

Media release

Manon Bellet, Stef Heidhues, Douglas White, Zimoun

“Duel – One can have fleas and lice at the same time”

curated by Laurin Projects | Lisa Frei

Opening: 25 February 2011, 6 to 8 pm. Exhibition: 26 February till 2 April 2011.
The artists will be present at the opening.

*Die Flöhe und die Läuse.
die hatten sich beim Schopf
und kämpften gar gewaltig
auf eines Buben Kopf.*

Theodor Storm

From time immemorial duels fascinate fighters and crowd alike – for instance the one-on-one battle in sports, embedded in rituals and myths, and the idolization that goes with it. It's a perpetual re-edition of the You or Me.

Art duels take place on quite a different level. The writer who sits in front of a white page, or the painter in front of an empty canvas, they find themselves struggling with the object of their creation by committing themselves to it. The success of this process is just as uncertain as in a boxing match. Frequently, artists reflect their agonizing (with the material and with themselves) in their work, although it may seem balanced and harmonious to an unaware viewer.

Medics use the saying “one can have fleas and lice at the same time” to describe comorbidity, the simultaneous incidence of two or more different illnesses in own patient. With her group show, Lisa Frei traces this simultaneity of things that apparently don't have anything in common. Laurin Projects is thus a vessel in which the examination of artists and their working processes is of utmost importance. Christinger De Mayo is very pleased to host the second Laurin Projects exhibition (the first exhibition titled “Das wandernde Bild” [The wandering image] was shown in the Coalmine photo gallery), as we believe: The close examination of simultaneous, but differing incidences in art provides fertile grounds for gaining knowledge and insights.

Manon Bellet (born 1979 in Vevey, lives in Basel) produces multimedia and wall drawings. She creates her work often on site, in dialogue with the architecture, in a slow and silent process. The wall work “brève braise” is an installation with carbonized tissue paper that will change its appearance with duration of the exhibition and the movements in the space. The piece is delicate and

membranaceous, its poetic aura refers to beginning, ending, and fugacity.

Stef Heidhues' (born 1975 in Washington, lives in Berlin) installations are delicate and, from a static viewpoint, often hazardous paper compositions in space. In the current exhibition she presents, next to collages, her wall work "Septet" and the steel and wood frame work "Bye Bye You And Me Against The World". The artist is fascinated by balance and the dithering between concrete pictures and associations on one side, and autonomous forms, compositions, and the expression of material on the other.

For his work, Douglas White (born 1977 in Guildford, lives in London) adopts the artistic strategy of found material. In his sculpture "Elephant totem", he puts a found piece of wood in a new associative field by placing it on a base and presenting it in an art space. In his wall work and installation "Lichtenstein", medium density fiberboards are mauled by electrical pulses that create fractal burns, ultimate scars.

Zimoun's (born 1977 in Bern, lives in Bern) work is based on artificially created, but seemingly organic room installations and sound sculptures. Through mutual interactions, basic systems produce a complex team play of sound and movement. "25 prepared dc-motors" and "45 prepared dc-motors" are kinetic sculptures showing some sort of actionism that is free of sense.

Christinger De Mayo | Ankerstrasse 24 | 8004 Zurich Switzerland | T 41 44 252 08 08
www.christingerdemayo.com | office@christingerdemayo.com