

Press release

Museum Folkwang

Video studio

Light in the Shadow

**Käin Karawan, Franziska Megert, László Moholy-Nagy,
Günther Uecker and an intervention by Mischa Kuball
15 June – 3 November 2013**

Essen, June 14, 2013 – The Video Studio *Light in the Shadow* marks the second presentation of the Museum Folkwang video collection and focuses on the basic elements of the medium, namely light and shadow, or to be more precise the absence of light. The five video pieces not only offer an epoch-bridging insight into the themes, as the artistic positions impress by their highly different and yet utterly fascinating inquiry into light and shadow.

As early as the 1920s, photographer **László Moholy-Nagy** experimented with shooting a film that consisted only of light and shadow. He made use of perforated sheets and glass cones to create abstract shapes that changed in the light, while also varying their position in space. By contrast, in the film recording of **Günther Uecker's** performance *Black-White-Room* it is not the light that changes, but the space itself. In the performance, which was filmed in 1975 at Museum Folkwang, the artist paints a black room white and in this way first renders it visible. This film and other Uecker pieces will be back on show in the museum for the first time. **Mischa Kuball** reflects on the diverse philosophical questions that the topic involves in a contemporary vein in his installation *Plato's Mirror*. In the Video Studio's darkened cinema room he projects a film on crumpled reflective foil. The film's light thus reflected creates a new coloured space in which the visitors themselves become part of the artwork, as they cast coloured shadows.

Light in the shadow or shadow in the light – these are issues that go beyond artistic approaches using film or light projections, and as in Plato's famous allegory of the cave open up questions on reality and how it appears to us.

Image material for downloads can be accessed www.museum-folkwang.de

Opening hours: Tues. – Sun. 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Fri. 10 a.m. - 10.30 p.m., closed Mondays

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