

Katharina Fritsch: Postcards

This focused selection of five large-scale postcard sculptures by celebrated German artist Katharina Fritsch features works made by enlarging and silkscreening images originally found on travel postcards onto sheets of shaped plastic. By transforming small-scale souvenirs into monumental sculpture, imagery that was once whimsical and benign becomes surreal and disquieting. Through Fritsch's intervention, once elegant baguettes become an enlarged mass and garden insects are made ominous.

Since 1993 Fritsch has produced a diverse body of work that mines the process by which we remember. Through her precise fabrication, pristine surfaces, and densely saturated pigments, Fritsch reimagines the quotidian in unexpected ways. Known primarily for hyper-real, monochromatic sculpture, the artist employs deadpan humor and radical shifts in scale to communicate the strangeness of memory and the emotional resonance of cultural objects. In this body of work, Fritsch elevates the *süßes Kitsch*, or "illustrated postcard," from its ready-made status into an avant-garde aesthetic.

Fritsch's Postcards are simultaneously deeply personal and universally accessible: *8. Postkarte (Essen)*, which portrays her place of birth, is imbued with autobiographical significance, while *1. Postkarte (Ibiza)* celebrates not only the objectification of its male subject but of memory itself. Fritsch reminds us that the process of remembering is itself an act of distortion.

Katharina Fritsch: Postcards is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by Jeffrey Uslip, Chief Curator.

This exhibition is generously supported by Matthew Marks Gallery.

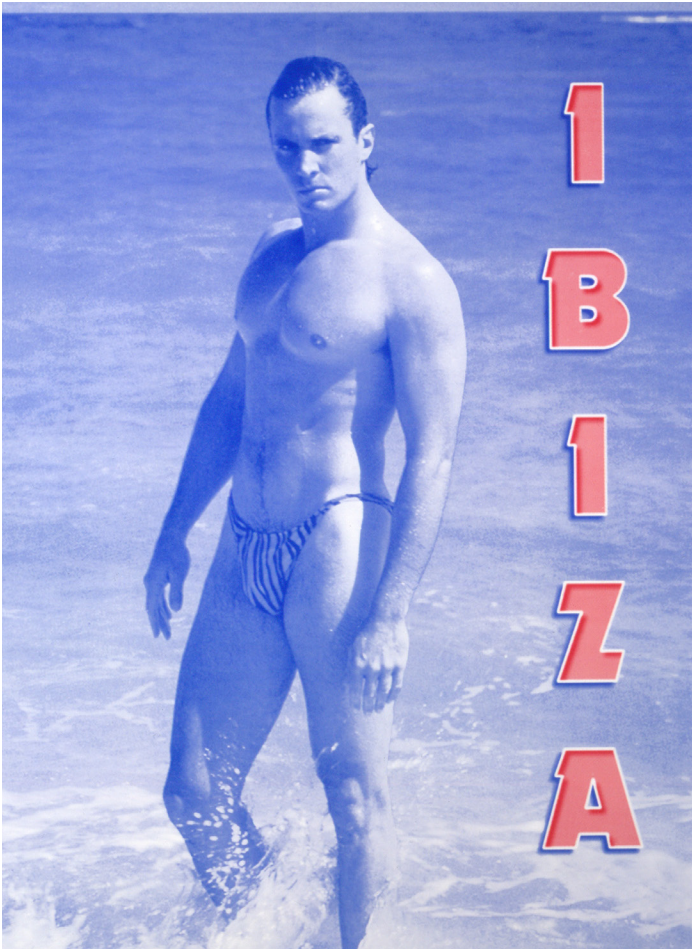


Katharina Fritsch, *Postkarte (Paris) 2*, 2004. Oil-based ink and acrylic on plastic panel, 110 × 67 inches. © Katharina Fritsch / VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn / Courtesy Matthew Marks Gallery



Audio Tour

Download the CAM app at camstl.org/app or ask for an iPod at the front desk to hear directly from the curator on the audio tour.



Katharina Fritsch, *1. Postkarte (Ibiza)*, 2003. Oil-based ink and acrylic on plastic panel, 79 x 54 inches. © Katharina Fritsch / VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn / Courtesy Matthew Marks Gallery

Katharina Fritsch (b. 1956, Essen, Germany) lives and works in Düsseldorf. She represented Germany at the 1995 Venice Biennale and has been included in numerous international exhibitions, including *Documenta 13*, *Carnegie International*, *Skulptur Projekte Münster*, and *Sydney Biennial*, among others. Fritsch has had solo exhibitions at the Dia Center for the Arts, New York; Kunstmuseum Basel; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Art Institute of Chicago; Tate Modern; and K21 in Düsseldorf. A retrospective of her work debuted at the Kunstmuseum Zürich (2009) and traveled to the Deichtorhallen Hamburg. In 2013, Fritsch was awarded the prestigious Fourth Plinth Commission in London, where her sculpture *Hahn/Cock* was exhibited in Trafalgar Square.

Related Programs

*Free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.
For a complete list of programs, please visit camstl.org.*

Friday Evening Tours

Fridays, May 16–August 8, 6:00 pm

Take advantage of CAM's late hours on Friday evenings and stop by for a special 30-minute tour of the exhibitions.

Breakfast with the Curators

Friday, June 6, 8:30 am

Exclusively for CAM members. Complimentary coffee and baked goods. Register at camstl.org/breakfast
Before the Museum opens to the public, join us for breakfast and a private tour of the current exhibitions.

First Fridays

Friday, June 6 and August 1, 5:00–9:00 pm

A complimentary drink for Young Friends members and above. Cash bar.

Enjoy an evening of art, music, and culture the first Friday of every month. DJs and musicians present music in dialogue with the exhibitions, Museum staff lead tours, and the bar and café are open. Arts organizations throughout Grand Center are free and open the entire evening. For a complete list of participating institutions, visit firstfridaysgrandcenter.org. *Special thanks to KDHX 88.1 FM.*



**Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis**
3750 Washington Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63108
314.535.4660

Connect with CAM

Visit camstl.org

Follow [@contemporarystl](https://twitter.com/contemporarystl)
on Twitter

Like [contemporaryart
museumstl](https://www.facebook.com/contemporaryartmuseumstl) on Facebook

Sign up for enews
at camstl.org/news

Download the
CAM STL app from the
[App Store](https://www.apple.com/app-store) or [Google Play](https://www.google.com/play)