



BERLIN

IAN CHENG-EMISSARIES
(27 APRIL –1 JULY 2018)



Ian Cheng, EMISSARY FORKS AT PERFECTION, 2015, live simulation and story, infinite duration, colour, sound. Courtesy of the artist and Pilar Corrias, London.

The JULIA STOSCHEK COLLECTION is delighted to present the complete trilogy of the **EMISSARIES** (2015 – 2017) by us-american artist **Ian Cheng** for the first time in Germany.

Ian Cheng creates live simulations that explore the nature of mutation and our capacity to relate to change. Drawing on principles of video game design and cognitive science, the simulations are populated with characters programmed with behavioral drives, but left to self-evolve amidst otherworldly environmental conditions.

EMISSARIES is a trilogy of live simulations about cognitive evolution, past and future, and the ecological conditions that shape it. It is composed of three interconnected

episodes, each centered on the life of a narrative agent – the Emissary – who attempts to achieve a series of narrative goals, only to be disrupted by the underlying simulation and deviate into new directions.

In this way, EMISSARIES imagines stories that can break their classical determinism, and simulations that acknowledge the influence of inner fictions on how we act upon the external world: Stories shape an agent, an agent shapes the world, the world shapes back.

The presentation includes the computer-generated simulations EMISSARY FORKS AT PERFECTION (2015), EMISSARY IN THE SQUAT OF GODS (2015) and EMISSARY SUNSETS THE SELF (2017) as well as 64 drawings from the making of EMISSARIES. On display for the first time, the drawings offer a unique insight into how Cheng's complex simulations arise.

IAN CHENG

Ian Cheng was born 1984 in Los Angeles. In 2006, he graduated in Cognitive Science from the University of California, Berkeley, before studying Visual Art at Columbia University in New York until 2009. He lives and works in New York.

Cheng has had solo exhibitions including in MoMA PS1, New York (2017), Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh (2017), Migros Museum, Zürich (2016), Pilar Corrias Gallery, London (2015) and at the Triennale di Milano (2014). In addition, his works were showcased in group exhibitions in Louisiana Museum, Copenhagen (2017), at Yokohama Triennale (2017), in Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C. (2016), in Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2016), at Taipei Biennale (2014) and the 112th Biennale de Lyon (2013) and in the Sculpture Centre (2012).

JULIA STOSCHEK COLLECTION, DÜSSELDORF / BERLIN

The JULIA STOSCHEK COLLECTION is a private collection of contemporary international art with a focus on time-based media. Founded in 2007, the private collection has its own exhibition building in Düsseldorf, with a total of 3,000 sq.m. available for public presentations.

At present, the collection boasts over 850 works by around 250 primarily European and US artists. The various substantive aspects covered by the collection are presented and documented in regular temporary exhibitions and publications. The steadily growing collection concentrates conceptually above all on the moving image in art from the 1960s to the present day and straddles various disciplines: video, single and multiple projections of analog and digital film material, multimedia environments as well as computer and Internet-based installations, but also ephemeral art forms, such as performances.

To supplement the main Düsseldorf location, since June 2016 a space is open to the public in Berlin. The exhibition area covers a full 2,500 sq.m. and is to be found in Berlin's Mitte district at Leipziger Strasse 60 – in the building complex that formerly housed the Czech Cultural Center in East Germany. Johanna Meyer-Grohbrügge of Berlin architects has masterminded the conversion of the premises into an exhibition space.

GENERAL INFORMATION

OPENING

26 April 2018, 7-10 p.m.

DURATION

27 April – 1 July 2018

OPENING HOURS

27 April – 1 July 2018
Saturday & Sunday, 12–6 p.m.

ENTRANCE

EUR 5.00

Entrance is free of charge for children and young people aged 18 or less, school pupils, students, trainees, the disabled, pensioners, the unemployed and those on social security on presentation of a relevant valid ID.

PARTLY BARRIER-FREE ACCESS

Barrier-free access to the ground floor of JSC Berlin. The 1st Floor is not suitable for visitors in wheelchairs or for baby strollers (access only via the staircase; no lift).

PUBLIC GUIDED TOURS OF THE EXHIBITION IN GERMAN

Sundays, 3 p.m.

Cost: EUR 10.00 per person (incl. entrance)
To register, send an email to visit@jsc.berlin

PUBLIC GUIDED TOURS OF THE EXHIBITION IN ENGLISH

Saturdays, 3 p.m.

Cost: EUR 10.00 per person (incl. entrance)
To register, send an email to visit@jsc.berlin

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Image material on the exhibition can be downloaded here:

<https://app.box.com/s/jpwrwb4eehxmz25gxkgfsuxd9ceveb5>

Press and public relations

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