

CENTRE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN GENÈVE

10, rue des Vieux-Grenadiers, 1205 Genève t +41 22 329 18 42 f +41 22 329 18 86 www.centre.ch

PRESS DOSSIER

Organic

Thea Djordjadze, Monika Sosnowska, Andro Wekua, Pae White
23.11.2012 – 03.02.2013

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PRESS RELEASE

November 2012

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23.11.2012 – 03.02.2013

Parallel to the major solo show of Edy Ferguson's work, the Centre is hosting a collective exhibition which addresses the use of sculpture that four young to mid-career artists – Thea Djordjadze, Monika Sosnowska, Andro Wekua and Pae White – are making today.

ORGANIC addresses the use of sculpture in contemporary art practices, and in particular in the work of four young to mid-career artists: Thea Djordjadze, Monika Sosnowska, Andro Wekua and Pae White. Across border lines, within different contexts, sculpture is a recurring practice, often blurring the lines of the medium and merging with installation.

This exhibition will explore how forms that are created both determine and are determined by the space in which they are sited; how distortions can take on either architectural or narrative dimensions, all the while maintaining an organic relation with reality. In the works on show, the fine arts and the decorative arts merge, architectural space becomes mental space and the notion of mass becomes experience of spatiality.

Curated by Paolo Colombo

SAVE THE DATES :

Press Meeting

22.11.2012 at 4pm

Opening

22.11.2012 at 6pm

Exhibition

23.11.2012 – 03.02.2013

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGES:

Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève

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23.11.2012 - 03.02.2013
3rd floor

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THEA DJORDJADZE

*1971 in Tiflis, Georgia

Lives and works in Berlin, Germany

Thea Djordjadze's work is characterized by its minimalist sensibility and its poetic dimension. Her sculptures are situated between form and anti-form, a combination of stable structures and fragile, gestural renderings. Thea Djordjadze works with materials like plaster, wood, ceramic, glass, along with fabrics, sponge, soap, cardboard or papier-mâché. They are assembled in hybrid compositions with references to the modernist language.

What inspire her are mainly poetry, films and nature.

The work "Untitled" (2011; cardboard, painting, paper, clay) as well as in general her receptiveness to colour reflects her experience with painting which was her formation in the first place.

MONIKA SOSNOWSKA

*1972 Ryki, Poland

Lives and works in Warsaw, Poland

"I am especially interested in the moments when architectural space begins to take on the characteristics of mental space." Monika Sosnowska

The Polish artist Monika Sosnowska explores our psychological relationship to the built environment. She always designs projects to fit into a specific space. Often, she modifies pre-existent architecture, transforming the physical space into a mental space and playing with the viewer's perceptions of its familiar environment. To achieve that transformation, she plays on motives such as the maze, the breaches of scale, the antagonisms between emptiness and saturation.

ANDRO WEKUA

*1977 in Sochumi, Georgia

Lives and works in Zurich

In his art, Andro Wekua combines collective and personal memories into poignant, in part disturbing representations.

He grew up in the former Soviet republic of Georgia and was driven out of the country in the course of the Civil War. In his installations, collages and films, pictures which are related to this aspect of his life repeatedly flash up. Personal aspects in his work, however, only serve as an illustration enabling him to raise more general questions about universal truths.

In his installations, Wekua adapts artistic methods from theatre and cinematography. That way he often creates stage-like installations with charged atmospheres. In the work "Interlude" for instance, as well as in some of his paintings, the artist takes up the motif of the mask. "Prosopon" means in Greek the natural visage of the human being. It also means mask and later on stands for the character performed in theatre.

PAE WHITE

*1963 in Pasadena (California), USA

Lives and works in Los Angeles

"My goal is to cause viewers to stop and consider the bits and pieces of our lives that are most often overlooked, perhaps suggesting a more comprehensive reconsideration of the world around us, even to ask ourselves: What is important to us? What are we seeing? What are we not seeing?" Pae White

The space is occupied by a mobile. Though humour is rarely White's goal, it often surfaces from her predilection to anthropomorphize inanimate objects, as in this Pop Storm.

The reference to pop art is obvious in Pae White's work; however she looks at it reflexively. Instead of one super-saturated image burned into your retina, the artist engages her audience into an immersive experience. Her work is an attempt to subvert the viewer's expected relationship to an everyday object, nudging them off balance, encouraging a deeper look.

Exhibition curated by Paolo Colombo

In partnership with Pernod Ricard Swiss and Le Courier
And with the precious support of



PARALLEL EXHIBITIONS :

2nd EDY FERGUSON. Selected Works 1990 - Present

23.11.2012 - 03.02.2013

4th DIFFERENCES IN INTENSITY.

23.11.2012 - 20.01.2013

Ute Aurand & Maria Lang, Véronique Goël, Andrew & Eden Kötting, Jay Rosenblatt

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23.11.2012 – 03.02.2013

THEA DJORDJADZE

* 1971 in Tiflis, Georgia

Lives and works in Berlin, Germany

EDUCATION

2000 Meisterschülerin by Prof. Rosemarie Trockel

1998–01 Staatliche Kunstakademie Düsseldorf with Prof. Rosemarie Trockel

1995–97 Staatliche Kunstakademie Düsseldorf with Prof. Dieter Krieg

1995 MFA, Academia of Arts, Tbilisi

1994–01 Staatliche Kunstakademie Düsseldorf

1993–94 Gerrit Rietveld Akademie, Amsterdam

1988–93 Academia of Arts, Tbilisi

SOLO SHOWS (selection)

Thea Djordjadze works have been exhibited at Malmö Konstmuseum (2012), Saint Louis Contemporary Art Museum (2011), Koninklijke Academie voor Schone Kunsten in Gent (2011), Kunsthalle Basel (2009), West London Projects (2009-10), Kunstverein Nürnberg (2008), Studio Voltaire, London (2006) and Bonner Kunstverein (2001).

