

# Domestic Drama

HALLE FÜR KUNST Steiermark





Kaarel Kurismaa A Growler, 1993 Ready-made, plastic, electronics 176 x 59 x 52 cm Courtesy Temnikova & Kasela Gallery, Tallinn Photo: Stanislav Stepaško

*From December 4, 2021 until February 20, 2022*

All objects which surround us have souls of their own, have human qualities because they only exist in a human world. There are really not objects which man perceive. There are no raw inhuman objects. The moment furniture, houses, bread, cars, bicycles, or other products appear in our life, they are related to us, they are. In 1960, Austrian-American psychologist Ernest Dichter published.

The Strategy of Desire, in which he presented his most important thoughts on the development of market and motivation research. On the basis of Freudian psychoanalysis, Dichter developed methods that he called "the art of influence," designed to continually increase our desire for new commodities. At the center of his thinking rests the assumption that humans make decisions not on the basis of rational considerations but of emotions.

Our large group show Domestic Drama is an attempt to trace and conjure up the "souls" that Dichter described, which are allegedly resting in our everyday objects. The scene of this search is a place that is highly formed by emotions: the "home." In hardly any other place than our own four walls, otherwise hardly tangible but nonetheless essential categories are revealed—such as our social, economic, ethnic, and gender affiliations. Living somewhere can very directly shape our social belonging and participation, and in particular precisely whenever this basic need is not fulfilled or is precarious.

[halle-fuer-kunst.at](https://www.damnmagazine.net/calendar/domestic-drama/)



Ayo Akingbade Dear Babylon, 2019 16mm film transferred to 4K video, color, stereo 21:10 min.  
Courtesy the artist and LUX, London





Aram Bartholl Pan, Tilt and Zoom, 2018 CCTV cameras, cable Variable dimensions Courtesy the artist



Nigel Gavus & İlkin Beste Çırak It's on a day like this..., 2021 16mm film transferred to HD, color, sound 16 min. Courtesy the artists





Nicola L. Red Lip Lamp, 1969 Plexiglas, steel 129.5 × 17.1 × 7.6 cm Courtesy Alison Jacques, London and Nicola L. Collection and Archive, Los Angeles



Mona Hatoum 4 Rugs (made in Egypt), 1998/2015 Four hand woven wool rugs 264 × 228 cm  
Courtesy the artist and White Cube, London Nigel Gavus & İlkin Beste Çırak It's on a day like this..., 2021 16mm film transferred to HD, color, sound 16 min. Courtesy the artists Aram Bartholl Pan, Tilt and Zoom, 2018 CCTV cameras, cable Variable dimensions Courtesy the artist Nicola L. Red Lip Lamp, 1969 Plexiglas, steel 129.5 × 17.1 × 7.6 cm Courtesy Alison Jacques, London and Nicola L. Collection and Archive, Los Angeles Photo: © Mona Hatoum. © White Cube (George Darrell)