



ARTIST STATEMENT

TICKLE ON GREEN

Bei diesem Projekt geht es wie so oft bei Meinen Arbeiten um Manipulation und das gezielte Verdrehen der Wirklichkeit. Nichts ist echt, alles ist gefaked. Auf dem fertigen Bild sieht der Betrachter:in wunderschöne erfrischende Portraits lachender Menschen, die sich scheinbar auf einem grünen Rasen befinden. Die Welt scheint im Gleichgewicht zu sein. Unterschiedliche Porträts von Menschen aus zwanzig Ländern erzeugen gleich eine gute Laune die mitreißend ist, doch der Schein trügt. Das Lachen ist nur hingefoltert! Ein Schock, wie kann das sein? Der Porträtierte ist doch bester Stimmung. Eine mit dem Projekt separat aufgenommene Videoinstallation klärt ziemlich schnell auf, das hier etwas stattfindet, das so nicht richtig zum Kontext passt.

Das Projekt möchte mit den Bildern auf die länderübergreifende Folter hinweisen, die noch immer in den verschiedensten Regionen unserer Erde stattfindet. Eine Ziege die im Bild nicht zu sehen ist, leckt dem Probaten das aufgebrauchte Salz von seinen Füßen.

Diese Foltermethode existierte tatsächlich im Mittelalter in Deutschland. Damals wurden die Delinquenten auf dem Marktplatz vorgeführt und die Zunge der Ziege löst dann auf Dauer einen unglaublichen Schmerz aus . Die Serie wird 15 Bilder umfassen von 15 Menschen aus unterschiedlichen Nationen umgesetzt werden. Dieses Projekt wird im Sommer 2024 umgesetzt, und findet sicherlich, durch die begleitende Videoinstallation, viral eine große community.

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As is so often the case with my work, this project is about manipulation and the deliberate distortion of reality. Nothing is real, everything is fake. In the finished picture, the viewer sees beautiful, refreshing portraits of smiling people who appear to be standing on a green lawn. The world seems to be in balance. Different portraits of people from twenty countries immediately create a good mood that is infectious, but appearances are deceptive.

The laughter is just tortured! A shock, how can that be? The person portrayed is in a good mood. A video installation recorded separately with the project quickly makes it clear that something is happening here that doesn't really fit the context. The project wants to use the images to draw attention to the transnational torture that still takes place in various regions of the world. A goat, which cannot be seen in the picture, licks the salt from the subject's feet.

This method of torture actually existed in Germany in the Middle Ages. At that time, delinquents were paraded in the marketplace and the goat's tongue then caused incredible pain over time. The series will comprise 15 images created by 15 people from different nations. This project will be realized in summer 2024 and will certainly find a large viral community through the accompanying video installation.

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In "Tickle on Green," Matthias Barth once again explores the realm of manipulation and deliberate distortion of reality, where nothing is genuine and everything is artfully fabricated. The final images present viewers with beautifully refreshing portraits of laughing individuals seemingly situated on a lush green lawn. The world

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appears balanced, and the diverse array of portraits from twenty different countries radiates contagious joy. However, appearances can be deceiving.

The laughter captured is not spontaneous but rather coerced, a shocking revelation that challenges the initial impression of the jovial scenes. A separately recorded video installation associated with the project swiftly clarifies that there's more to the context than meets the eye.

This project aims to draw attention to cross-border torture that continues to persist in various countries. Unseen in the images, a goat licks salt from the subjects' feet, mimicking a historical torture method from medieval Germany. In that era, wrongdoers were paraded on public squares, and the tongue of a goat, when applied to the skin, induced prolonged and excruciating pain.

The series comprises 15 images, each featuring individuals from different nations. Scheduled for execution in early 2024, this project, accompanied by a compelling video installation, is anticipated to gain widespread attention and resonate virally. "Tickle on Green" seeks to provoke contemplation on the persistence of torture across borders, prompting viewers to reconsider the authenticity of seemingly joyful moments and engage with the underlying narrative of human suffering.