

PRESS RELEASE**SIMULTAN / SIMULTANEOUS**

**Anna Amadio, Benedikte Bjerre, Anne-Lise Coste, Franziska Furter,
Mamiko Otsubo, Uwe Wittwer and guests Eduardo Chillida, Richard Hamilton,
Jamie Isenstein, Isa Melsheimer, Dieter Roth**

Limmatstrasse 214
CH-8005 Zürich
t. +41 (0)43 205 2607
f. +41 (0)43 205 2608
info@lullinferrari.com
www.lullinferrari.com

Opening: 9 June 2017, 6 to 8pm

Open House Weekend before Art Basel: Sat., 10 June, 11am to 7pm / Sun., 11 June, 11am to 5pm

We are happy to present the group exhibition *SIMULTAN / SIMULTANEOUS* with works by six gallery artists and four guests. The theme of the show is the notion „Simultaneous“. An interest triggered by the article „Schön war die Zeit“ (Beautiful was the Time) in the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* from 28 November 2014. The article describes the strong connection of the city of Siena with the local, nearly broke bank Monte Dei Paschi. The author, Thomas Steinfeld, explains the previous dependence of the small city to the financial institution, which scratched along insolvency. After the bank, due to the financial crisis from 2008, could not pay any taxes anymore, Siena started to concentrate – even more then before – on the revenues of the tourists. Many medium sized towns in Europe are forced to concentrate due of the lack of any other earnings on the spending of the tourists and the more they do so, the more the tourism industry replaces all other trade. „These cities are converting into stage sets, in which every element, every daily routine is checked against the benefit of the paying stranger. And this transformation is pursued until the cities are transformed into images of themselves, – until they are, because of the tourists, simulating themselves.

The works in the exhibition touches on topics raised in the article. Also in the art world one can observe a tendency, which can be qualified as an equalization of the merchandise with the artwork. Branding, the the recall factor of a work, the style of an artist becomes more and more important. Fashion replaces connoisseurship: The simultaneity of art, fashion and merchandise is en vogue, as the new Louis Vuitton bag designed by Jeff Koons reveals.

Already the presentation of the works by Jamie Isenstein in the first room with the large shopping windows in our gallery classifies them as goods. The works were created for her show *Isenstein's* in her Berlin Gallery Meyer Riegger last fall. With the choice of the title Isenstein refers to department stores in New York, as for example Macy's or Bloomingdales, or in Germany to Karstadt – department stores caring the name of their founders. Also in the art world there are some large galleries opening branches in the main capitals. Therefore it was tempting to open an „Isenstein's“ branch in Zurich. In a lucid text Isenstein explains her enterprise: „As might be expected of an exhibition named in the tradition of a store who's namesake is a person, the artworks in the exhibition consider the body within the world of commerce; how this world shapes our bodies and our sense of our selves, and how our experience of our bodies informs the world of commerce. We are what we buy.“ In the exhibition is a chorus of five mannequins heads wearing wigs that each suggests vanities themes. Another work, a glasses display tower that slowly spins shows off glasses with open and closed eyes painted on the lenses. As the tower spins, the work suggests a kind of slow moving zoetrope of blinking eyes and manifests a surreal note. Blinking eyes are rarely missing in Isenstein's oeuvre.

In the main room of the gallery a triptych by Anna Amadio of pure colors welcomes the viewers. The title *Color for Paint* points to its hybrid character: These are paintings consisting of only colors; paintings without neither canvas nor frame, on which color suffices itself. In these works Amadio does not refer to a reality outside of the paintings, but accentuates the simultaneity between process and work. Next to the triptych is a work casting a painting from Modernism, to be precise a pear tree by Van Gogh. This work does not focus on painting – even though painting delivers the conceptual background – but it captures the painterly characteristics of van Gogh in relief.

Opposite of the works by Amadio is a group of drawings and sculptures by Isa Melsheimer. In the large drawing *Nr. 210* Melsheimer connects wildlife and art – in this case a swinging up owl. In another drawing Melsheimer samples ornament and depiction of modern architecture on the West Coast. On the floor two concrete sculptures seat, which Melsheimer created for a show at the Santa Monica Art Museum. They refer to the Hinterland of Los Angeles and to short stories by J.G. Ballard "The Thousand Dreams of Stellavista and other Vermilion-Sands-Stories" from the psychedelic 1960ies. Often the houses in Ballard's stories are psychotropic, inspiring Melsheimer to form these sculptures.

Next to the works by Melsheimer follows a lanky sculpture by Mamiko Otsubo. In this work Otsubo combines three rectangular rods with a violet gymnastic ball and two peeled twigs found in the Central Park in New York to a poetic assemblage. The stunning graphite drawing by Franziska Furter leads to a photograph by Benedikte Bjerre referring to the tulip mania in Dutch 17th Century, the first crash of a speculative bubble. To its left rises a canvas by Anne-Lise Coste, pleading with insistence for freedom.

In the back room hangs the gaudy screenprint *Fuses* by Dieter Roth, depicting simultaneously spinning panels. *Gravitacion* by Eduardo Chillida exemplifies the fragility of the artwork and the artistic existence. Opposite of the Chillida hangs a watercolor by Uwe Wittwer, staging a showcase full of porcelain figurines from Nymphenburg. The delicate and romantic crayon lithograph *Sunset (f)* by Richard Hamilton, showing a turd on the beach, completes the show.

Biographies

Anna Amadio (*1963 in Belp, near Bern, works in Basel), sculptor and draftswoman, many exhibitions in Switzerland and abroad, amongst others at the Kunstverein Freiburg, Kunsthalle Basel. Solo exhibition in 2017 at the Kunsthau Grenchen and in 2018 at Kunst(Zeug)haus, Rapperswil-Jona (CH).

Benedikte Bjerre (*1987 in Copenhagen, lives and works in Amsterdam). Studied at the Städel Schule in Frankfurt a/M and at the Royal Academy of the Art in Copenhagen. Conceptual artist with solo exhibitions in Los Angeles, Copenhagen and New York.

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 shown in numerous exhibitions. Her works are in private and public collections amongst others in the collection of the MACBA and the Kunsthau Zurich. Until 25 June her work can be seen in an exhibition at the Helmhaus 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 are in the collection of the Aargauer Kunsthau, the Kunstmuseum Basel, the Kupferstichkabinett Berlin and the MoMA in NY.

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.

Uwe Wittwer (*1954 in Zurich, lives and works in Zurich). Important painter and master of the watercolor. Many museum exhibitions in Switzerland and abroad, amongst others in Solothurn, Aachen and Abbot Hall, Kendal UK. His works are in The Metropolitan Museum, N.Y., in the Kunsthau Zurich and in many important private collections.

Eduardo Chillida (*1924 and died 2002 in San Sebastián) most important bask artist from the 20th Century. Sculptor and draftsman. Many international exhibition, works in the most important museums in the world.

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.

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

The exhibition *SIMULTAN /SIMULTANEOUS* runs until 15. Juli 2017. 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