



© Roland Biermann, Rheingold 1 (left) and 2 (right) at St. Mary's Times Square, installation view, 2023

ROLAND BIERMANN RHEINGOLD

ST. MARY'S TIMES SQUARE, 14TH MAY – 30TH JULY 2023

St. Mary's Times Square is proud to present two new single works by internationally acclaimed artist Roland Biermann in the form of a site-specific solo exhibition. Fusing contemporary issues with religion and mythology, the Rheingold photographs show a black and gold plastic carrier bag, floating in used engine oil. In the first image, a plastic bag is floating on the surface, in the second one, the plastic bag is half submerged in the oil. Shot outdoors in stormy weather, the surface of the oil reflects grey skies and dark clouds. Merging photography and non-permanent sculpture, the work can be seen as an allegory for greed and the hunger for power, leading to crime and destruction. Created with the waste of the consumer society, negative side-effects of capitalism – past and present – come to mind as well as the cardinal sins and in a wider context, the darker side of human nature. Printed in a new combination of digital techniques and analog screen printing on special-grade tinplate panels, courtesy of thyssenkrupp Rasselstein, the work combines a silvery, reflective surface with a strong physical presence. The golden walls of St. Mary's present a poignant stage for the dystopian beauty of the work.

ROLAND BIERMANN

Roland Biermann (born in Bonn, Germany) is a London-based conceptual artist, working with photography, film, sculpture and installation. He has had numerous solo exhibitions, including De Hoftuin/Hermitage Museum, Amsterdam (2019), Trinity Wall Street, New York (2018), maestroarts, London (2016/17), Galerie du Monde, Hong Kong (2016), Goethe-Institut, Paris (2011) and German Embassy, London (2013 and 2010). His participation in international group shows has included 'Monuments to the Future', Henry Luce Center, Washington, DC, 2021; 'Shanghai Exposure Awards', Shanghai Photofairs, Shanghai, 2020; 'Summer Exhibition', Royal Society of Sculptors, London, 2019; 'Photography is Magic', Aperture Foundation, New York, 2016; 'Between Worlds', Renmin Gallery, Beijing, 2015; 'Journeys', Jewish Museum, London, 2015 and '8. Rohkunstbau', Berlin/Brandenburg, 2001.

ST. MARY'S TIMES SQUARE

Founded in 1870, the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin has been a vibrant presence in the Times Square area for more than 150 years. Renowned for its iconic gothic-inspired architecture, the parish's hallmarks are its Anglo-Catholic tradition, the extraordinary music program and dedication to serving the community. Under the leadership of Interim Rector Sammy Wood and Associate Rector James Ross Smith, worship traditions are upheld, but with an eye toward modern churchgoers. Musical offerings stand alongside projects like Roland Biermann's Rheingold photographs and work regularly exhibited in the Gallery at St. Mary's as a testament to this church's commitment to walking in the Way of Beauty for the life and flourishing of our city.

EXHIBITION HOURS

Monday - Friday 7am - 7pm
Saturday 10am - 6pm
Sunday 9am - 6pm

ENQUIRIES

www.parsonagegallery.org Press Enquiries swood@stmvny.org 212 869 5830 Father Sammy Wood

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