



Moving objects

Pe Lang

Opening Saturday, January 14th 2012, 7pm
January 17th – March 3rd, 2012

Galerie Mario Mazzoli is pleased to announce the first solo exhibition at its space by Pe Lang.

The Swiss artist creates kinetic systems that control and put physical forces in action with a captivating elegance. His machines obey a stringent constructive optimization in which each element can be deciphered with respect to its functionality. Nothing about them seems ornamental or arbitrary. Their syntax is dominated by precision and control as the framework for sophisticated aleatorics where order and chaos are brought into a fragile balance.

The movements of the sculptures are visual events that lead back to themselves on an aesthetic level and, like a magic trick, also contain an illusionistic moment, which, in the second step, evokes questions about the principles of action. Pe Lang doesn't hide anything, yet at the same time, his works are baffling in their formal beauty, as, for example, in the magical choreography of small metal cylinders, that float on and off between copper plates (moving objects | n° 502 - 519). A subtle interplay of disclosure and secret is at the basis of the effect of these machines in an artistic context.

The physical phenomena are frequently based on magnetism, or also on the effects of inertia, friction and gravitation, which Pe Lang himself explores in sophisticated series of experiments. Often, he duplicates the same constructive starting situation wherein the possibility of kinetic variation unfolds in many places simultaneously. This serial moment is as dedicated to minimalism as the hermetic iconography of material is to the devices, which cannot be linked to everyday object experiences.

Pe Lang, born 1974 in Sursee, lives and works in Zurich und Berlin. He has shown his works internationally in various exhibitions at museums, galleries and festivals including: the Centro de Arte Santa Mónica, Barcelona; Galerie Mario Mazzoli, Berlin; Transmediale, Berlin; Elektra, Montreal; Sonic Acts XII Amsterdam; bitforms Gallery, New York; ISEA, Singapore; Netherlands Media Art Institute, Amsterdam; Cybersonica, London; San Francisco Art Institute; Kunsthalle, Lucerne; Artotheque Gallery & City Hall, Caen, France; SONM Murcia, Spain; Gift_lab Gallery, Tokyo; Kunsthau L6, Freiburg, Germany; National Taiwan University of Arts; Great North Museum-Hatton Gallery, Newcastle; AV Festival, Newcastle; Växjö Kunsthalle, Sweden; Tabakalera, San Sebastian, Spain; Diapason Gallery, New York; Kunsthalle, Berne.

Selected Awards and Residency Fellowships: Sitemapping/Mediaprojects Award (2011, 2008 and 2005), Swiss Art Award (2009 and 2010), and artists-in-labs residency, Center for Electronics and Microtechnology (2007).

Marc Wellmann

translation: Laurie Schwartz