

PRESS RELEASE***Keep Your Eyes Open***

Anne-Lise Coste, Slawomir Elsner, Franziska Furter, Pierre Haubensak, Mamiko Otsubo, Bill Woodrow and guests **Robert Frank, Richard Hamilton, Jamie Isenstein, Isa Melsheimer, Ugo Rondinone, Dieter Roth, Al Taylor** and others

Opening reception 11 and 12 June 2016 from 11am to 6 pm, Open House Weekend before Art Basel

We are delighted to present the group show *Keep Your Eyes Open* featuring 13 artists, six from the gallery program and seven guests. The title of the show is an advice the American-Swiss photographer Robert Frank gave to future photographers during the opening of his solo show at Tisch School of the Arts at New York University: „Keep your eyes open. Don't shake. Don't blink.“

Focused and comparative viewing and representations of the eyes are the key topics of the exhibition. In the entrance room a large pencil drawing by Franziska Furter from her *Draft*-series welcomes the visitors. To its right hangs a group of *Scribbles*, notations in glass also by Franziska Furter. Opposite four gouaches by Isa Melsheimer are arranged showing concrete buildings from the 1960s and 70s in Switzerland and Germany, underneath is her concrete sculpture *Raumgruppe*.

In the main room hang five drawings by Slawomir Elsner from his series *Stills*. The works in the group are adaptations in grey hues with crayon of the famous photographs by Cindy Sherman, in which she represents herself in well-known film sets. Slawomir Elsner has removed the protagonist from the photographic original and just depicts the setting. Next hang a small ceramic work by Mamiko Otsubo and three photographs by Robert Frank from different periods from his long career: a view of a couple in the Jardin Luxembourg in Paris from 1952, a still life with a view of a window with objects from 1973 and a picture from 1995 of two postcards of the Empire State Building arranged in an ashtray.

A round painting from April 29, 2013 by Ugo Rondinone stares in the space. The picture defines a precise day in the life of the artist – a nearly photographic punctum. Though it is unclear how the relation of the title to the piece itself is: Has the tondo been made on this precise day, or has it then been painted or finished? However, it holds a magic presence and radiates into the space.

Right to the painting by Ugo Rondinone six expressive pastel drawings of whimsical figures by Anne-Lise Coste stand their ground. Next to the group a black branch depicted with airbrush also by Anne-Lise Coste is hovering over white ground. In front stands on a pedestal a golden sculpture, a self-portrait of Bill Woodrow in the year 2085. A ceramic work by Mamiko Otsubo gazes into the space, according to the artist a deadpan response to the advice of Robert Frank. A carmine painting fabricated with stencils by Pierre Haubensak sets a colourful element onto the wall. During a longer inspection its distinctive figure-ground pattern merges into a figurative element, which resembles a skull. On the short wall hangs a group of twelve amazing black-and-white airbrush drawings on paper by Anne-Lise Coste, depicting different line configurations.

In the office one discovers further works featuring images of the eye and asking for closer inspection. From Richard Hamilton hangs the heliogravure *Finn MacCool*, a hero from James Joyce's *Ulysses* from the chapter about the Cyclops and especially the one-eyed Polyphemus. Dieter Roth is present with a poetic etching called *Mein Auge ist mein Mund* (My Eye is my Mouth) and Richard Hamilton appears with a cheeky *Multi-coloured flower-piece* etching. Al Taylor's drawing *Tin Can and Chopsticks - Tatlin and Malevich* surprises through its fabrication and its reference to two heroes of Russian art. The exhibition offers to the public amazing insights into single works and stunning cross-references between them.

Biographies

Anne-Lise Coste (*1973 in Marseille, lives and works in the South of France) is a great draftswoman and painter, working abstract and figurative. Her drawings have been published in many books and in numerous exhibitions. Her works can be found in public collections amongst others in the collection of the MACBA and the Kunsthau Zurich.

Franziska Furter (*1972 in Zurich, lives and works in Basel and Berlin) creates in her sculptures and drawings often moods, referring to events outside of the image and to scenic configurations. Her drawings can be found in the collection of the Aargauer Kunsthau, the Kunstmuseum Basel, the Kupferstichkabinett Berlin and the MoMA in NY.

Slawomir Elsner (*1976 in Wodzisław Slaski, Polen, lives and works in Berlin) is well-known for his series of drawings. Elsner always anew explores the possibilities of the medium. Institutional exhibitions in the Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, Museum Dhondt –Dhaenens, Deurle and many other venues.

Pierre Haubensak (*1935 in Meiringen, Switzerland, lives and works in Zurich) develops since the 1960s a concise oeuvre in the medium of painting. Again and again he challenges the means of painting. He had many solo and group exhibitions amongst others in the Kunsthau Zurich, the Stedelijk in Amsterdam and the Kunsthalle in Berne.

Mamiko Otsubo (*1974 in Nishinomiya City, Japan, lives and works in Los Angeles) produces sculptures, collages and ceramics, often with minimal interventions. Recent solo shows include an exhibition at Cleoptra's in Brooklyn.

Bill Woodrow (*1948 near Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, lives in Kent and works in London) combines in his presentation often sculptures with drawings. His works can be found in many important public collections amongst others Tate, London and the MoMA, NY.

Robert Frank (*1924 in Zurich, lives in New York and Mabou) is a famous American-Swiss photographer and film director. His book *The Americans* published 1958/59 is one of the most important books of photographs.

Richard Hamilton (*1922 in London, died 2011 in Oxford) was a very important conceptual artist, whose work in different styles has influenced many young artists.

Jamie Isenstein (*1975 in Portland, Oregon, lives and works in New York City) uses for her art different media. Often her exhibitions are accompanied by performances.

Isa Melsheimer (*1968 in Neuss, Germany, lives and works in Berlin) fabricates concrete and ceramic sculptures, having the character of models and referring to architecture. Beside that she produces gouaches representing buildings made of concrete in the 20th Century.

Ugo Rondinone (*1964 in Brunnen, Switzerland, lives and works in New York City) is a conceptual Swiss artist who often shows performances and uses different media.

Dieter Roth (*1930 in Hannover, died 1998 in Basel) was an outstanding artist, who worked in many media, drawing, film, sculpture, painting, and print.

Al Taylor (*1948 in Springfield, Mass., died 1999 in New York City, NY) was an important, unconventional draftsman and sculptor, who understood, how to transform his immediate surrounding in poetic works.

The exhibition ***Keep Your Eyes Open*** runs until **23 July 2016**. For further information and images please contact the gallery Lullin + Ferrari, Limmatstrasse 214, CH-8005 Zürich, t. +41 (0)43 205 26 07, f. +41 (0)43 205 26 08, info@lullinferrari.com, www.lullinferrari.com
Opening hours, Tuesday to Friday 12 to 6pm, Saturday 11 to 5pm and by appointment