

## **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**

### **DENISE ZIEGLER**

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<http://denise-ziegler.squarespace.com>

Born in Luzern Switzerland. Studies in Luzern at Fachklasse für freie Kunst at Schule für Gestaltung (1986–90). Works and lives in Helsinki since 1990. Studies at Academy of Fine Arts Helsinki (1990–91, 1996–97, MA 1997) and Helsinki University. Doctoral Studies (DFA 2010) Academy of Fine Arts, Helsinki.

Currently: Post doc researcher Pori Urban Platform, Aalto University, Finland

#### **Solo exhibition:**

Fish gallery, Helsinki, Finland, 2016; Puuvilla shopping mall, Pori, Finland 2015; Sculptor gallery, Helsinki, 2014; Kristiansand Kunsthall, Norway 2013; Kunsthalle Helsinki 2010; Gallery Kone, Hämeenlinna, Finland, 2009; Alkovi, Helsinki, 2008; Kunstmuseum Olten, Switzerland, 2003; galeri leena kuumola, Helsinki, 2003; Sculptor gallery, Helsinki, 2001; galeri leena kuumola, Helsinki, 2000; Kiasma, Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, 1998; galeri leena kuumola, Helsinki, 1997; Academy of fine Arts Gallery, Helsinki, 1997; tm· Gallery, Helsinki, 1995; Kluuvi Gallery, Helsinki, 1993; Titanik Gallery, Turku, Finland, 1993

Group exhibitions and participations since 1989 in Finland, Switzerland, Poland, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, China, Germany, Estonia, Canada, USA, Italy, Turkey, Spain, Holland, Danmark, Croatia, Japan, South-Korea and Scotland.

#### **Works in public collections:**

Finnish National Gallery, KIASMA Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki; Helsinki City Art Museum, Olten Art Museum, Switzerland

#### **Works in public space:**

OARS FOR A FENCE, temporary work in public space, Pori, Finland

FACE OFF CIRCLES / CERCLES D'ENGAGEMENT, work for the Finnish EU embassy in Brussels, 2013

THE DOTS OF LEINELÄ, boulders and stones in the parks of the residential district Leinelä are marked with clusters of coloured glass dots. Vantaa, Finland, 2013

THREE FENCES, public sculpture consisting of three fences, Hilapello park, Konala, Helsinki, 2010

WINDOW SHUTTER BANDEROLE, sculptural work for the facade of the Olten Art Museum, Olten, Switzerland, 2003

CONCERTO FOR A VALLEY, public sculpture, Töölö Footballstadium, Helsinki, 2001

EPIGRAMMS FOR THE PEDESTRIAN OF HELSINKI CITY CENTER, epigrammatic poems on eight selected manhole covers, 1999.

SYDÄNPUU (HEARTWOOD), Maria Hospital Helsinki, 1999.

Artistic practice: installation, sculpture, drawing, painting, video/film

**Artist statement:**

Denise Ziegler is a artist and researcher of public space.

Ziegler was born and grow up in Switzerland, lives and works in Helsinki Finland. Studies in Luzern (CH) at Schule für Gestaltung. Masters degree and doctorate at Academy of Fine Arts Helsinki (DFA 2010).

Theses title: *Features of the Poetic – The Mimetic Practice of the Visual Artist*. Currently Postdoctoral Researcher at PUPA (Pori Urban Plattform) at Aalto University, Finland. In her reasent research project: *Levels of Elevation – the Sublime Experience as a Method to Address Public Space* she is devellopping a new kind of understanding of public urban space trough experimental artistic interventions.

*I question the concepts of urban space and public art. Experimental artistic interventions are conducted using among others situational irony as a method for reflecting on the impact urban public space and its user can have. Instead of interrogating people and involving them in the process, the interventions put questions directly to public infrastructure, to walls, fences, buildings and pedestrian ways. In a post-Beuysian vein, an artist workshop is extended to public space in order to work with its mechanisms and possibilities. This is considered a political act. The research aims to contribute to the redefinition of concepts regarding how we look at and develop public urban space.*

Denise Ziegler's works are traces of gestures, of human activity, of something that has occurred. For her, working in and with public space is a political act contributing to a city's development that questions hierarchical structures in both physical space and the organisation of society. The conceptualisation and manifestation into a work of art of these interactions can evoke a form of the sublime.

For work documentation see: [denise-ziegler.squarespace.com](http://denise-ziegler.squarespace.com)  
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