

Omar Alessandro
Invitation to Love

28.3 - 30.4.2008
Opening: 27.3.2008, 6 pm

annex14

Galerie für
zeitgenössische Kunst GmbH

annex14 is happy to extend this invitation to the first solo exhibition by the young Swiss artist Omar Alessandro (*1979), "Invitation to Love".

Omar Alessandro is one of a young generation of artists who explore new emotional and intellectual terrain by way of conceptual strategies. These works stimulate our powers of imagination above and beyond art, and are not afraid of intimate dreams and fantasies. To this extent they diverge from the definition of concept art as "art about art" which in the ideology and spectacle-saturated environment of the 1960s and 70s was keen to safeguard its - social - autonomy.

In 1968 Sol LeWitt wrote in the 14th of his Sentences on Conceptual Art: "The words of one artist to another may induce an idea chain, if they share the same concept." If 'words' here is understood in the broader sense as an artist's formal-thematic idiom, this also means that already existing works can bring forth new works. Omar Alessandro inscribes himself through his works into such a cascading continuity, while at the same time intensifying it by often putting 'words' by other artists in relation to one another, for example Bruce Nauman and John Baldessari in *From Mouth to Painting, 2007*. As a result, the works themselves create dialogic situations whose subtly explosive potential is replicated in the viewer.

Artists like Omar Alessandro engage with the critical potential of a conceptual art that exhibits parallels to a Romantic mode of thinking by combining a formal reduction and a simultaneous opening up of the artistic form. The work itself, the sensual form, is, as it was then, the impulse and starting point for a multifaceted game with thought possibilities. The exhibition title "Invitation to Love", like his "*Tulpenprojekt*" have little to do therefore with a revival of Romantic motifs that have mutated into kitsch. The works acquire their potential from the enduring, hence stimulating, tension between emotion and thought.

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Öffnungszeiten:
Mi-Fr 14-18h
Sa 11-16h
oder nach Vereinbarung

www.annex14.ch