GROUP SHOWS (selection)

Thea Djordjadze has also participated in various group shows such as Documenta 13, Kassel, Germany (2012), the Berlin Biennial (2008), the Biennale de Lyon (with Rosemarie Trockel, 2007), "modus" at Kunsthalle St. Gallen (2006), in the Venice Biennial (2003). Thea Djordjadze has been a member of the artists' group hobbypopMUSEUM (1999-2003).

MONIKA SOSNOWSKA

*1972 Ryki, Poland

Lives and works in Warsaw, Poland

EDUCATION

1999-2000 Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunst, Amsterdam

1993-1998 Academy of Fine Arts, Poznan, Poland

SOLO SHOWS (selection)

Monika Sosnowska has exhibited in numerous international institutions such as Kurimanzutto, Mexico City (2011), The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland (2011), Hauser & Wirth, New York (2010), Stiftung Würth, Berlin (2009), Schaulager, Basel (2008), Museum of Modern Art, New York (2006), Sigmund Freud Museum, Vienna (2005) at the Serpentine Gallery, London, at the Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg, at the Modern Institute, Glasgow, and at Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin in 2004.

GROUP SHOWS (selection)

Monika Sosnowska's work has been shown in numerous group shows such "ALICE im Wunderland der Kunst », Hamburger Kunsthalle (2012), "Elles@centrepompidou » (2009) or "Les Promesses Du Passé, Une Histoire Discontinue De L'Art Dans L'Ex-Europe De L'Est » at Centre Pompidou, Paris (2010), "Just what is it... 100 years of modern art from private collections in Baden Württemberg 10 years , Museum of Contemporary Art" at ZKM Media Museum, Karlsruhe, (2010), "Art comes before gold" at the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw (2008) and "The Satellite of Love" at Witte de With, Rotterdam (2008). She also participated in the Manifesta 4 (2002), in the Venice Biennial (2003, 2007 and 2011) and in the 8th International Biennial Istanbul.

ANDRO WEKUA

*1977 in Sochumi, Georgia
Lives and works in Zurich

EDUCATION

1995-99 Visual Art School, Basel
1993-94 Phil. Institute Gogebaschwili, Tbilissi, Georgia
1986-91 National Art School, Sochumi, Georgia

SOLO SHOWS (selection)

Andro Wekua's work has been exhibited at Kunsthalle Vienna (2011), Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel (2011), Castello di Rivoli, Turin (2011), Swiss Institute, New York (2010); Magasin CNAC, Grenoble (2008), Camden Arts Centre, London (2008), at Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam (2007), Kunstmuseum Winterthur (2006), Bonner Kunstverein (2005) and Neue Kunst Halle St. Gallen (2003).

GROUP SHOWS (selection)

Andro Wekua has exhibited in numerous group shows such as "Un dessin suisse" at Kunsthaus Aarau (2011) and Musée Rath, Genève (2010), "Contemplating the Void : Interventions in the Guggenheim Museum" at Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, (2010), "Abstract Resistance" at Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2010), "Ordinary Madness" at Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh (2010), "Bad Habits" at Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo (2009), "Le Sang du Poète", Estuaire Nantes, Saint-Nazaire, France (2009) and "Shifting Identities: (Swiss) Art today" at Contemporary Art Centre, Vilnius (2009) at Kunsthaus Zurich (2008). Andro Wekua has also participated in the 54th Venice Biennial (2011), in the 8th Gwangju Biennial, Gwangju (2010), in the 55th Carnegie International, Pittsburgh (2008) and in the 4th Berlin Biennial (2006).

PAE WHITE

*1963 in Pasadena (California), USA
Lives and works in Los Angeles

EDUCATION

1991 Master in Art at the Art Center College of Design, California
1990 Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Maine
1985 Scripps College, Claremont, California

SOLO SHOWS (selection)

Pae White has exhibited in numerous international institutions such as Art Institute of Chicago (2011), Saint Louis Art Museum, Saint Louis (2010), SMOCA Scottsdale, Arizona (2008), Contemporary Arts Center Cincinnati, Ohio (2007), Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington DC (with Virgil Marti) (2007), Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester (2006) and UCLA Hammer Museum in Los Angeles (2004).

GROUP SHOWS (selection)

Pae White works have been presented in numerous group shows such as “Contemplating the Void : Interventions in the Guggenheim Museum” at Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, (2010), “The Artist’s Museum : Los Angeles Artists 1980-2010” at Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (2010), “Notation. Calculation and Form in the Arts” at ZKM Media Museum, Karlsruhe, (2009), “If Everybody had an Ocean: Brian Wilson, une exposition”, at Tate St-Ives, Cornwall and CAPC - Musée d’art contemporain, Bordeaux (2007), “Glass, Material Matters”, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles (2006) and “Lichtkunst aus Kunstlicht” at ZKM Media Museum, Karlsruhe (2005). The artist has also participated in the Whitney Biennial in 2010, in the 53rd Venice Biennial in 2009 and in Skulptur Projekte Münster in 2007.