

**KAREN KNORR**

*The Holding of Vigilance, Samode Palace, 2010, colour pigment print on Hahnemühle Fine Art Pearl Paper, 48 x 60 inches/22 x 152 cm*

Through her photographs and videos, American/British artist Karen Knorr explores the dynamics of power and its influence on cultural heritage, from the patriarchal structures of the English aristocracy to the roles and representations of animals in art.

Born in Frankfurt in 1954 and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Knorr is best known for her photographic series *India Song*, a body of work that focuses on historic interiors in Rajasthan. Within these lavish rooms—symbolic of wealth and social power structures—Knorr digitally imposes images of live tigers, elephants, peacocks and monkeys, which she photographs in reserves and zoos.

Lush and playful, these vibrantly colorful images appear to be photographic renderings of Indian folklore, in which the line between reality and illusion is blurred. Yet Knorr's work, which is influenced by surrealism and the mystical realism of Latin America, delves below the surface to consider issues of colonialism, exoticism, appropriation, societal hierarchies, and femininity as it relates to the animal world.

Karen Knorr has exhibited her work at the Museum of London, United Kingdom; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; San Diego Museum of Photography, California; Kyoto Modern Museum of Art, Japan; Seoul Museum of Art, Korea; and the Minsheng Art Museum, Shanghai. Her work is in the Tate London, Victoria and Albert Museum, and the United Kingdom Government Art Collection, England; Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris and Centre Georges Pompidou, France; Moderna Museet, Stockholm; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, California, among others.

Knorr was awarded the Photography Pilar Citoler Prize in 2010 and she was nominated for the Deutsche Börse in both 2011 and 2012. She also received nominations for the Prix Pictet in 2012 and 2018. As an advocate for women in photography, she was made an Honorary Fellow at the Royal Photographic Society in 2018, as well as Honorary Chair of Women in Photography.

Born in Frankfurt, Germany in 1954 | Lives and works in London