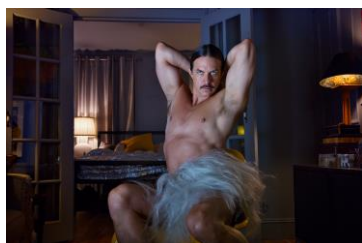


mumok
Museum moderner Kunst
Stiftung Ludwig Wien
Museumsplatz 1, 1070 Wien

FISCHERSPOONER
SIR
Exhibition dates
June 30 to October 29, 2017

Press tour
Wednesday, June 28, 2017, 10 am

Opening
Thursday, June 29, 2017, 7 pm



FISCHERSPOONER
Apt 3/Casey #5, 2015
© Yuki James

FISCHERSPOONER *SIR*

When Warren Fischer and Casey Spooner founded their art, music, and performance project FISCHERSPOONER in 1998 in New York, they had a mission—to make the stuffy and elitist art scene more open and accessible. Success came quickly. After their first orgiastic and opulent performances, like those at MoMA PS1, FISCHERSPOONER became the talk of the town and key protagonists in the city's art scene. With their song *Emerge*, first published in the year 2000, they landed an international club hit that took them into the top 40 in the British charts and in 2002 even led to an appearance in the cult TV show *Top of the Pops*.

From June 30, 2017, FISCHERSPOONER will be presenting their dazzling and playful universe full of queer passion for the first time at mumok—in a show entitled *SIR*. A photo series by Yuki James will form the basis of an installation that FISCHERSPOONER have designed for this exhibition. The photos show Casey Spooner and many friends, acquaintances, and also anonymous men (recruited in the Internet), photographed in Spooner's former New York apartment in various enactments and guises ranging from leather-and-chains bondage to frank male nudity, always within a warm domestic interior and with the greatest possible expressivity. This use of the private ambience of an apartment as the stage for self-enactment raises questions concerning the borders between private and public space. Where does the private end? Where does the public begin? And in which intermediate spaces do we operate?

Today, identities are strongly defined via the social media, and thus presented both in public and in private. This exhibition both creates and challenges narratives based on characters and human relations that use digital technologies and social media.

The installation is an artistic extension of FISCHERSPOONER's fourth album project. Also entitled *SIR*, this album will be published in fall 2017, produced by Michael Stipe (R.E.M.). It addresses the dissolution of the borders between private and public space.

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FISCHERSPOONER operate in the intermediate spaces between humor and seriousness, pop culture and art, fiction and fact, the public and the private. This "in-between space," the continuous gap between all-too-simple parameters, is the location of FISCHERSPOONER's maserful theatrical balancing act, done with no fear of falling—or rather driving right into the fall. "The discovery of this unnamed space," Warren Fischer said, "felt honest and ecstatic; the world cracked open and an elusive truth was revealed."

FISCHERSPOONER's 1998 debut at Astor Palace Starbucks, New York, was followed by shows at MoMA PS1, a performance in Rirkrit Tiravanija's installation *Apartment 21*, and marathon performances in the New York galleries Gavin Brown's Enterprise (2000) and Deitch Projects (2002).

FISCHERSPOONER have published three music albums: *#1* (2000), *Odyssey* (2005) and *Entertainment* (2009). The duo presented the cover and the first single from their upcoming album *Sir* in April 2016 during a lecture event at the Guggenheim Museum in New York. In September 2016 FISCHERSPOONER held a lecture at the Art Institute of Chicago, which they will reperform in mumok kino in conjunction with the mumok exhibition on Thursday June 29.

A DJ set by Wolfram aka Marflow will round off the evening of the exhibition opening.

Fact Sheet FISCHERSPOONER SIR

Exhibition dates	June 30, to October 29, 2017
Press tour	June 28, 2017, 10 am
Opening	June 29, 2017, 7 pm
Location	mumok, MuseumsQuartier, Museumsplatz 1, 1070 Wien, level –2
Curator	Marianne Dobner
Catalogue	<p><i>FISCHERSPOONER. SIR</i> Edited by Marianne Dobner, Museum moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig Wien; with a preface by Karola Kraus and essays by Marianne Dobner, Michael Stipe, Christian Höller, Carl Swanson German-English, app. 120 pages, numerous color illustrations. Softcover with stencilling and transparent dust cover Sales price: € 19,80 (museum) ISBN: 978-3-902947-38-3 (museum edition) ISBN: 978-3-96098-153-4 (Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, Cologne)</p>
Exhibition production	Sibylle Reichmann
Opening hours	Monday: 2 pm to 7 pm, Tuesday to Sunday: 10 am to 7 pm Thursday: 10 am to 9 pm
Admission	Normal € 11,–, reduced € 8,50 or € 7,50
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