

**Manuel Burgener, Jonas Etter,
Livia Di Giovanna, Damián Navarro**

Donner lieu à l'inattendu

28.1. - 10.3.2012

Opening: Fr 27. Januar 2012, 6 pm

annex14

Raum für aktuelle Kunst GmbH

annex14 is showing works by four young artists, Manuel Burgener (*1978, CH), Jonas Etter (*1981, CH), Livia Di Giovanna (*1984, CH/I) and Damian Navarro (*1983, CH/SP), all of whom exhibit a distinctive sense in their art for transitions and transformations, as well as for spatio-temporal shifts and changes.

Burgener will still be remembered for his fragile interventions in the Kunsthalle Bern in 2010, on the occasion of the double exhibition "Oscar Tuazon and Manuel Burgener". The same feeling of a precarious balance engendered when observing the individual objects then is also conjured up by his latest works, making these objects sensitive indicators, briefly flashing milestones in a process of constant change, transformation and relocation.

For **Jonas Etter**, the material and its features are both the means and the end of his explorations of art and its rules, for example, when he casts objects in burnt sugar, as in the exhibition at the Kunsthau Langenthal in 2009; these then slowly dissolved under the influence of the air's humidity. The ink-drawings he has done in recent years also reveal a conceptual approach. Those on show here can be read as visible traces of a process, or as the result of a fragile blend of automatism, material features and reflections on the creative process.

The ball runs in a constant circle. Like the coin in the Swiss game "Talerschwinger", the slight variations in the movements together with the gentle sound give rise to a monotony that can easily become hypnotic. It is as if time were being extended, thus facilitating unusual, buried or new observations and insights. This nonchalance and serenity are typical of the video works by **Livia Di Giovanna**. They decelerate our gaze, subvert its TV-zapping-approach and thus, paradoxically, often produce an inner tension that makes us more clear-sighted.

Damian Navarro's drawings bring together the personal and the general to form a multifaceted cosmos. The artist interweaves biographical elements with citations and material from more recent art history and the internet. This constitutes an attempt to situate oneself in the world and develop a story of one's own. The appropriation and transformation of freely circulating images play an important role against this backdrop. Furthermore, by co-thinking, networking, interlinking what is one's own and what is alien, possible new identities can be tried out with a view to understanding identity as something incomplete, something processual.

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