Inspired by the work of Christian Schad, German artist Tim Otto Roth has created a multi-layered »Gesamtkunstwerk«

For the Kunsthalle Jesuitenkirche, internationally renowned researcher and concept artist Tim Otto Roth has developed an extraordinary presentation linked to the upcoming opening of the adjacent Christian Schad Museum. Roth’s engagement with his predecessor, however, goes beyond the mere ‘dialogic event’. Schad’s late photograms – seemingly transcending space and time and the artist’s most significant contribution to art post-1945 – form a focal point. Recognizing the photograms’ fundamental relation to music and the spatial arts, Roth has created a multi-layered composition for the church room as a whole. Already in the title, Roth’s idea of Logical Fantasies plays – not without subtle irony – with the effect of the ungraspable, the disconcerting gesture of undefined states. This mirrors an intellectual approach that was also of some relevance for the ‘Dadaist that was’ Christian Schad (1894–1982) and found expression, not least, in his memoirs Relative Realities (1971).

(...)

That said, Logical Fantasies as an exhibition consisting of sound installations, dance, projection, performance and objects, posit a validity of its own; it does not exhaust itself in superficial attitudes, which the context described at the beginning could very well have generated. The event is not ‘complementary’, it is not a conversation with the ‘precursor’ Christian Schad. Rather, anchored in theoretical reflection, the concept links two entirely autonomous artistic positions of which the deeper connections only become apparent if close attention is paid.

– from the introduction by Thomas Richter
01 MaSo-Floor and projection Scarho pirouettant. Artworks © Tim Otto Roth. Photos © Stefan Stark

02 Zuzana Zahradníková dancing to the music of Ravel’s Gaspard de la Nuit. Artworks © Tim Otto Roth. Photos © Stefan Stark

03 Water organ aura calculata and MaSo carpet. Artworks © Tim Otto Roth. Photos © Stefan Stark

04 Light sculpture and Toile d’araignée. Artworks © Tim Otto Roth. Photos © Stefan Stark

05 Neuf portes de ton corps. Artworks © Tim Otto Roth. Photos © Stefan Stark

06 MaSo carpet. Artworks © Tim Otto Roth. Photos © Stefan Stark