digital photographic material within the closed off zone, now referred to as "The Zone of Alienation". When I later went through the material on my laptop a portion of the images took on a life of their own. The images changed each time I viewed them. They started dividing and rearranging themselves into abstract black and white patterns or turning intensely green while keeping parts of the original image. In both instances parts of the image disappeared altogether being replaced by grey rectangular shapes. This grey was the background of the Preview program being used to enable the viewing of the images. I tried to transfer the original files to another computer in order to print them, but this computer was unable to open them referring to them as unrecognizable files. The only way I

could capture this mutating phenomenon was by saving the images as the screenshots being shown in the exhibition.

Similarly unexplained distortions of the images recorded in the vicinity of Chernobyl were reported by the documentary filmmaker Vladimir Schevchenko and others when reviewing their film stocks documenting the clean up of the nuclear disaster in 1986. Black spots and white flares and a crackling noise appeared consistently on all of their films.

Lars-Andreas Tovey Kristiansen

Education:

2006 - 11 Master of Fine Art, Malmö Art Academy, Malmö, Sweden

2009 Braunschweig University of Art (Prof. Candice Breitz), Braunschweig, Germany

2005 - 06 Prosjektskolen Art School, Oslo, Norway

Solo exhibitions:

2010 The Radiant City, MFA graduation show, KHM, Malmö, Sweden

2010 you don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows, Lumiar Cité, Lisbon, Portugal

Group exhibitions:

2011 ESCAPE, Lunds Konsthall, Lund, Sweden

2010 Leinen Los! 85. Herbstaustellung, Kunstverein Hannover, Hannover, Germany

2010 Malmö goes Oslo (curated by Tiril Hasselknippe), ONE NIGHT ONLY Gallery, Oslo, Norway

2010 The Art of Speculation (curated by Justin Hoffmann), Kunstverein Wolfsburg, Wolfsburg, Germany

2009 MHH-kestnerschau 03|2009 - weiß weißer nichts (curated by the Kestnerlabor)

Kestnergesellschaft, Hannover, Germany

2009 Information Wants to Be Free (curated by Fatima Hellberg), Platform One Gallery, London, England

2009 Rundgang - Klasse Breitz, Braunschweig University of Art, Braunschweig, Germany

2009 I Folkets Park (organized by Annika Eriksson), Folkets Park, Malmö, Sweden

2008 A Public Affair, Galleri 21, Malmö, Sweden

2008 Botnik Space Off, Botnik Studios, Gerlesborg, Sweden

Other:

Co-founder and co-director of Landings Project Space, Vestfossen, Norway

www.landings-projectspace.com

2010 Participation in The International Artists in Residence Programme at Maumaus, Lisbon, Portugal

2009 International Support, OCA - Office for Contemporary Art Norway

<http://www.toveykristiansen.com/>

Galleri Lilith Waltenberg.

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Öppet: lördag kl 12, 16 onsdag, fredag kl 12, 18 eller enligt överenskommelse

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