

Muenster Feuilleton Westfalian News
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Artist in Goldrush

Tanya Ury presents a video installation in the City Library

Not all that shines is gold. Even if the artist Tanya Ury works with this. Far more, it forces the viewer of her video installation, still to be seen in the mediathek of the City Library till the 30th September, to feel uneasy - a sentiment that nobody in the first instance would identify with the precious metal.

Tanya Ury is English, a feminist and Jewish: this is the material, which goes to make up her work. For, having discovered that several of her family members were murdered during the Holocaust, she decided to make anti-Semitism her subject. Accordingly a video is being presented in the City Library in which Tanya Ury is seen being covered in gold. The viewer's direct gaze on the screen is however obstructed by transparent plastic bags that Tanya Ury has sewn into four long banners. In the bags, meticulously archived with date label is the artist's hair that she has collected over four years.

Ury: "I developed the idea for this work already some time ago but with the current discussion of Nazi gold in Switzerland this work has gained in contemporaneity." The artist who has been living in Cologne for the last four years does not wish to give more information, however. She would rather that people come to their own conclusions regarding her work. One thing that is important to her, though, as regards the video installation in the City Library: parallel to all possible negative interpretations, there are also the positive associations of transformation and alchemy.

The curator Marion Boeker of the Autonomous Women's Research Post "Black Widow" likes the intensity of Tanya Ury's works. What Ury wants to express with her works, whether pain or unbearable cruelty, is for the viewer quite palpable. Further works by the artist can be seen on the following weekend in Cuba, Achtermannstraße. *Simone Hoffmann*