PRESS RELEASE

exhibition	Markéta Othová
exhibition dates	June 10 – July 30, 2011
opening hours	Tuesday – Saturday 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Jiri Svestka Gallery is proud to introduce a selection of recent works by Czech artist Markéta Othová.

Art theoretician Karel Císař describes her work in this manner: „The movement inscribed into Markéta Othová´s works evokes an instinctive descent through the history of photography. Her point of departure has turned out to be the 1990s "archival turn" : beginning in 1994, the artist started to mine an extensive archive of her own snapshots, made primarily during trips abroad, putting together photographic installations of such a nature that the significance of the particular picture was specified only by the syntax of the whole. Towards the end of the decade, Othová then shifted to the technique of temporal series, recorded sequentially – which put her close to the use of photography as we know it from the 1970s Conceptual Art. And in her latest works, she is more focused than ever on the composition of particular images, now shot (in clear contrast to her previous cycles) exclusively in the lab environment of a photographer´s studio – so that, in her trajectory through the history of photography, she has now arrived at the experiments of the photographic avant-garde from the 1920s and 1930s: similar to the avant-garde´s representatives, Othová is also questioning the very nature of the photographic medium and the stability of the visual World." (*published in magazine Camera Austria, Graz, 106/2009, pages 13-20.)*

Markéta Othová (born 1968 in Brno, lives in Prague), graduated from the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague and was awarded the Jindrich Chalupecky Prize in 2002. She has had solo exhibitions in the Czech National Gallery (Prague, 1998), Kunsthalle Basel (2000), Neues Museum Nürnberg (2004), Photographers' Gallery (London, 2006), Mücsarnok Kunsthalle Budapest (2007), Divus Unit 30, London (2008); her works have been exhibited at the Carnegie International (Pittsburgh, 1999/2000), Prague Biennale 1 and 2 (2003 a 2005); and she is represented in collections of the Victoria & Albert Museum (London) and in the book *The Photograph as Contemporary Art* by Charlotte Cotton (Thames & Hudson, London, 2005). Presently her works can be seen at Prague Biennale 5.

Jiri Svestka Gallery published a catalogue of her works in cooperation with Walther König Publisher, Cologne in 2009.

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