

LULLIN +
FERRARI



Anna Amadio

Fire!

29 November 2008 – 7 February 2009

Limmatstrasse 214
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PRESS RELEASE

Lullin + Ferrari are delighted to present new works by the Basel based artist Anna Amadio (b. 1963 Belp) in her first exhibition in Zurich. Amadio is highly regarded in Switzerland as well as internationally. Several solo exhibitions have been dedicated to her work, amongst others in the Kunstverein Freiburg i.Br. 2005, in the Kunstmuseum Thun 2006 and in the Gallery Frehrking Wiesehöfer, Cologne 2007. Beside that Amadio's work was included in numerous group exhibitions. In June 2008 she showed fascinating, sculptural objects in the Guest Presentation of the Kunsthaus Baselland at Liste 08 in Basel; works by Amadio were shown in the exhibition *Fragile* in the Kunsthaus Langenthal in 2006 and at the Centre d'Art Contemporain in Geneva as well as in the Kunstmuseum Bonn in 2005. Amadio's work was included in the exhibition *Babushka* in the collection of the Museum zu Allerheiligen in Schaffhausen in 2003 and in the exhibition *Personal Plans* in the Kunsthalle Basel in 2002.

Sculptural thinking is essential in Amadio's artistic approach. All her works, including her paintings and drawings, are developed out of a deep understanding for spatial relations. The invitation card for our exhibition in Zurich exemplifies the artist's spatial comprehension. The photograph shows a cone form, constructed from dried patches of acrylic and glue. Under the coloured skin the artist is just visible through a bunch of her curly hair which is jutting out over the cone. A coloured cord is attached to the cone. The title of the show „Fire!“ interprets the cord as a fuse and points to the interpretation, that the artist represents herself as a firework, a volcano. The artist is, like a shaman, hidden behind the coloured skin. The eruption of the volcano took place in the artist's studio, before the exhibition – the outcome is now visible in the gallery.

Amadio combines painting with sculpture in her exhibition. Three figures called *Guards* stand prominently in the gallery space. They are made of shrinking foil, formed through the impact of heat and subsequently coated with colour. Their appearance holds an infatuated implicitness. They are amorphous, around 1.80m high. Their chromatic and physical presence accentuates the surrounding space. The three figures elicit the sense of frozen movement and embody, despite being quite heavy, a playful lightness.

Next to the sculptures hang the so-called *Paintings Kiss*. Although described in the title as Paintings, these images possess a very strong sculptural quality, also due to their method of fabrication. Amadio regards herself not as a painter. Her reference to painting is solely to use the canvas as support for the visualization of a pictorial idea. The starting point for the *Paintings Kiss* works is the Rorschach inkblot test. Amadio wanted to superimpose a first impression with a second one. According to the artist the second test covers the legibility of the first one: hiding or even protecting it. The number „Two“ suggests a kiss – and therefore points to a spatial dimension and an exchange. From the second Rorschach test only the rear side of the colour flush is visible. The merging together of the colour combinations and forms remains hidden and left to the imagination of the public. Amadio has commented that this is probably the smallest spatial work she has ever realized and that this has resulted in working in a series.

The *Guards* and *Paintings Kiss* are supplemented by the works *Changing Directions*. These are small format panel paintings, which contain colour deposits in-between shrinking foil. Because the colour remains liquid the paintings change depending on the position of the image. The images are in a constant flow and change according to the intervention of an active beholder.

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Anna Amadio
Paintings Kiss, 2008
Glue, acrylic on canvas
155 x 190 cm (61 x 74-3/4 in.)
AA208.01

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Anna Amadio
Paintings Kiss, 2008
Glue, acrylic on canvas
155 x 190 cm (61 x 74-3/4 in.)
AA208.02

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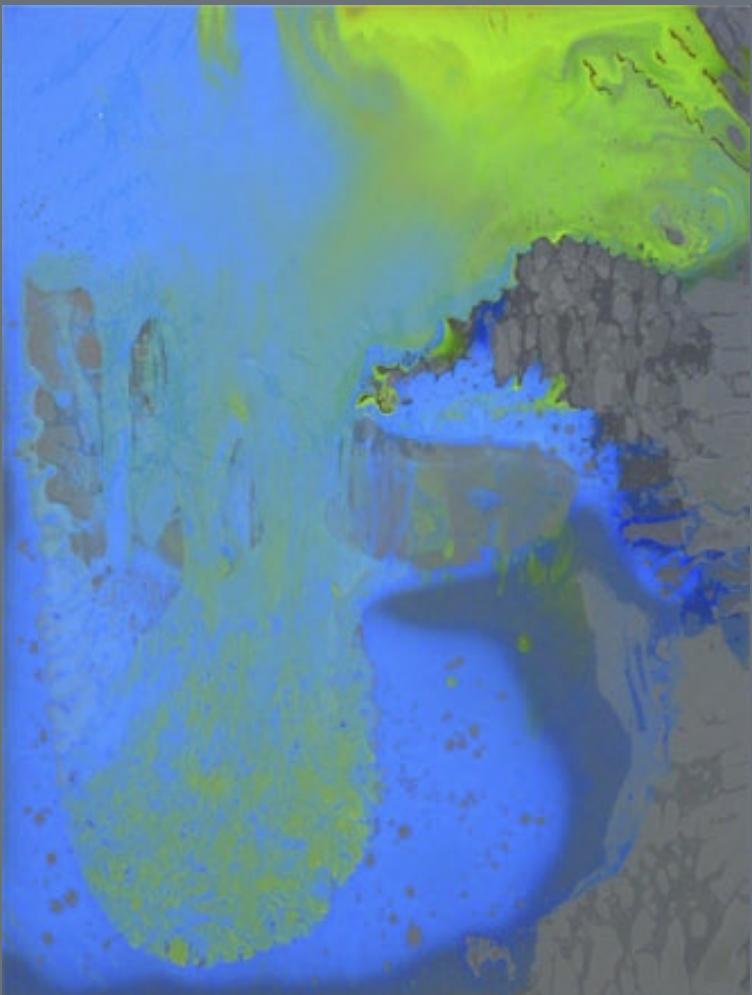
Anna Amadio
Paintings Kiss, 2008
Glue, acrylic on canvas
155 x 190 cm (61 x 74-3/4 in.)
AA208.03

