

Karin Suter
„Myriade“
29. February - 22. March 2008
Opening Thursday 28. March, 19hrs

Karin Suter's wilful works always investigate the relations between cognitive knowledge and subjective intuition. Her paintings, sculptures, installations and drawings on one hand are to be understood as conceptual, process-oriented test arrangements on formal basic conditions of a medium and representation as such. They deal with issues of abstraction and suggestion, alienation and symbols, sometimes also ornament and texture.

On the other hand, the presence of time in her works focuses on intuitively defined moments of caducity, translucence and movement.

Observations of nature, it's materials and process-cycles hereby serve as formally and contextually joining elements of the two work processes: investigating their reciprocity and interdependency.

In her paintings on canvas, found wood or directly onto walls, nature, space and scene are adumbrated only as abstract expanses or blurry contour, or find themselves as reductions of almost ornamental forms. The fugacity that is found in them is created through the tension arisen explicitly through the movement of painting and at the same time expresses the attempt to represent intuitively remembered contents as metaphoric moments of transience and time.

Karin Suter's sculptures and installations, strongly investigate their material characteristics and, adapted to the referring exhibition space, continue where painting encounters spacial and material limitations. In the tradition of artists like Eva Hesse or Heidi Bucher, Suter's works in space explore the impact of material, space and time in the tension of subjective perception, suggestion and the border of abstraction and absurdity. Within her oeuvre these works interestingly can also be interpreted to be happening on a subjective, historically shifted "collapse in painting" (as in reference to the above mentioned artists), or it's traditional distinction of painting and sculpture. Most of them have been created since Suter's studio residency in Beijing China, and the local obstructions in production conditions.

In many ways they suggest absurd-poetic still-lives, with materials such as wood, soil, paint and neon co-operating and fighting each other simultaneously. These works comprise a peculiar rawness, witness decay and through that once more the issue of movement.

In Karin Suter's oeuvre the audience faces a world of strange, fairytale-like encounter of diffuse, sensual impressions and interpretations of forms and signs built on individual experience. A world of astonishment and rapture, coincidence perhaps, surely a world of constant movement and caducity that lives in all of these conditions.

-Jean-Claude Freymond-Guth

For further information and images please contact the gallery: Jean-Claude Freymond-Guth, office@freymondguth.com, +41 44 240 0281, www.freymondguth.com

Karin Suter (*1979) lives in Rotterdam, Netherlands and Basel, Switzerland. Until 2004 she studied Fine Art and Media Art at the College of Art and Design in Basel.

Recent projects and exhibitions among others include: Imperial City Art Museum Beijing, PRC (solo), Kunsthaus Aarau, CH (Auswahl07, g), Kunsthaus Baselland, CH (Kunstkredit BS, g), Kunstraum M54 Basel, CH (g), Nr. 1 Artbase, Beijing (g) PRC, Swiss Art Awards, Basel, CH (g), Les Complices*, Zürich, CH (solo), Stichting Kaus Australis, Rotterdam NL (g), and the Hoffmann La Roche Collection, CH (solo).

In 2007 she lived as scholar of the iaab studio programme in Beijing, PRC. 2006 she was awarded with the 1st prize of the canton of Zurich competition of "art on site" for the renovation of the University of Zurich.

2005 she spent in residency of the iaab studio programme in Rotterdam, Netherlands where she has stayed since. In the same year she was awarded with the Alexander Clavel Award.

(solo= solo exhibition, g=group show)