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The Second Edition of Munich Contempo – International Contemporary Art Fair

2010 founded Munich Contempo – International Contemporary Art Fair has both grown and widely been welcomed by international galleries. So in addition the novel section “promising land” was created featuring solo shows of single young artists and so-called “emerging galleries”. It is here where new collectors can find their object; it is here where young art is supported. The “main section” will again house many of the first edition’s contributors and also greet many new ones from all over the world, such as Baik Song Gallery and With Space Gallery from Korea, AB Gallery from Zurich and Lucerne, which is specialised in Iranian art, or the likewise Zurich-based Hammer Gallery which is focusing on contemporary photography. Different from last year the location of Munich Contempo altered as the event was moved into the columned hall directly connected to the Postpalast’s Rotunda. An architectural link to the main complex will as well be established. Within the Rotunda, including the annex buildings, 56th Kunst-Messe München is going to take place and open its gates together with Munich Contempo on the vernissage-eve of October 19th. Host and organizer is Expo-Management GmbH with CEO Wolf Krey.

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Main Section – Columned Hall

Among the rejoining local galleries are Galerie Kampl and Galerie an der Pinakothek der Moderne, for the first time present will be Galerie Spektrum which being specialized in art jewellery will exhibit works by the Austrian Peter Skubic; such as a sculpture of two metres height from 2010 (26.000 Euros). In 2008 Peter Skubic received the Bavarian National Award and bears the Golden Ring of Honour of the Association for Goldsmith’s Art Hanau. Furthermore Galerie Spektrum will showcase items by Marianne Schliwinski who lives and works in Munich. For Munich Contempo Marianne Schliwinski in 2011 created brooches of porcelain and papier mâché which will be accompanied by a selection from the artist’s photographic oeuvre. The Galerie an der Pinakothek der Moderne is exhibiting oil paintings by Gerhard Rießbeck who studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Nuremberg and since 1994 has in regular terms voyaged to both Island and Greenland and also taken part in Arctic expeditions. Rießbeck fixed his impressions of these journeys in small scale landscape paintings which in their contemplative nature are bearing resemblance to those by Caspar David Friedrich. Calm compositions of sea and ice, fog and snow covered mountains are erected and set both in day and moonlight. Galerie Rothamel from Erfurt/Frankfurt is for the second time taking part in the Munich event and bringing with them works by the photographer Hans-Christian Schink from Erfurt; the spectacular diasec-lightboxes caging flamboyant “Luzifer” by Eckart Hahn from 2011 (edition of three, 10.000 Euros) setting up a beacon of the artist’s mastery in both the media of painting and installation. Back again are further Galerie Michael Schultz (also member of Munich Contempo’s advisory board) which is located in Berlin, Peking and Seoul; Schultz will, besides German contemporary, provide insights into the Middle Kingdom’s and Korea’s artistic conceits. Karlsruhe Galerie Supper will contribute string-art by Monika Thiele, born 1966 in Erfurt, and installations by Katharina Meister, born in 1981 in Karlsruhe. Monika Thiele is by arranging yarn on organza creating human images whose presence and intensity can only be called overwhelming. Thus she is, as do the kindred Fates, entangling the feelings, hopes, desires all betwixt her interwoven threads, which split unleash the agonizing sorrow and anxieties her charac-



ters concealed. Thus the beholder's penetrating glance when eyes through superficial fabrics deeper, deeper still submerge then shall embrace the figures' innermost, the soul within the frame (available for four-digit Euro-sums). Katharina Meister is in her installation „Landschaftsraum II“ (the ambiguous title's rough translation being: Landscape Chamber), 2011 mixed technique within a wooden showcase, deluding common habits of seeing and perception. By layers of landscape-fragments, drawings on transparent paper and cut-out silhouettes, set in old and massive planks of log she is evoking a state between sight, insight, opaqueness, pellucidity, the tangible and the intangible in three or two dimensions (1900 Euros). Among those Munich Contempo will further welcome back is Galerie KK from Essen. Apex of their show is the Chinese painter Yongbo Zhao whose just off the easel oil-painting “Taylorismus” (Taylorism) can be bought for 24.000 Euros. The painting is Zhao-typically tinged in a subtle shade of humour: Around a fat capitalist frog his underfed and fragile fellow batrachians are toiling like poor devils in their pit. Jiri Svestka (Prague/Berlin) is also returning to the Isar-shores. From Prague Svestka fetches conceptional sculptural works by Kristof Kintera, an artist born 1971 and today living in the Moldau metropolis. Among the objects is a large-scale plastic “All my bad thoughts“ (2010, polyurethane); an anthropomorphic bulk of brownish matter squatting on the floor to which all evil notions have congealed – feel free to associate! Galerie Rainer Klimszak, Viersen, will have American Pop-Art of several generations from his main programme in his portfolio and so will have his Nurembergian colleagues of Galerie Hafenrichter.

