

between heaven and earth

Solo Art Project and Installation at the international garden show 2013 hamburg

Technique:

Photography, Video

Year of origin:

2010/2011, Exhibitions in 2011 and 2013

Size:

8 Triptychs (from the series *This World*) 270 cm x 135 cm, inkjet printed on fabric

7 photographies 70 cm x 110 cm, 155 cm x 100 cm, inkjet printed on fabric

Photofilm *water ways*, 15 minutes

Content:

For the exhibition *between heaven and earth* Valérie Wagner portrayed and interviewed members of five religions based in Hamburg.

She started the project in 2005 focussing on buddhist and christian nuns and monks for her openair exhibition *This World*. For the international garden show 2013 she completed the project by portraying members of Hinduism, Islam and Judaism, this time concentrating on their hands which are holding objects of sacred meaning.

The concept of the installation was especially developed for the exhibition chapel on the grounds of the „Garden of World Religions“ as part of the international garden exhibition. Combining videowork and large format photographies printed on canvas Valérie Wagner created at once a space of personal confession and interreligious dialogue.

The subject of the photofilm *water ways* are religious rituals in five major religions, where water is playing a key role as a mean of spiritual cleaning and healing. Valérie Wagner combined Film and Photography to tell the story, using film mainly for the action and photography for slowing it down or stopping it and thereby focusing on elements beyond the action.

Water is the generic element of the film which is leading from one religion to the next, from the spring to the open sea.