

Project Space Brunnenstrasse 22

Vernissage; Friday October 10, 7pm

Exhibition: October 11- November 15

About Face , Kehrt Euch !

Curated by Lisa Carlson

The current solo show by Stefan Saffer, „About Face, Kehrt Euch!“ pulls together his improvisational approach to installation, combining playful sculptures with his individual paper cut-outs. The expression „About Face“ and „Kehrt Euch“ is often used in a military context as an order to make an immediate turn of 180 degrees, instead here it is to allow for a more graceful turn around to a completely different perspective than one might have had previously. The command is to see things from a different vantage point. Saffer has created a dialogue between the various elements in the exhibition, raising questions and challenging the viewer to decipher relationships. All the works become “actors” in relationship to the black carpet which is seen as the studio stage for a play in a trial run. It seems there is an aesthetic in place which feeds itself outside known genres. Each piece in the show is multi-layered and amalgamates many different levels of meaning.

The works “Quest“ and “Narcissus“ represent the figures A and B in Heiner Müllers play “heartplay“. They are the center of the exhibition in an attempt to offer new perspectives on the relationship of the two characters in the play who have a tragic love story. Surrounding them like spectators are the works “Barbara Song“ or “My Renaissance Angst“ which play with the theme of doubt and angst by looking at something or someone. The beginning and ending point of the “Game“ is the small corner installation “infinite dot“. Here all perspectives seem to find their deep roots in a drawing of nothingness, white on white. A frozen gesture of the act of making art. It could well be that this is the absolute perspective with all colours collapsing in the black of the carpet-stage.

There is a mix of stories and characters on stage here which attempt to visually attract in order to crumble ones predetermined view of things. It remains open to what extend one will access these works and their unwritten scripts. There is a challenge to pin down one meaning without already finding another in this exhibition. It remains open what is watching whom or who is looking at what.

Stefan Saffer’s work has been exhibited internationally at such institutions as the ICA, London, Lenbachhaus, Galerie Barbara Gross in Munich, Andrea Rosen Gallery, NY. He has had solo exhibitions with Kate MacGarry, müllerdechiara, Villa Grisebach Gallery, Berlin and Sloan Fine Art NY. He earned his MFA from Goldsmiths, London and has received several prestigious grants and awards including Art for Architecture Award from the Royal Society of Architecture UK, Delfina Studios, London, Bauhaus Stiftung, Dessau and the Whitney ISP Program. Currently, Saffer lives and works in Berlin.

The exhibition is curated by Lisa Carlson, gallerist/independent curator based currently in Los Angeles. She was formerly the Director Max Wigram Gallery and Gagosian Gallery in London.

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Gallery Hours: Thursday- Saturday 14- 18h

(by appointment contact safferstefan@gmail.com or call 01714143954 and for more information)

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