

ELLEN CANTOR

b. 1961, Detroit, USA

d. 2013, New York City, USA

Ellen Cantor (1961–2013) combined ready-made materials with diaristic notes and drawings to probe her perceptions and experiences of personal desire and institutional violence. In her drawings, paintings, collages, and videos, Cantor lifted characters and sequences from iconic films, reorienting the ideological transmissions of the source material. Fictional figures from Disney cartoons, cult horror films, New Wave cinema, and family movies provide a visual foil to Cantor's intimate disclosures. Magnetised by the doleful naivety of characters such as Snow White and Bambi, Cantor would, in her drawings, extend their narrative horizons to include vivid sexual encounters and crisis-ridden relationships.

Ellen Cantor was a prolific artist working between New York and London. Cantor's exhibitions include *My Perversion is the Belief in True Love*, Galerie Isabella Bortolozzi, Berlin; *Ellen Cantor*, Künstlerhaus Stuttgart (2016), *Cinderella Syndrome*, CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco (2015), *Within a Budding Grove*, Participant Inc., New York (2008); *Bambi's Beastly Buddies*, Sketch, London (2005); Transmission Gallery, Glasgow (2000); *My Perversion is the Belief in True Love*, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna (1999); *Video 1995–1998*, Kunstverein Salzburg, Austria (1999); and *Remember the 14 Days and Nights*, Vorarlberger Kunstverein, Bregenz, Austria (1997).

The catalogue *A history of the world as it has become known to me*, edited by Lia Gangitano, Fatima Hellberg and Jamie Stevens was recently published by Sternberg Press. The book brings together writings and archival material, including a reproduction in full of Cantor's drawing-based script *Circus Lives from Hell* (2004), alongside contributions by writers, artists, collaborators, and friends reflecting on Cantor's practice and singularly transgressive vision: explicitly feminist remorselessly emotional and dramatic in tone.

Galerie

Isabella Bortolozzi

Schöneberger Ufer 61 10785 Berlin

Phone +49-(0)30-26 39 76 20 Fax +49-(0)30-26 39 76 229
info@bortolozzi.com www.bortolozzi.com