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Anna Amadio
Paintings Kiss, 2008
Glue, acrylic on canvas
155 x 190 cm (61 x 74-3/4 in.)
AA208.04

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Anna Amadio
Changing Directions, 2008
Shrinking foil, Acrylic
54 x 40.5 cm (21-1/4 x 16 in.)
AA208.10



Anna Amadio
Changing Directions, 2008
Shrinking foil, Acrylic
48 x 60 cm (18-7/8 x 23-5/8 in.)
AA208.16

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Anna Amadio
Changing Directions, 2008
Shrinking foil, Acrylic
48 x 60 cm (17-7/8 x 23-5/8 in.)
AA208.18

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Anna Amadio

First Guard, 2008

Shrinking foil, glue, acrylic

155 x 170 x 200 cm (61 x 67 x 78-3/4 in.)

AA208.20

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Anna Amadio

Second Guard, 2008

Shrinking foil, glue, acrylic

190 x 120 x 225 cm (74-3/4 x 47-1/4 x 88-1/2 in.)

AA208.21

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Anna Amadio

Third Guard, 2008

Shrinking foil, glue, acrylic

165 x 128 x 250 cm

(65 x 56-3/8 x 98-1/2 in.)

AA208.22



Anna Amadio
Guard Study, 2008
Shrinking foil, glue, acrylic
37 x 59 x 40 cm
(14-1/2 x 23-1/4 x 15-3/4 in.)
AA208.19



Anna Amadio
Guard Study, 2008
Shrinking foil, glue, acrylic
50 x 70 x 75 cm
(19-5/8 x 27-1/2 x 29-1/2 in.)
AA208.23



Anna Amadio
Guard Study, 2008
Shrinking foil, glue, acrylic
33 x 55 x 40 cm
(13 x 21-5/8 x 15-3/4 in.)
AA208.24



Anna Amadio
Guard Study, 2008
Shrinking foil, glue, acrylic
17 x 80 x 48 cm
(6-5/8 x 31-1/2 x 18-7/8 in.)
AA208.25



Anna Amadio: *Guard Studies*, 2008/09

Shrinking foil, glue, acrylic

37 x 50 x 40 cm (14 x 23 x 16 in.), 17 x 80 x 48 cm (7 x 32 x 19 in.), 27 x 46 x 87 cm (11 x 18 x 34 in.), 30.5 x 62 x 87 cm (12 x 24 x 34 in.)

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ANNA AMADIO

Born 1963 in Belp, CH, lives and works in Basel.

1989-1992 Hochschule für Bildende Kunst, Basel

2001-2002 Lectureship at the ESBA Ecole supérieure des beaux-arts, Geneva

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2008 *Fire!*, Lullin + Ferrari, Zurich
2007 *Im Gaumen des Clowns*, Galerie Frehrking Wiesehöfer, Cologne
2006 *One Corner More*, Kunstmuseum Thun, Thun (with Vittorio Santoro) (Cat.)
Galleria Paolo Bonzano, Rome
2005 *On the Two Corners*, Galerie Frehrking Wiesehöfer, Cologne
Gizmo's Kiss, Kunstverein Freiburg i.Br.
2003 Kunsthaus Baselland, Basel (Cat.)
2002 Galerie Frehrking Wiesehöfer, Cologne
2001 Galerie Gisèle Linder, Basel (with P. Willen)
1999 Gallery by slides, Bartok 32 Galeria, Budapest
1997 *Stagediving*, Museum zu Allerheiligen, Schaffhausen (Cat.)
1996 Kunsthalle Palazzo, Liestal (with D. Buetti) (Cat.)
Galerie Occurrence, Montréal, CAN (with B. R. Pitt) (Cat.)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2009 *Blaue Stunde, Bilder zwischen Tag und Nacht*, Museum zu Allerheiligen, Schaffhausen
2008 *Guest Presentation at LISTE 08*, Kunsthaus Baselland, Muttenz/Basel
Historischer Autofriedhof Kaufdorf/Bern, Nationale Kunstausstellung (Cat.)
2006 *Totalschaden*, Bonner Kunstverein, Bonn (Concept Gregor Schneider)
Crave, Raw Space, London
Fragile, Kunsthaus Langenthal
2005 *Set it off*, James Nicholson Gallery, New York
Naturellement abstrait. La collection Julius Baer, Centre d'art contemporain, Geneva
Sammlung Kunstmuseum Bonn
Galleria Paolo Maria Deanesi, Rovereto, I
2004 *Paperweight*, Galerie Völcker u. Freunde, Berlin
2003 *Babuschka*, Sammlung Museum zu Allerheiligen, Schaffhausen

