

Saâdane Afif, Maria Thereza Alves, Maja Bajevic, Jean-Pierre Bertrand, Jordi Colomer, Jimmie Durham, Didier Faustino, Dora Garcia, Mathew Hale, Christian Hidaka, Jean-Charles Hue, Armand Jalut, Yuri Leiderman, Didier Marcel, Stefan Nikolaev, ORLAN, Dan Perjovschi, Elisa Pône, Mark Raidpere, Michael Riedel, Franck Scurti, Allan Sekula, Raphaël Zarka, Chen Zhen

ALLAN SEKULA / Polonia and...

10.11.2011 - 14.01.2012

English version overleaf

La galerie Michel Rein est heureuse de présenter *Polonia and....*, cinquième exposition personnelle d'Allan Sekula à la galerie (2008, 2004, 2001 & 1998).

Depuis les années 70, le travail d'Allan Sekula combine l'art conceptuel et la pratique documentaire, en se focalisant sur des thématiques économiques et sociales, l'éducation, les complexes industriels et militaires. En questionnant les conventions du documentaire, il continue à concevoir la photographie comme une pratique sociale, liée au monde et à ses problèmes.

Les photographies de la série *Polonia and Other Fables* ont précédemment été exposées à la Renaissance Society, Chicago (2009), à la Zacheta Gallery, Varsovie (2009), au Ludwig Museum, Budapest (2010), Media City Seoul (2010) et Belfast Exposed (2011). Dans la série *Polonia and Other Fables*, Allan Sekula combine une exploration personnelle de ses racines polonaises à une recherche plus vaste sur l'émigration polonaise et des relations entre les Etats-Unis et la Pologne aujourd'hui. Suivant les pas de ses grand-parents paternels, l'artiste voyage de la Pologne vers les Etats-Unis, avec des accents quelquefois autobiographiques - la série inclut des photographies de ses parents, les images d'un forgeron polonais font référence au métier de son grand-père avant l'émigration. Ces détails personnels se prêtent à des recherches plus générales, de la communauté polonaise à Chicago à l'influence omniprésente des États-Unis dans la Pologne contemporaine.

Une publication *Polonia and Other Fables* est disponible à la galerie (Polonia and other Fables, 2009, textes de Katrzyna Ruchel-Stockmans, Hilde Van Gelder, Hamza Walker, Karolina Lewandowska, 23.3cm x 22.9cm, 120p, éditeurs Renaissance Society, Chicago et la Zacheta Gallery, Varsovie).

Le travail d'Allan Sekula a été présenté dans des musées et expositions internationales : Biennale de Sao Paulo (2010), La Virreina, Centre de la Imatge, Barcelona (2011, 2010), Taipei Biennial (2010), Mukha Anvers (2010), Documenta Kassel (2007, 2002), Centre Pompidou (2006, 1996), Whitney Museum (2006, 2002, 1993, 1976), Generali Foundation, Vienne (2010, 2007, 2006, 2003), MACBA, Barcelone (2004, 2001), Winterthur Foto Museum (2001), Foto Institute Rotterdam (2001, 1997)

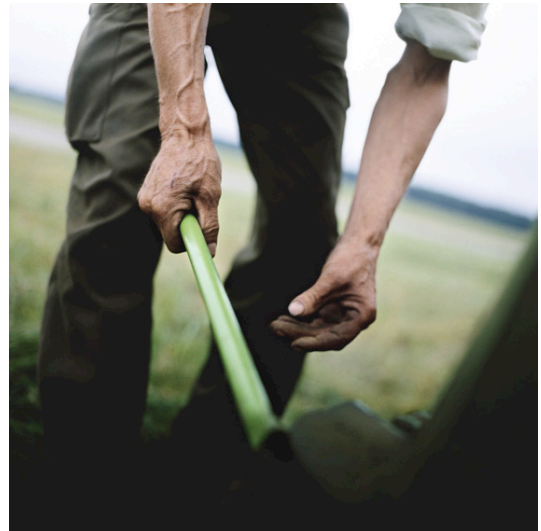
Le film *The Forgotten Space*, réalisé par Allan Sekula et Noël Burch, a reçu en 2010 le Prix Orizzonte au Festival du Film de Venise (Mostra).

