

SONJA AHLERS

Classification Crisis

Curated by Godfre Leung

For thirty years, Victoria-based artist Sonja Ahlers has been making books in her distinct visual idiom that is equal parts collage and poetry. *Classification Crisis*, a major survey of her career, emerged from Ahlers's project of the last half-decade to prepare her archive. The exhibition includes her Riot Grrrl zines of the nineties, one-of-a-kind chapbooks spanning thirty years, a decade of unseen work after she "quit art" in the wake of the Vancouver art boom, and other artworks and ephemera from a career of collecting images and scraps of language.

Revisiting her career also led Ahlers to produce a new bookwork, *Rabbit-Hole*, which she describes as a "feminist memoir/scrapbook/confessional commentary on the art world and my place within it." Adapted for the exhibition as an installation, *Rabbit-Hole* re-tells the story of her career as a mystery narrative. From the hindsight of the #MeToo reckoning, Ahlers thematizes the collecting and reassembling that sustains her art as a search for clues left behind by her former selves.

Best known for her books *Temper, Temper* (1998)—a compilation of her nineties zines—*The Selves* (2010)—the precursor to her influential work with *Rookie Mag*—and the handmade angora *Fierce Bunnies* series she has been making for three decades, Ahlers's work has been a touchstone for multiple generations of feminist culture.

Richmond Art Gallery and the artist acknowledge the financial support of the Canada Council for the Arts and the BC Arts Council.

索尼婭·阿勒斯

《分類危機》

策展人：梁漢柱

維多利亞藝術家索尼婭·阿勒斯在過去三十年中一直以她獨特的視覺語言創作拼貼畫與詩歌並重的書籍，而因她過去五年來籌劃個人檔案集而誕生的《分類危機》是對阿勒斯職業生涯的一次重要總覽。本次展覽包括了她九十年代的《暴亂女孩》刊物、創作時間跨越三十年的獨一無二的小冊子、在溫哥華藝術熱潮時“退出藝術界”後十年間未曾公開的作品，以及源於收集圖像與語言碎片的作品和紀念品。

重新回顧她的職業生涯也促使阿勒斯創作了一本新書《兔子洞》，她將其描述為一本“關於藝術界和我在其中位置的女性主義回憶錄/剪貼簿/自白評論”。經改編後作為展覽中的一件裝置作品，《兔子洞》以神秘的敘事方式重新講述了阿勒斯的職業生涯。如今從#MeToo運動的思潮反觀，收集和重組各種材料是阿勒斯維持藝術生涯的實踐，而將這些材料分門別類，正是她對過往自己留下線索的一場搜尋。

在阿勒斯的書中，最為人所知的有彙編了她九十年代刊物的《脾氣，脾氣》（1998年）、她與新秀雜誌頗具影響力的合作作品的前身《自己們》（2010年）、以及已經創作了三十年的手創作品《勇敢的安哥拉兔》系列。長期以來，阿勒斯的作品一直是多代女性主義文化的重要參照點。

列治文美術館和藝術家感謝加拿大藝術委員會以及卑詩省藝術委員會的財政支持。