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ANNA AMADIO – SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS – continue

- | | | |
|------|--|---|
| 2002 | <i>Beinahe wirklich</i> , Kunstverein Freiburg i.Br. (Cat.) | |
| | <i>Persönliche Pläne</i> , Kunsthalle Basel (Cat.) | 2001 <i>Liaisons-Collections</i> , Kunstmuseum Thun |
| 2000 | <i>Air en forme</i> , Musée de design et d'arts appliqués contemporains, Lausanne (Cat.) | |
| | <i>Raumkörper, Netze und andere Gebilde</i> , Kunsthalle Basel (Cat.) | |
| | <i>Fri-Art</i> , Fribourg (Cat.) | |
| 1999 | <i>Die letzten Gegenstände des Jahrhunderts</i> , Galerie Gisèle Linder, Basel | |
| | <i>Amadio & Huck</i> , Bartók 32 Galéria, Budapest, Ungarn | |
| 1998 | <i>Zeichnung</i> , Helmhaus, Zürich (Collaboration with A. Huck) (Cat.) | |
| 1997 | <i>In den Raum gestellt, oder.</i> , Helmhaus, Zurich (Cat.) | |
| 1996 | <i>Luft</i> , Nassauischer Kunstverein, Wiesbaden (Cat.) | |
| | <i>Centre d'Art Contemporain</i> , Geneva (Cat.) | |
| | <i>Balloon Frame</i> , Kunsthalle Basel (Projekt by Bürgin/Schoch) (Cat.) | |

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 2004-2005 | Studio grant New York (formerly P.S.1), Bundesamt für Kultur BAK |
| 2002 | BAZ Kunstpreis Basel |
| | Basler Künstlerstipendium/Werkbeitrag |
| 2000 | Eidgenössischer Preis für freie Kunst |
| 1998 | Eidgenössischer Preis für freie Kunst |
| 1997-1998 | Cité Internationale des Arts Paris, Bildhaueratelier Basel-Stadt |
| 1996 | Eidgenössischer Preis für freie Kunst |
| 1995 | Basler Künstlerstipendium |
| 1994-1995 | Christoph Merian Stiftung, CMS/iaab Atelierstipendium Montréal, CAN |

COMMISSIONED WORKS

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2007 | Los Hermanos, Privatanlage Pego/Valencia, Spain |
| 2004 | Bazooka, Jacob Burckhardt Haus, Basel |
| 2003 | Bird's Inn, Pflegeheim Madle, Pratteln (Collaboration with B. Bürgin) |
| 2001 | Mosaik, Eidgenössisches Personalamt Bern (Collaboration with B. Bürgin) |

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ANNA AMADIO – PUBLICATIONS

Nationale Kunstausstellung, Autofriedhof Kaufdorf/Bern, text Konrad Tobler
One Corner More, Kunstmuseum Thun 2006, texts by Madeleine Schuppli, Dorothea Strauss, Ralf Christofori
Paperweight, texts by Andreas Schalhorn, Georg Elben. Völcker & Freunde, Berlin 2004
Anna Amadio, texts by Sabine Schaschl-Cooper, Gregor Jansen, Claudio Moser. Kunsthaus Baselland, Basel 2003
Persönliche Pläne, texts by Catrin Backhaus, Ralf Christofori, Ulrike Groos, Gianni Jetzer, Erich Klein, Matthew Sloly, Frances Stark, Mai-Thu Perret, Jan Tumlir, Christina Végh, Hans Witschi. Kunsthalle Basel, Basel 2002
Air en Forme, texts by Chantal Prod'Hom. Musée de Design et d'Arts Appliqués Contemporains, Lausanne 2000
Raumkörper. Netze und andere Gebilde, texts by Peter Pakesch, Ralf Christofori, André Bideau. Kunsthalle Basel, Basel 2000
Zeichnungen, texts by Katrin Frauenfelder, Marie-Louise Lienhard, Helmhaus Zurich, 1999
Anna Amadio: Stagediving, texts by Markus Stegmann, Museum zu Allerheiligen, Schaffhausen 1997
Anna Amadio, Daniele Buetti, texts by Hedy Graber, Philip Ursprung. Kunshalle Palazzo, Liestal 1996
Balloon Frame, texts by Thomas Kellein, Christoph Grunenberg. Kunsthalle Basel, Basel 1995

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Impressum

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For availability and inquiries please contact the gallery:

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