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We begin with a tremendous THANK YOU to all of you who supported [RU's fun raiser on July 22!](#) We doubled our objective and part of the funds will serve to support RU's educational outreach program in 2013. We also wish our beloved Project Manager [Lindsey Berfond](#) much success as she embarks in her new life as a Masters Candidate at Bard College's Center for Curatorial Studies (CCS); whilst she will be continuing her work on pedagogic projects as RU's Education and Outreach Consultant, we warmly welcome [Hyunjee Nicole Kim](#) as RU's new Project Manager.

This month, please save the dates for:

RU Exhibition: *Anton*, a solo show by Sonya Schönberger at Cuchifritos Gallery (LES)

Thursday August 16, 2012

4-6:30pm

Location: Cuchifritos Gallery

120 Essex Street

New York, NY 10002

[directions here](#)

ANTON

Traces are a connection between past and presence. In her new installation *Anton*, Sonya Schönberger adopts a non sentimental approach as

she sheds light on the consequences from bygone occurrences to the present day and searches for a reality in the state of the past, which happens in the awareness of being not more than an approach.



For her first solo show in New York at Cuchifritos Gallery, Schönberger pursues her investigations into the custody of family memory. In Germany, nearly every family to this day carries individual memories dating back to the Second World War. Whereas for decades after the surrender in 1945 Germany fell silent of the events that had taken place under the Third Reich, the following generations felt the urge to express and understand the past in particular within their own family contexts. Essential questions continuously are raised with regard to guilt, innocence and the perpetrator-victim discourse. With the passing of time, more and more information emerged through personal accounts as well as unspoken narratives that bore visible scars, photo albums and objects that came to the surface.

Schönberger's current residency in New York is dedicated in part to engaging into discussion with US based German individuals and families who witnessed the Second World War; these interviews feed into the pursuit of the artist's larger and ongoing oral history research project.

Deeply marked by the war, Schönberger's grandfather Anton left a number of photographs from when he served as a soldier for the Wehrmacht in occupied France. The five black and white

photographs exhibited by the artist at Cuchifritos along with a piece of shrapnel are a legacy from her grandfather. Through an unexpected arrangement of these found objects, Schönberger creates an allegory of the complexity of the consequences of war, the traumas of a whole nation and their impact on the coming generations. In the end, Schönberger's highly personal viewpoint transforms the discourse into something precisely universal.

Text by Christof Zwiener, July 2012

[More info here.](#)

RU Talk: Sonya Schönberger in conversation with Jodi Waynberg



RU Talk: Sonya Schönberger in conversation with Jodi Waynberg

With Miriam Ibrahim and Leonie Ettinger performing “nix zu reissen und zu beissen”

Tuesday August 21, 2012

6:30pm

Location: Residency Unlimited

360 Court Street (green door),

Brooklyn, NY 11231

[directions here](#)

Residency Unlimited is delighted to invite you to the first performance of German artist Sonya Schönberger's most recent body of work “nix zu reissen und zu beissen”, followed by a conversation between Schönberger and curator Jodi Waynberg.

For nearly two years, Schönberger has amassed an archive of conversations with eyewitnesses from the Second World War, each interview an excavation of silenced cultural memory and an exploration of how the impacts and traumas of the war transformed generations of Germans. By meeting with victims and perpetrators, Schönberger is able to shed light onto neglected narratives of everyday life in the Third Reich, the lasting imprints of escape, and life after the war.

Schönberger will present a selection of memories collected during her New York residency, performed by actors Miriam Ibrahim and Leonie Ettinger, as well as discuss the relationship between this project and her ongoing engagement with questions about home, identity, ancestry, and tradition.

[More info here.](#)

[Sonya Schönberger](#) is currently artist in residence in New York City at RU, within the framework of the [Residency Unlimited \(RU\) / Flux Factory \(FF\)](#) program with support from Schloss Balmoral,

Stiftung Rheinland Pfalz für Kultur(Germany).

These events are made possible in part by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

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