

Victoria & Andreas

August 24th

Meeting with Louise Dany

Live-work-show

We met Daisuke Kosugi and Ina Hagen to talk about the new gallery space they are opening this Wednesday. The space is called Louise Dany and is an integrated part of their own apartment, a live-work-show space, if you like. We met them in Vigelandsparken on what was initially a Pokémon date.



Tell us more about the name, Louise Dany

We read this book by Katarina Bonnevier *Behind Straight Curtains : Towards a Queer Feminist Theory of Architecture*, where one chapter is describing a villa drawn by architect Eileen Gray, and where she also lived. The architecture of her building was trying to break with heteronormative living and support other life arrangements, not only the nuclear family. On the other hand, Gray had a housekeeper who was living in the same house, but the maid's quarters were designed very much like every other building, so in a way, those hierarchies Gray were trying to counter were reproduced all the same. That said, it is speculated that Gray also had a romantic relationship with her maid, and maybe the maid-thing was just a story to cover up their relation. And so the maid's name was Louise Dany.

Do you want to mirror that kind of living arrangement or untraditional architecture?

In a way, yes. The front side of our space used to be a milk shop, and the milk guy would live in the back. Later it has been used as a storefront. What's also funny is that the windows are covered in this mirror foil, so people walk by thinking they're only looking into a mirror, while in fact we can watch them pick their nose, trying on new clothes or whatever. That whole thing changes by night though, as we become the ones on display. We like the idea of the space being both private and public at the same time.

Does your programming also reflect this notion of public while private?

We want to make intimate settings, and we really like the model of the group critique where we all discuss an artwork or object together. For this first week of programming we are collaborating with INCA, an artist run space in Seattle, and together we have invited the artist Sondra Perry to join us for four days. She will be doing a multimedia presentation, two reading groups and a screening surrounding her newest video work. Perry's new work is discussing the surveillance of fluid identities and the technology developed to cope with that, seen through the lens of the Alien-franchise.. Food and the dinner setting is something we want to explore as well, both of us enjoy cooking, and we enjoy being hosts. Our hope is to initiate some kind of artistic community.

Will you have snacks? I would definitely come if there was art and snacks, and some place to chill.

We are being chased by an emancipated dog at a spot where there must be some Pokéstuff going on. But our only Pokémon phone died, so we will never know. We're also talking on how this game might access your gmail account, while google in turn is said to be working with the US army. Here we discuss flooding the web with personal details as a strategy to avoid pinpointed surveillance. Because, you can't be caught with your pants down if you're not wearing pants. For some, Pokémon is an excuse, or opportunity, to get out and into the world, while it is also highlighting how public spaces are open to some players, and restricted to others.

*Louise Dany is opening today, more info here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/546116308923137/>
<http://louisedany.no>*