

HENGESBACH GALLERY Berlin

»Riss« (*Disruption*)

Nikola Ukic, Amir Fattal and Astali / Peirce

09 March – 20 April 2013

Opening 08 March 2013, 6 – 9 pm

The group show »Riss« - (*Disruption*) is a cooperation between Hengesbach Gallery and Frontviews, an independent curatorial platform in Berlin. Frontviews develops concepts for exhibitions devoted to current issues in cultural philosophy. From March 09 to April 20, Stephan Köhler will present three young positions there: Nikola Ukic, an artist represented by Hengesbach Gallery, Amir Fattal, an Israeli artist, and the duo Tolia Astali and Dylan Peirce, who have Georgian and French roots.

Using different recourses, the works on display deal with the past. In these works, time is no longer experienced on a purely chronological basis but rather materially in space. In this sense, the exhibition title »Riss« - (*Disruption*) not only refers to a break of historical continuity but also to the cracks (ger.: Risse) in the material and the stopping of processes. We would like to cordially invite you and your friends to the opening on March 08, 2013 at 6-9 pm.

Nikola Ukic (*1974 in Rijeka, Croatia) develops his works using dynamic materials, such as polyurethane. To find a form, the artist doesn't only explore various aggregate physical states but rather actively reacts to the uncontrollable expansion of the material. On the one hand, the artist uses such elements of chance in the process to suggest and invert memories of formation strategies. On the other hand, he deliberately works with the capriciousness of the materials refusing static forms, that he, for instance, mounts on the surfaces of his objects using photography. As such, he uses photographs of classical modernism sculptures, as those from Hans Arp or Henry Moore, to expose them to a process of expansion of the material. This, in turn, can act like a 'chemical Jackson Pollock' on the templates. In »Riss« - (*Disruption*) Nikola Ukic will be showing new sculptures as well as wall pieces. Decisive for his work method is the acceptance of processes that undermine the faith in the strength and validity of abstract forms as a modernist utopia.

In his work, **Amir Fattal** (*1978 in Tel Aviv, Israel) researches historical events that have nightmarish meanings that are diametrically opposed: in the early forties the architect Erich Mendelsohn, who emigrated in 1933, was involved in developing prototypes of German settlements with the US military to test the destructive effects of American bombs on German building methods. Fattal transfers preserved photographs onto metal plates by a form of pressurization of dust. In all likelihood, the uninformed viewer will associate the contents of the pictures with German concentration camps. The accompanying monochrome plates are placed in relationship to the here and now by means of a reference to the wall colors that Mendelsohn patented in the 1920s. In this context, patterns of cultural exertions of power that were written off demand unexpected temporality and reaffirm their continued claim to history through their new, current presence. In reference to dust, colors and mirroring effects, Fattal subtly shifts the cultural patterns and perspectives, and breaks with what is memorable. The past moves into a different proximity and physicality as document displays and monument. In his work, the artist reveals the ambiguity of patterns of cultural practice.

Tolia Astali (*1974 in Tiflis, Georgia) and **Dylan Peirce** (*1977 in Paris, France) collaborate on assemblages and installation. Composed of a serial aesthetic of industrial materials, chemical processes of transferring photos, and a mostly anonymous pool of pictures, these works testify to a synthetic reality that can both foreign and familiar and experienced spatially. Characteristic of their work is, on the one hand, to work with objects that were once loaded with meaning as if they have been freed from their original definition and given a new connotation. On the other hand, cultural and temporal variables such as language, culture and heritage are revealed in this new arrangement to be mere props.

Depending upon the position, dialectical thinking and memory patterns, historical breaks or material immanent processes are compressed into multimedia works in »Riss« - (*Disruption*). The search and find for the present and the associated demarcation of the past and its complex new formation are the core of this exhibition.

“If we consider the exhibited objects as detached yet connected to our existence, then the objects shift in our existence like variations in a musical fugue, are located in the moving fugues of our tectonics of the secure, or are merely cracks in our reality.” (Stephan Köhler)

Hengesbach Gallery represents original positions in contemporary art with a European emphasis. The program reflects the material and contentual possibility of art in various ways. It is our interest to establish a dialogue with contemporary cultural philosophy. Hengesbach Gallery was founded in 1991 and has been based in Berlin since 2009.

