



BANALITY OF EVIL  
IN OUR DAILY LIVES

## Certificate

### FINALIST OF THE COMPETITION

GUSTAVO GOMEZ

GERMANY

We would like to honor the achievements of Gustavo Gomez during the participation of the Banality of Evil in our Daily Lives Art Prize. Their outstanding artwork and interpretation of the theme awarded them a place as a finalist amongst 575 qualifying entries from 89 countries across 4 different artistic disciplines.

The artists' work was featured in the exhibition at Alte Münze, Berlin Germany from 12 September to 17 September 2020 along with the other 39 Finalists and Winners.

The Banality of Evil in our Daily Lives Art Prize, initiated and sponsored by artist and social activist @SaySay.love, who was inspired by Hannah Arendt, wanted to encourage artists to interpret the theme and relate what they perceive the banality of evil in "their" daily lives and the thoughtlessness of our society. The awarding of winners was curated by an esteemed panel of international judges like Andrey Bartenov and Aram Haus, to name but a few

575 qualified entries from 89 countries that met the submission requirements were posted on BOE social media channels for public voting between November 2019 and March 2020.

One winner in each artistic category received prize money of US\$2000 for their artwork which made an impression on the judges and the public.

### HISTORY AND IDEA BEHIND THE COMPETITION

How can we harness thought to eradicate evil in the world? How can art help us to evolve social consciousness? Can creativity change the future?

An initiative using art as a mechanism for social change, is stimulating discussion and creative representation of a topic that affects us all.

The theme of this exhibition is inspired by the work of philosopher Hannah Arendt, who reported on the Nazi trials for the New York Times in a famous book called Eichmann in Jerusalem: A Report on the Banality of Evil.

In a time where we are at a global tipping point on so many critical matters, from climate change to gender violence to refugee crisis, we encouraged artists to play a role in vocalising the importance of all individuals to take a stand and make a difference.

Hannah was famous for her analysis of Nazi Germany, discovering with surprise that many of the worst perpetrators had not committed atrocities with the intention of doing evil. In fact, the opposite was true. It seems that the worst evil was committed by people who had not given their actions moral thought. They were not acting with intention but simply following instructions – and in fact obeying the law.

This highlights for us the danger of complacency, of acting without independent thought. The sad truth of the matter is that most evil is done by people who never made up their minds to be or do either evil or good.



## The Golden Age of the Alternative Truth

GUSTAVO GOMEZ

GERMANY

### Artist's Commentary

"The Golden Age of the Alternative Truth is a dance performance-Installation piece premiered on the 23rd of November 2019, in Frankfurt. It was funded by the Kulturstadt Frankfurt and the Ministerium für Kunst Wiesbaden. It is a 2 hours solo performance describing the consequences of the new forms of fascism. The performance is divided in 4 parts. The Pink, a 15 minutes film that serves as a propaganda for the pink nation, explaining how things were better back when pink wasn't mixed with different colours. The second part, the performer is outdoors somewhere, and the audience can see him from inside a house or wherever they are. They hear a prerecorded track about this threatening other. The third part is a performance where the audience faces the performer as a pink king in all his glory. In the fourth part you can see the decay of the performer as he changes his attitudes and start parading as a figure of hate and leaves the performance space to the streets Artwork Dimensions: In Frankfurt we used an old house where I could show, the film, an outside area, where I could be seen as the people watch from inside and a main hall where they would see the main performance."

### ARTWORK CATEGORY

Performance