

**KATHI HOFER**  
**FANFICTION**  
featuring **LUCI LIPPARD,**  
**DREHLI ROBNIK**

11. Oct. – 1. Nov. 2015  
Opening: 10.10. 2015, 19h  
Luci Lippard: 23.10. 2015, 21h

Please feel cordially invited to this: The backdrop for you (and for me in this show) is an artistic enterprise of 16th century Mughal India, the Hamzanama, a manuscript illustrated in the style of miniature painting. It originally comprised 14 volumes and 1,400 folios depicting the story of Amir Hamza, the uncle of the prophet Muhammad, whose legend had been passed on throughout many centuries. Hamza's adventures were action-filled, and despite his association with the Prophet mostly secular in nature – yet populated with sorcerers, fairies, giants, spies, demons, dragons, and the like. More than 100 artists summoned from far-flung India illustrated them in a collaborative effort, incorporating their specific techniques, individual handwritings and cultural backgrounds, creating a collective aesthetic & ethic. Originally, the Hamzanama existed in book form with loose pages that would be presented by narrators holding them up while recounting the stories depicted on them. Essentially, it was a form of courtly 'infotainment'.

Over the centuries the manuscript faced the problem of preservation and storage. Single folios were stolen, sold and violated, some resurfaced as decorations in coffeehouses, most of them are irretrievably lost. Today, some 200 remaining are stored in Museum archives: They are too fragile to be exposed to air and light. As part of a collaboration with the MAK in Vienna 3 years ago, I was able to get hold of rare reproductions provided by the museum; fortunately, I didn't have to return them: they are now mine. On view at HPFA is a small selection of them as rematerialized art objects. The setting further includes a silent compilation film by film theorist Drehli Robnik who used to show his themed montages of clips from TV-recorded feature films at Viennese nightclubs in the late 1990s and early 2000s; they were screened as backdrops for music events he organised and hosted as a disk-jockey. Not least, the folios can be seen in the same room with Luci Lippard who, most eloquently, make noise out of poetry. Luci Lippard will play a live set on an evening dedicated to performance, to the pose, and to (pop/non) prose.

- Kathi Hofer

## BIOS

Kathi Hofer is an artist based in Vienna and Berlin. Her practice involves photography, installation, bricolage, and writing. Her work has been recently shown at 21er Haus (Vienna), MAK – Austrian Museum of Applied Arts/Contemporary Art (Vienna), Spalt Haus (Etsdorf/Kamp), Room of Requirement (Berlin), Museum der Moderne (Salzburg), and the 2015 Vienna Biennale. She is represented by Gabriele Senn Galerie.

Luci Lippard is a performance band formed in Berlin in spring of 2014 by artists Lucinda Dayhew and Hanne Lippard. Using drums, voice, synths and songs, the duo makes noise out of poetry.

Drehli Robnik is a theorist, critic, essayist in matters of film, politics and history. Research/ lecturing/ writing on politicized theory and cinema; books written and co-edited on Rancière, Kracauer, Stauffenberg and Cronenberg. Most recent German-language monograph: *Kontrollhorrorokino. Gegenwartsfilme zum prekären Regieren* (2015). Also part-time singing disk-jockey and edutainer, travelling academic lecturer in German and English, part-time researcher at Ludwig Boltzmann-Institute for History and Society, "lives" in Vienna-Erdberg.