

PRESS RELEASE

WARTESAAL
PERLA-MODE, ZÜRICH
Brauerstrasse 37 – 8004 Zürich
Manuela Schlumpf & Adrian Ehrat

Falke Pisano & Ana Roldàn

8 November – 6 December 2008

Acting Joe, George and Mr. Seek is an exhibition by the artists Falke Pisano and Ana Roldàn, in the Zurich exhibition space Wartesaal. Their works question conventions of perception and traditional conceptions of sculpture. In common to both artists' work is the exploration of the interrelationships between objects, their individual context and symbolic meaning: the meaning of the object is understood as not exclusively intrinsic to this one, but nor is it constructed entirely by interpretation. The sculpture's essence is thus not sought within the object itself, but using the methods of Reception Aesthetics. In the works of Roldàn and Pisano, language acts both as the starting point and the medium for this examination.

Ana Roldàn (*1977 Mexico City) studied linguistics and history before turning to fine arts. Central to her work are symbols and signifiatory systems that demand to be deciphered. Her objects, which are often evocative of everyday items, contain subtle but incisive alterations that disorient and irritate us, making the objects bizarre and unfamiliar. Roldàn's pieces invite participation – only through interaction and mental engagement with them do they become complete.

The focus of the Dutch artist Falke Pisano's (*1978 Amsterdam) work is her examination of perception and experience. In an almost documentary style her pieces present the linguistic and textual possibilities of analysing perception. One of Pisano's main themes is the concern with the conditions and mechanisms of modernist sculpture. In videos and performative lectures, she uses linguistic and textual approaches to reveal the essence of sculptural objects. Falke Pisano therefore shifts between the perspectives of the artist and the viewer, of production and reception. Her work allows us to experience the process of perception itself and, through her personal commentary, she is able to change the way we see.

The central piece in the exhibition *Acting Joe, George and Mr. Seek* is a collaborative work by the two artists: a floor installation consisting of three fabric pieces, which are all printed with original drawings. On each of these fabric pieces both artists have placed an object. These objects originate from previous exhibitions, installations, or from the artists' studios. Thus, while the fabric pieces provide a common ground, the objects by Pisano and Roldàn, which are imbued with history and meaning, form a relationship and therefore create a new context for interpretation.

Vernissage Friday 7 November 2008, 6 pm
Exhibition open Thursdays – Saturdays, 2 – 6 pm

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