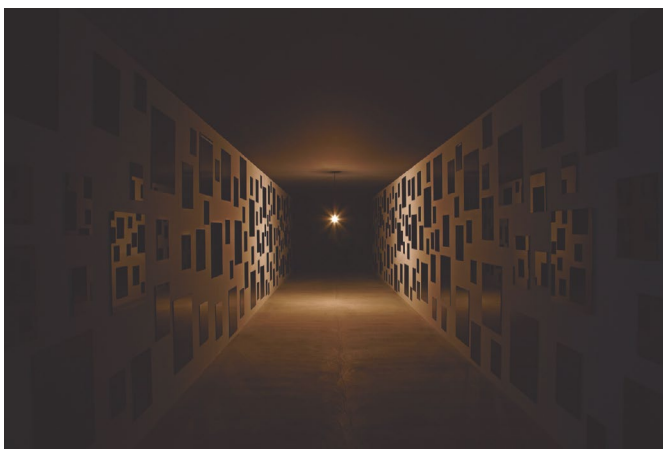


AS PART OF GALLERY WEEKEND BERLIN KEWENIG PRESENTS

KEWENIG



CHRISTIAN
BOLTANSKI
DANACH

28. APRIL
— 23. JUNE 2021

KEWENIG Gallery

Brüderstraße 10 10178 Berlin

LES ARCHIVES DU COEUR -
TESHIMA

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ADAGP, Paris, 2021 /

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Museum Foundation,

photo by Yasuhide Kuge

After Christian Boltanski inaugurated the then newly occupied premises of KEWENIG on Museum Island in 2013, 'Danach' ('Afterwards') is the French artist's second exhibition at this location. Boltanski has so far been associated with Berlin primarily through his memorial plaques 'The Missing House' (1990) in Große Hamburger Straße as well as his installation 'Archiv der Deutschen Abgeordneten' (1999) in the Reichstag building.

With an exhibition conceived as a Gesamtkunstwerk, Boltanski now occupies the entire gallery with examples of his most famous groups of works in which the core themes of his artistic work – the transience of the individual and remembering – are present. Boltanski's iconic installation COEUR (2005) is the centrepiece of the exhibition: throbbing bass tones penetrate all rooms through loudspeakers.



CRÉPUSCULE, 1996,
lightbulbs and cables,
Dimensions variable
© Centre Pompidou / Philippe Migeat
© ADAGP, Paris, 2019



The recording of Boltanski's heartbeat, accompanied by the synchronous flickering of two light bulbs is, the artist's last self-portrait' and at the same time a symbol of the fragility of life and the passing of time. Since the beginning of the Coronavirus crisis, death has pushed its way further into the public, but also private consciousness. Against this background, the artist's work gains an oppressive topicality. In the darkened staircase of the gallery, the German word ,Danach' is emblazoned in the haunting light of blue bulbs - not only a reference to the afterlife or the question of what awaits us after death, but also to the time after the crisis, which is longed for with great hope.



CHRISTIAN BOLTANSKI
(*1944) is one of the most important artists of our time, whose work has been honoured internationally with the Praemium Imperiale and in comprehensive retrospectives.

Christian Boltanski
Salzburg, 2020
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