

Jérôme Leuba - Svätopluk Mikyta

Opening: 6.12.2012, 6 pm
7.12.2012 – 26.1.2013

Gallery Weekend: Sat 12/Sun 13.1.2013, 11 am to 5 pm

The two artists Svätopluk Mikyta (*1973, SK) and Jérôme Leuba (*1970, CH/FR) on show at annex14 scrutinise, query and comment on social conditions with a watchful eye. The two artists have already had much lauded solo-exhibitions in the gallery. This double exhibition now facilitates an alternating look at their multifaceted works and allows new aspects to emerge.

Svätopluk Mikyta's point of departure is – in geographical terms – the Central and Eastern European region and its historical heritage. With an incorruptible eye for the aesthetic potential of the materials used, the artist explores and manipulates the visual strategies of the totalitarian states. He shows a clear preference for photographic reproductions from old books, catalogues and magazines. And having a good sense for the psychological implications, he also exposes surprising parallels and differences in our long-divided and now reunited Europe, addressing fundamental issues related to identity, as well as the question of man's manipulability, the meaning of utopias and their perverted forms.

Jérôme Leuba has developed a highly ramified work complex under the heading "Battlefield", which he uses metaphorically. Performance plays an important role here, alongside photography and three-dimensional, often site-specific works. In both his performative interventions into the social domain and his other works, the artist focuses on social and power relations and the related covertly operating structures and aesthetics. Part paravant, part sculpture, "Battlefield #86, capitonnage", 2012, undeniably evokes images of political and economic power centres which have been disseminated by the media and become part of our collective memory. Leuba approaches them with considerable scepticism. His works place them in a more differentiated light thanks to slight shifts in how the materials and techniques are utilized and in the choice of context, all of which challenges the viewer's perception.

Exhibitions (selection):

Jérôme Leuba

2012 battlefield #82 + #77/ stones», Centre d'art de Neuchâtel; «Hidden Publics», Motorenhalle, Dresden; 2011 «Hidden Publics», Galerija Skuc, Ljubljana, Slovenia; 2007 battlefield#39, Centre d'Edition Contemporaine, Genève «spectre», MAMCO, Genève

Svätopluk Mikyta

2012 Society, Utopie und Stilleben, Strabag Artlounge, Wien, OE ; "Delete. Art and Wiping Out", SNG Bratislava, Esterhazy Palaca, SK; 2011 YOUNG EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE, Collegium Hungaricum Berlin; 2010 Visit, Gallery ZBAF I S-KA, Krakow, Poland ; 2009 Sehnsucht nach dem Abbild, Kunsthalle Krems

annex14

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Öffnungszeiten:
Mi-Fr 14-18h
Sa 12-16h
oder nach Vereinbarung

www.annex14.com