Galeria Hauser from Spanish Coruna are also having their second sojourn in the Bavarian capital, again with work by the Brazilian artist Regina Silveira, born 1939 in Porto Alegre. Today revered as the Grande Dame of contemporary art in Brazil she ere had in her early works employed graphic arts and printing techniques until in the late 60ties she went beyond. Her oeuvre thence gradually shifting to conceptional, so colours were eliminated leaving mere light and shadow; both inseparably entwined. The shadow bred by a material shape steps forth, half light and half just shape, and is perceived as darker kind of light. And were not shape itself then unimaginable became both shadow and projection. Such space and shape make up the second and substantial compound in Regina Silveira's and always are material. The spaces and bodily objects the artist is choosing are mostly monumental, be they the plain and stressed outline of sculptures be it architecture, which then are turned into a mounting, framework or a stage to set the work.

New Contributors – Germany

New arrivals at Munich Contempo from all parts of the Federal Republic will among others be Galerie Ahlers from Göttingen, Hegau Bodensee Galerie, Galerie Albert Baumgarten from Freiburg, Galerie Peters-Barenbrock from Ahrenshoop, Galerie Döbele from Dresden and Galerie Giesler & Partner from Berlin. Galerie Ahlers is showing contemporary representational and figural paintings by Sigrid Nienstedt and Thomas Schiela. Sigrid Nienstedt, born 1962 and master's apprentice of Ben Willikens, is albeit preferring the genre of landscape painting approaching her subject not in the common naturalistic manner but in abstract and raised work thus offering the beholder a large plane of projection; like in the 2011 large scale "Goldene Elbe“ (Golden Elbe), a composition of oil and gold leaf wood (11.000 Euros). Thomas Schiela's artistic output is photorealistic yet in the most



uncommon technique of aquarelle on canvas, to be admired e. g. in the large scale “Ukama 5 – 11”, measuring 185 x 250 cm (15.000 Euro). From the federal capital Munich Contempo is expecting the galleries Berlin Art Projects and Manfred Giesler. Manfred Giesler will present a four-women/men show all around fairy-tales and the figurative; the exhibiting artists being Catrin Rothe, Ailinger, Mandy Seifert and Charles Rump.

New Contributors – International

Munich seems to attract foreign galleries quite magnetically. New contributors are inbound from Korea, Austria, Portugal, from Switzerland and Spain, from the Czech Republic, the USA (NYC) and from Zimbabwe. Korean contemporary and renowned international art will be shown by With Space Gallery and Baik Song Gallery. The Antimuseo Project Gallery will arrive from Madrid and join the “promising land” where they will meet Victor Lope Contemporary Art from Barcelona, Galeria Punto from Valencia will be welcomed within the main section. Galeria Punto is apart from other things planning to present works by the Argentine Cristina Ghetti. The artist is exploring the field of geometrical abstraction in both the media of painting and of installation. The theoretical foundations of her artistic endeavours are at the same time being lined out in her doctoral thesis “Post Medial Geometry” in which she is retracing new geometry’s development within the visual arts. Madrid’s Antimuseo Project Gallery will bring with them the one-woman show “Womankind” by the feminist artist Maria Maria Acha, born 1968 in Lima Peru and today working in Mexico City and Madrid. Her works are précising the human condition of being born a woman and not a man. From Switzerland three new exhibitors will be greeted on Munich Contempo: from Zurich and Lucerne AB Gallery who is specialized in Iranian art, Hammer Gallery from Zurich with their focus on photography and Galerie Blue Elephant from Steinach. One of AB Gallery’s contributions are the photographic works by Halim Al Karim, who was born 1963 in Iran and is now living the USA and Dubai. Large scale female portraits, which can merely be guessed yet not identified for them being veiled underneath artificial superimpositions. Hammer Gallery will show works by Claudia Rogge and 1981 born Chinese artist Zhang Peng, who in his recent “Made in China“-cycle is fathoming the complex political and sociological tectonics between the Chinese and the Western World. Austria is on the one hand represented by Viennese Aurora Art Gallery, which will not only but in particular show works by Hermann Nitsch – presently being all the rage in Munich not only due to exhibitions but even more due to his work for the Bavarian State Opera, i. e. scenery and costume design for Olivier Messiaen’s “Saint Francois d´ Assise”. On the other hand there will be white8 Gallery from Vienna exhibiting Austrian art besides international artists like Chuck Close, and Galerie Getreidegasse, Salzburg, will show films by Berthold Bock; such as „Le décès moderne“ (Modern Decay).



Promising Land

Within the Section “promising land” STROKE. ARTFAIR will present a curated show of their street-art artists. With Gallery Delta Foundation curated by Kultuallemende, i. e. Verena Nolte, contemporary art from Zimbabwe will be an extra not to miss on the fair’s premises. An ambitious and infinitely lauded photographic project by the Cologne artist-duo Nadine Preiss and Damian Zimmermann called “Paareprojekte – Menschenbilder aus der Bundesrepublik Deutschland zu Beginn des 21. Jahrhundert“ (Couple-Projects – Human Images from the Federal Republic of Germany at the Beginning of the 21st Century) will also be seen within the section “promising land“. From NYC Beth Mc Neill will bring a solo-show by New York artist Jeff Muhs (www.jeffmuhsstudio.com). The young upcoming generation of artists finally is local: Munich gallery downstairs (only on facebook) will be off- and online with works by Ben Med and Alexander Scharf. From Munich’s institutions Kunstclub13 will stage both a performance and a show within the columned hall. A second performance by Cologne artist Peter Krueger will be part of the “main section“.

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