For further press materials such as image requests, please contact Elsa Horstkötter (e.horstkoetter@hengsbach-gallery.de) at your convenience.

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09 March – 20 April 2013, Tue - Sat 11 am - 6 pm

frontview₂

Artist Biographies

Thibault Gleize (*1978) lives and works in Paris. Solo exhibitions include: 2006 ROCAILLE St. Catherine Gallery, Departmental Mission Culture in Rodez (F), 2001 Entrée 9, Avignon (F); Group exhibitions include: 2007 Glaz'art Telerama Dub Festival, Marseille (F), 2004 Palais des Fêtes Strasbourg (F), 2003 SOLDES Stimultania, Strasbourg (F). 2001-2002 École d'art d'Avignon (F), 2003-2004 École Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs de Strasbourg (F), 2008-2012 self-employed graphic-designer; Awards and grants: 2005 Grant INTERCROSS CREATIVE CENTER, Sapporo (JAP), Grant L'AGE D'OR Verein der Kunstschule Süd-Frankreich, Berlin (D).

Mihai Grecu (*1981) lives and works in Paris and Roubaix (F). Solo exhibitions include: 2011 WE'LL BECOME OIL, Hengesbach Gallery, Berlin (D), 2008 Gallery Art Claims Impulse, Berlin (D), 2006 LABYRINTH OF MY MIND, Le Cube, Issy-les-Moulineaux (F); Group exhibitions include: 2012 20 YEARS, Hengesbach Gallery, Berlin (D), 2011 Videoformes Festival, Clermont-Ferrand (F), International Media Art Biennale, WRO Art Center, Wroclaw (POL), 2010 UNSICHTBARE SCHATTEN, BILDER DER VERUNSICHERUNG, Marta Herford (D), 2009 Videonale 12, Festival fuer zeitgenoessische Videokunst, Kunstmuseum Bonn (D), 2008 DANS LA NUIT, DES IMAGES, Grand Palais, Paris (F), 2007 SOUS INFLUENCES, Galerie Magda Danysz, Paris and ADN Galeria, Barcelona (ES), 2006 ORPAILLE, collaboration with the Orpaille collective, Maison Rouge, Paris (F). 2003 Licence at the University of Art and Design, Cluj-Napoca (RO), 2004 National Diploma of Fine Arts at the Ecole Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs Strasbourg (F), 2006 DNSEP at Ecole Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs de Strasbourg (F); Awards and grants: 2012 Tampere International Film Festival, Tampere (FI), Best Animation for WE'LL BECOME OIL, 2010 SCAM, Paris, Best Digital Art Work, 2008 Oslo Screen Festival, Oslo, Best Video Award for COAGULATE, forward – International Video Festival Volgograd (RUS), First Prize.

Heinz Hajek-Halke (*1898–1983) lived and worked mostly in Berlin (D). Solo exhibitions include: 2012 DER ALCHIMIST. HEINZ HAJEK-HALKE. LICHTGRAFISCHES SPAETWERK, Akademie der Kuenste, Berlin (D), 2002 HEINZ HAJEK-HALKE (1898–1983), Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris (F), 1997 HEINZ HAJEK-HALKE. DER GROEBE UNBEKANNTTE, Haus am Waldsee, Berlin (D), 1960 HEINZ HAJEK-HALKE. GERMAN LIGHT GRAPHICS, National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (JAP); Group exhibitions include: 2006 BERLIN – TOKYO / TOKYO – BERLIN, Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin (D), 2003 VON KOERPERN UND ANDEREN DINGEN, Deutsches Historisches Museum, Berlin (D), 2000 ABSTRAKTE FOTOGRAFIE, Kunsthalle Bielefeld (D), 1975 HEINZ HAJEK-HALKE & GISÈLE FREUND, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris (F), 1954 PHOTOKINA, Cologne (D), 1951 SUBJEKTIVE FOTOGRAFIE, Schule fuer Kunst und Handwerk, Saarbruecken (D). 1915–1916 Koenigliche Kunstschule Berlin, 1918–1919 Educational institute of the Berliner Kunstgewerbe-Museum (D); Awards and grants: 1978 David

Octavius Hill Medal and honorary membership of the GDL, 1965 Cultural award of the Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Photographie, award at PHOTOKINA 1954, Cologne.

