Galerie rauminhalt_harald bichler
06.04.2018 - 28.04.2018

Galerie rauminhalt_harald bichler renews its collaboration with interdisciplinary artist Sébastien de Ganay for the exhibition “und und und”. New wall objects from his series “Folded Flats” will be on show, as well as the room sculpture “non-places/palettes” and artworks at the crossing of sculptural dignity and functionality. These unique pieces share subtle common characteristics reflecting the minimalist aesthetic, the precise formalism and the participative approach to art of de Ganay.

Playful and focused, de Ganay pursues its exploration on the threshold between painting and sculpture in his series "Folded Flats", which he began working on in 2015. The artworks remind of origami as they expand from the wall, bringing the surface to the foreground, opening up a space that is closes on itself as soon as it is taking form. At their encounter, the beholder cannot help but try to unfold them in thoughts. This participative impulse grows stronger as one notices the discrepancy between the haptic quality of the object and its raw materiality. The folded pieces are not made of paper, as one could expect, but of aluminium. One sequence shows one by one every single step required to fold the corners of the aluminium sheets. Other works of the series, namely the pale blue foldings reminding of recycling envelopes, are more tightly folded and thus more secretive. The impeccable foldings do not keep trace of human intervention. As a result we are furthermore intrigued and compelled to penetrate their inner layers and unravel the secrets of their production.
For these new Folded Flats artworks, the artist worked with interference paint. The color changes according to lighting and perspective.

Three perspectives of “Flip Flop Folded Flat Sequence 01 A - E”
On the Folded Flats: “The beholder can only try to decipher and unfold them and doing so, his insight turns back in time. Something impossible, exactly like when one tries to carry some thought from the subconscious to the surface, laying bare the memories sunk in the rut where life’s events had washed them away.”
- Sébastien de Ganay
The Folded Envelopes 03 and 06 are massive wall objects, measuring respectively 180X79X3 and 180X54X3 cm.
The idea for “non-places/palettes” stems from a previous work of the artist, the “non-places carton sculptures”. For de Ganay, “non-places” are friction points or contact surfaces that don’t conform to any clear private property relations, but instead gain their territorial belonging through negotiation and trade. These spaces reveal themselves in the “non-places carton sculptures” between two intertwined “cartons”. For this exhibition, the artist materialized this space by overlapping and stringing together three transport pallets.
Sébastien de Ganay

Multidisciplinary artist Sébastien de Ganay was born in France in 1962. In the 80s he lived in New York City where he studied political science and cinema at Columbia University. De Ganay’s work oscillates between abstraction and functionality in order to challenge sense perception and conformist behaviors. His series “Folded Flat”, made out of bent aluminium sheets, can be conceived as the epitome of his artistic practice, since de Ganay creates objects that trigger the desire to reach out and unfold them, although they ultimately resist any effort to disclose their secret. They stay put, rigidly striking their pose, impossible to decipher thoroughly. De Ganay has been living and working in Lower Austria for about twenty years.

Select solo shows since 2009
2018 “und und und”, rauminhalt, Harald Bichler, Vienna, Austria
2017 „Fold on Fold“, Häusler Contemporary, Lustenau, Austria
2017 „Transposition an Reproduction“, Kunsthalle Krems in der Dominikanerkirche, Krems.
2016 „Space on the Move“, Häusler Contemporary, Zürich, Germany
2016 „Fold“, Häusler Contemporary, Munich, Germany
2015 „Folded Flat“ Galerie Ruzicska, Salzburg, Austria
2015 „Out of Line“, Galerie raumimpuls, Wadhoven/ Ybbs, Austria.
2014 „over again forever“ Galerie Steinek, Vienna, Austria
2013 Galerie Rauminhalt, Vienna, Austria
2013 St.Moritz Art Masters, Schlosserei, St. Moritz, Switzerland
2013 “you are here”, Galerie Günter Salzmann, Innsbruck, Austria
2011 “Nothing but a transit“, Häusler Contemporary, Munich, Germany
2011 “Mise au point“, Häusler Contemporary, Zurich, Switzerland
2010 Presentation of the “All in one”-project, Galerie Mayer-Kainer, Vienna, Austria and Galerie Renos Xippas, Paris, France
2009 “Catalogue”, Daniel Abate Galeria, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Harald Bichler founded gallery Rauminhalt in 2003 in Vienna. Unique in Austria, the gallery exhibits works that challenge the conventional distinction between design and art. Where disciplines cross, possibilities arise. The gallery supports creators whose practices instigate a refreshing shift of perspective on our relationship to objects. The collection includes works by Glibert Bretterbauer, Gisela Stiegler, Patrick Rampelotto, Celia-Hannes, Bert Löschnier, Konrad Friedel and Bernhard Hausegger.

Rauminhalt offers expertise in collectible design, contemporary sculpture, art objects, as well as selected vintage furniture. Under the label “edition_rauminhalt” designers produce exclusive pieces displaying outstanding materials and workmanship.

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Exhibition view – Sébastien de Ganay - “und und und”