

Press Release

## **ANNETTE KELM**

September 8 to October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Opening reception: Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00

Presentation House Gallery is pleased to announce the first solo exhibition in Canada—and the largest exhibition at a public gallery in North America to date—of German contemporary artist Annette Kelm. The exhibition features 40 colour photographs and will be accompanied by a forthcoming publication with critical texts by Tom McDonough and Sabine Reitmaier.

Annette Kelm is one of Germany's foremost young artists. Her photographs, often described as "deadpan", explore standard conventions of still life and landscape genres in uncanny new ways. Kelm works both serially and with single images, producing detailed shots that are reminiscent of advertising imagery. But while her work might be read as a straightforward document of objects and places, her apparent objectivity belies a close attention to the uncertainties of perception. As critic Kirsty Bell notes, "As self-evident as [Kelm's] images appear, they are undercut with a strangeness that questions not only the purpose of the objects, but also the nature of their representation."

In addition to building on Presentation House Gallery's commitment to premiere notable international artists working with the camera, this exhibition—which is drawn from private collections across North America—will highlight Annette Kelm's extraordinary body of work and the insights it might offer into traditions of picture making in Vancouver.

Kelm studied at the Academie of Fine Arts in Hamburg. Her recent exhibitions include Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York; Johann König, Berlin; Kunsthalle, Zurich; Camera Austria, Graz; Witte de With, Rotterdam; the 54<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale; The Photographer's Gallery, London; and CCA Wattis Institute of Contemporary Art, San Francisco. Her work was included in Presentation House Gallery's 2009 exhibition, *phot(o)bjects*, curated by Bob Nickas, and in 2007 the Gallery published Kelm's artist book, *Lynn Valley #4* in collaboration with Bywater Bros' Editions. Kelm is represented by Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York; Taka Ishi Tokyo; Johann König, Berlin; Marc Foxx, Los Angeles; and Gio Marconi Milano.

This exhibition is curated by Reid Shier, Director/Curator of Presentation House Gallery. The artist will be attending the opening reception.

Media contact: Diane Evans, [devans@presentationhousegallery.org](mailto:devans@presentationhousegallery.org)

Interviews can be arranged with the curator, press images are available upon request.