Eno Henze (*1978) lives and works in Berlin (D). Solo exhibitions include: 2011 PHOTONUCLEAR, Lichthaus Kunstverein Arnsberg (D), 2010 TOMORROW WILL BE LIKE TODAY, Soho House, Berlin (D), NEW WORKS, untitled Projects, Berlin (D), 2009 VON DUNKLER MASSE UND GRAUER MATERIE. Galerie Marion Scharmann, Berlin (D), 2007 ICH WILL EINE MASCHINE SEIN, ARME ZU GREIFEN, BEINE ZU GEHEN, KEIN SCHMERZ; KEIN GEDANKE, COMA project space, Berlin (D); Group exhibitions include: 2012 BASIC LIFE FUNCTIONS, Galeria Arsenal, Poznan (POL), LONG DAY, SHORT DAY, Max-Planck-Institut fuer Pflanzenzuechtungsforschung, Cologne (D), 2011 LET THE RHYTHM HIT 'EM, Kunstraum Kreuzberg, Berlin (D), GENERATIVE ARTS, 4th Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Arts, 2008 Transmediale, Berlin (D), 2006 Contemporary Art Biennale Fukushima (JAP). 1998–2004 HfG Karlsruhe (D) with Dieter Kiessling and Lois Renner, 2003–2006 HfbK Staedelschule Frankfurt (D) with Ayse Erkmen; Awards and grants: 2004 Black Pencil and Yellow Pencil at D&AD Awards, Silver at ADC Deutschland, Gold at ADC Europe; 2009 Video- and Stagedesign for Audion world tour HETACOMB, 2011 Stagedesign for TIMELAPSE/(MENEMOSYNE) of the Durch National Ballet; 2008 Curator of Node08, Frankfurt a.M. (D), 2011 Curator of ABSTRAKT ABSTRAKT – DIE SYSTEMATISIERTE WELT, Frankfurter Kunstverein (D).

Michael Reisch (*1964) lives and works in Duesseldorf (D). Solo exhibitions include: 2012 Peter Lav Gallery, London (UK), 2011 Bischoff/Weiss, London (UK), 2010 Hengesbach Gallery, Berlin (D), 2008 Galerie Rolf Hengesbach, Cologne (D), Kunsthalle Erfurt (D), 2007 National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh (UK), Staedtische Galerie, Wolfsburg (D), Fotoforum West, Innsbruck (A), Landesgalerie Oberoesterreichisches Landesmuseum, Linz (A); Group exhibitions include: 2012 POINTS OF VIEW, Kunstverein Hildesheim (D), UNBESTIMMTHEITSSTELLEN, Kunstraum Alexander Buerkle, Freiburg (D), 20 YEARS, Hengesbach Gallery, Berlin (D), 2011 SHIFTING REALITIES. DAN HOLDSWORTH-MICHAEL REISCH, Scheublein Fine Art, Zuerich (CH), 2010 REALISMUS – ABENTEUER DER WIRKLICHKEIT, Kunsthalle Emden, Hypo-Kunsthalle, Munich (D) and Kunsthall Rotterdam (NL). 1986–91 Gerrit-Rietveld-Academie, Amsterdam (NL), Diploma in Sculpture and Photography, from 1991 Kunstakademie Duesseldorf with Prof. Bernd Becher, 2004 teaching position at Akademie der Bildenden Kuenste, Nuremberg, 2012 guest lecturer for Photography and Digital Media, Alanus Universitaet Bonn-Alfter. Awards and grants: 2007 Scholarship of Kunstfonds Bonn, 2002 Scholarship of Stiftung Kunst und Kultur des Landes NRW, 1990 Scholarship of Fondation Cartier.