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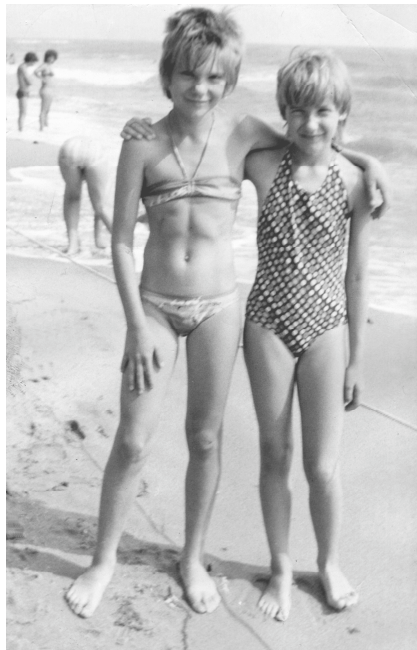
Communiqué

RADA BOUKOVA
Me and a German girl

Exposition 28 mai – 2 juillet 2011-06-23
Vernissage samedi 28 mai de 14h à 21h

Curated by Joathan Chauveau

Rada Boukova was born in 1973 in Sofia, she is one of the most important Bulgarian artist of her generation. Graduated from the National School of Fine Arts, Paris in 2002, she took part in several group exhibitions in France and abroad. *Me and a German girl* is her first personal exhibition in Paris.



Rada Boukova *Me and a German girl* 2007-2011

The photography *Me and a German girl* is like an open door, it introduces a new perspective on Rada Boukova's work: from Bikini's atoll in the Pacific Ocean to a skull candy and a plastic bag horizon, you will walk across ten amusement park balloons that are slowly deflating in the gallery space as old childhood souvenirs under the effect of time.

Comrades

Took in 1984 on a Black Sea beach in Bulgaria, the memento picture *Me and a German Girl* shows Rada Boukova at the age of eleven arms in arm with an East German girlfriend. If the artist doesn't remember the name of her friend, she recalls on the other hand the circumstances of the picture.

In socialist Bulgaria, like in any other country of the Soviet block, the children had to keep a friendly relationship with a communist alter ego, they had to have a "comrade". Each summer, the state would organise holiday camps by the seaside so the Comrade could meet each other, an official photographer would come to immortalize the friendships, artificially created by the political power. Today nothing remains from this summer friendship, except this picture that shows obviously – despite the made up meeting – the simple pleasure, innocent and spontaneous of a smile to a camera.

MEMBRE DU COMITE DES GALERIES D'ART

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