Première projection en France : 2 décembre 20h, Salle Jean Dame, rue Léopold Bellan, Paris 2e

Prochaines expositions d'Allan Sekula : *Oceans + Campfires : Allan Sekula and Bruno Serralongue* au San Francisco Art Institute, commissaire Hou Hanru (30 nov 2011-18 fév 2012), *Allan Sekula : Film Retrospective* à Stills, Scotland's Centre for Photography (12 nov -18 déc 2011), *Ship of Fools*, à Stills, Scotland's Centre for Photography (21 janv-18 mars 2012) commissaire Kirsten Lloyd, *The Dockers Museum*, La Criée Centre d'Art Contemporain de Rennes, commissaire Jürgen Bock (6 April 2012 - 20 May 2012).

Remerciements : Renaissance Society, Chicago, Zacheta Gallery Varsovie, Ludwig Museum Budapest.

Prochaine exposition à la galerie : *Americans in NY season 2*, curator Ami Barak, 28.01 - 25.02.2012



Allan Sekula, *Polonia and Other Fables*, Farmer threshing grass at abandoned airport used by the CIA for transport of clandestine "high value" terrorism suspects. Szymany, Poland, July 2009, 2007-2009, 122 x 122 cm, ed 5 + 1AP

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ALLAN SEKULA / Polonia and...

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Galerie Michel Rein is pleased to present the exhibition Polonia and... by Allan Sekula. The exhibition shows works from the series Polonia and other Fables which, over the past two years, has been exhibited at the Renaissance Society (Chicago), Zacheta Gallery (Warsaw), Ludwig Museum (Budapest), Media City Seoul and Belfast Exposed.

This is the fifth solo exhibition by Allan Sekula at the gallery over a 15 years collaboration (previous exhibitions in 2008, 2004, 2001 & 1998).

Since the early 1970s Allan Sekula's work has bridged the gap between conceptual art and documentary practices, focusing on economic and social themes ranging from family life, work and unemployment, to schooling and the military industrial complex. While calling many of the conventions of documentary into question, he continues to see photography as a social practice, answerable to the world and its problems.



Allan Sekula, *Europa*, 2011, 121,92 x 182,88 cm, ed of 5 + 1 AP

In the series Polonia and Other Fables, the artist combines a very personal exploration of his Polish roots with a wider investigation into emigration and the Polish-American relations in the world today. In the footsteps of the artist's paternal grandparents, the series travels from Poland to the United States. Although occasionally steering towards the autobiographical - the series features the artist's parents, images of a Polish blacksmith refers to Sekula's grandfather's occupation before emigrating - these personal details lend themselves to the wider issues being investigated, from the Polish community in Chicago to the omnipresence of the United States in Poland.

A catalogue on the series was published by the Renaissance Society and the Zacheta Gallery and is available for purchase at the gallery (Polonia and Other Fables, 2009, texts by Katrzyna Ruchel-Stockmans, Hilde Van Gelder, Hamza Walker, Karolina Lewandowska, 23.3cm x 22.9cm, 120p.).

Allan Sekula's work has been shown in museums and biennials around the world, including the Sao Paulo Biennale (2010), La Virreina, Centre de la Imatge, Barcelona (2011, 2010), Taipei Biennial (2010), Mukha Anvers (2010), Documenta Kassel (2007, 2002), Centre Pompidou Paris (2006, 1996), Whitney Museum (2006, 2002, 1993, 1976), Generali Foundation, Vienna (2010, 2007, 2006, 2003), MACBA, Barcelona (2004, 2001), Winterthur Foto Museum (2001), Foto Institute Rotterdam (2001, 1997).

His film The Forgotten Space (co-directed with Noël Burch) premiered at the 2010 Venice Film Festival, winning the Orizzonte Special Jury Prize.

French premiere : December 2, 8pm, Salle Jean Dame, rue Léopold Bellan, Paris 2^e

Allan Sekula's upcoming exhibitions include Oceans + Campfires : Allan Sekula and Bruno Serralongue at the San Francisco Art Institute, curated by Hou Hanru (30 November 2011 - 18 February 2012), Allan Sekula : Film Retrospective at Stills, Scotland's Centre for Photography (12 November - 18 December 2011) and Ship of Fools, also at Stills, Scotland's Centre for Photography (21 January 2012 - 18 March 2012) both curated by Kirsten Lloyd, The Dockers Museum, La Criée Centre d'Art Contemporain de Rennes , curated by Jürgen bock (6 April 2012 - 20 May 2012).

With special thanks to the Renaissance Society, Chicago, Zacheta Gallery, Warsaw and the Ludwig Museum, Budapest.

Upcoming exhibition at the gallery: *Americans in NY season 2*, curator Ami Barak, 28.01 - 25.02.2012