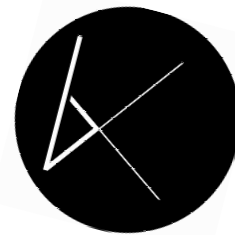


July 05, 2010



PRESS RELEASE

GABRIEL KURI
JOIN THE DOTS AND MAKE A POINT
SEPTEMBER 04 – NOVEMBER 01, 2010

DIRK FLEISCHMANN
LIMURANIN, KAESONG UND ROSARIO
SEPTEMBER 04 – NOVEMBER 01, 2010

PRESS PREVIEW: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 02, 2010, 12 AM

OPENING: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 03, 2010, 7 PM

ARTIST TALK: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 04, 2010, 4 PM
Artist talk with Gabriel Kuri
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 04, 2010, 6 PM
Artist talk with Dirk Fleischmann

GABRIEL KURI
JOIN THE DOTS AND MAKE A POINT
SEPTEMBER 04 – NOVEMBER 01, 2010

For the occasion of his first institutional exhibition in Germany, Gabriel Kuri (*1970 in Mexico City) has created four new groups of works, which provide an insight into different artistic aspects of his work. Accordingly, Kuri is showing sculptures and installations in the Bielefelder Kunstverein, all of them made out of found materials like industrially manufactured products, including marble, sand, paper, cigarettes or bodycare products.

Gabriel Kuri (*1970 in Mexico) works with the mediums of installation, sculpture, collage and photography. His source material often derives from simple mass-produced objects and throwaway products. Everyday things like shopping bags or packaging, but also building material like concrete or marble surface in room-filling installations and sculptures. These are mostly liberated from their functionality, but also from the circumstances of their past, are removed from the regular cycle of consumption and preserved in the work. Alongside the fundamental aesthetic questions of material, form and colour, Kuri is concerned with reality; using lowly industrial materials is reminiscent of the artistic concepts of Minimalism, of Nouveau Réalisme or of Arte Povera.

The presentation of his objects and how they are set out in space is always characterised by a conscious positioning and a surprising casualness at the same time. With their vast lightness and humour, his works in this way level criticism at political, economic and social conditions too. In the sense of an extended notion of sculpture, he shifts the boundaries of art and the everyday, has the everyday and the viewers become part of the aesthetic form. A poetic

integration distinguishing Kuri's works arises by means of contrasting materials and forms, the combining of found objects and constructed ones and the opposing of value to valuelessness.

Gabriel Kuri lives and works in Mexico City and Brussels. He studied at the Escuela Nacional de Artes Plásticas (ENAP) in Mexico City and at Goldsmith College in London. With his works, he has contributed to numerous international group exhibitions, such as the 5. Berlin Biennale (2008), an exhibition at the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2007) and Unmonumental, New Museum, New York (2007). In Germany, his works were most recently shown at the Museum Morsbroich Leverkusen, the Ludwig Forum Aachen and the Westfälischer Kunstverein Münster. In addition to the Bielefelder Kunstverein and the Kunstverein Freiburg (11.06. – 08.08.2010), the Museion, Museum for Modern and Contemporary Art Bozen (05.06.-15.08.2010) and the Blaffer Art Museum at the University of Houston (28.08. – 13.11.2010) will this year mount solo exhibitions of Kuri's works.

The exhibition with Gabriel Kuri is being mounted in cooperation with the Kunstverein Freiburg. In October Sternberg Press is publishing a German-English artist's book with texts by Caroline Käding and Thomas Thiel. It is the first monograph on the artist to appear in Germany.

Curator: Thomas Thiel

The exhibition of Gabriel Kuri is kindly supported by:

KUNSTSTIFTUNG ➔ NRW

DIRK FLEISCHMANN
LIMURANIN, KAESONG UND ROSARIO
SEPTEMBER 04 – NOVEMBER 01, 2010

Three geographical places form the basis of Dirk Fleischmann's (*1974 in Schweinfurt) first institutional solo exhibition: Limuranin, Kaesong and Rosario. The Philippines and North Korea are the locations for the most recent projects Fleischmann is presenting in the Bielefelder Kunstverein. The results of his reforestation project, »myforestfarm«, as well as the shirt-production in »Made in North Korea«, a project arising from his fashion label, »myfashionindustries«, are being presented via various media and in various works on the Kunstverein's upper floor.

Dirk Fleischmann is not only an artist but also a businessman. Since 1998, he has founded and run, among other things, a kiosk, a chicken farm, a trailer rental company and a solar power-station – businesses which have all financed themselves or each other. His projects concern the artistic transformation and making visible of economic processes in society and the conditions of a global market – and eco-economy. Many of his works last over long periods or are set up as »work-in-progress«. Dirk Fleischmann is interested in the patterns of functioning and conditions in a world marked by the flows of finance, which is subject to commercial as well as political imperatives and distinguishes itself through an increased consumption of media and energy. The conventions and the effects on society resulting from that circumstance form the foundations of Fleischmann's work, which attempts to research these phenomena, to map them, depict them and translate them into an artistic manifestation. In this process, questions as to the significance of images as well as the self-identity and the role of the artist as an employer and as part of a global production of art and images always stand at the centre of his artistic engagement as well.

Dirk Fleischmann lives and works in Frankfurt am Main as well as in Seoul, Korea. Until 2002, he was a student at the Academy of the Plastic Arts, the Städelschule in Frankfurt am Main, and graduated under Prof. Ayse Erkmen. He has already received numerous distinctions and scholarships. Fleischmann took part in the Manifesta 4 (2002, Frankfurt) and has already exhibited in numerous institutions at home and abroad, among them, the Musée d'Art Contemporain de Lyon (2004), the Busan Museum of Art (2005, Korea), the alternative space pool (2007, Seoul) or the Leeum Museum of Art (2010, Seoul). He has been a Visiting Professor at Hansung University in Seoul since 2009.

The publisher Specter Press (Seoul) will publish a first monograph in the form of an artist's edition for the exhibition and in the context of the project, »Made in North Korea«. Each copy contains a shirt designed and produced by the artist.

Curator: Thomas Thiel

The exhibition of Dirk Fleischmann is kindly supported by:



BROSCHURE

To mark the exhibition, a 28-page brochure will be published (German/English).

GUIDED TOURS

During our exhibitions we offer free guided tours every Sunday at 5 pm. We also offer individual guided tours at a date of your choice.

You will find further information related to the exhibition in the press section of our website www.bielefelder-kunstverein.de.

CONTACT

Bielefelder Kunstverein
im Waldhof
Welle 61
D-33602 Bielefeld
T +49 (0) 521.17 88 06
F +49 (0) 521.17 88 10
kontakt@bielefelder-kunstverein.de
www.bielefelder-kunstverein.de