

COLLETPARK & PENKER

16 – 26 February 2022

The exhibition ColletPark & Penker is presented by the Austrian gallery *rauminhalt_harald bichler* and is dedicated to different projects by the artist collective ColletPark (Denis and Hyun ColletPark) and the sculptor Elisabeth Penker. The sculptures and drawings on display are linked by a series approach, which is a recurring aspect in the oeuvre of the exhibited artists. Furthermore, ColletPark and Penker share a common friendship with the artists Tamuna Sirbiladze and Franz West, who have already passed away. As in the work of West, reflections on the connection between art and usage can be found within each of their works.

„C.T. Structure-Line“ by Elisabeth Penker

The relief C.T. Structure-Line ("Cultural Translation Structure-Line") by the Austrian sculptor Elisabeth Penker, shown as part of the exhibition ColletPark/Penker, consists of 12 individual reliefs made of black and white painted birch plywood, which are presented in a line next to each other in the exhibition space. They are each made from a single basic form that is mirrored by 180 degrees. The artist has been dealing with reflections in various mediums for many years and can for example be found in her portrait series "Split Representation" in addition to other sculptural works.

The mirroring structures of the relief simultaneously create a multitude of rhythmically varying views as one walks along the sculpture, ranging from three-dimensional bodies to a seemingly linear drawing in a frontal view.

The exhibited and serial installed sculpture, which takes up both formal and functional characteristics of a wall shelf, is based on the further development of a work that finds its origin in the artist's participation in the exhibition "First Story, Women Building" (Galerie do Palacio Cristal Porto, curator: Ute Meta Bauer), for which Elisabeth Penker developed a "Table Shelf" as an exhibition furniture for a video archive. The connection between art and its application is an essential aspect of Penker's work, which follows the tradition of artists such as Franz West.

"NEW MODELS" by Denis ColletPark

The New Models represent the whole of an exhibition project begun in Paris in 2015. The project balances architecture with furniture and sculpture, all with a modernist inclination toward serial work.

New Models explores a sculptural language that blends technique with subject in the goal of getting ever closer to what is fundamental in the object.

The work is characterized by and anchored in a spirit of constructivism.

"DWELLING" by Hyun ColletPark

The Dwelling series consists of drawings used to construct a physical space.

The drawings are a kind of landscape of architecture as planar figures. They depict shapes on a plane drawn from architecture: corners, façades, and geometric gardens, empty court yard are all placed and transposed on the plane.

Each drawing highlights the delicate balance of lines and shapes, as well as the signature use of traditional oriental painting genres, especially those with regards to landscape and architecture. With its careful superimposition of black ink on vegetal paper, this method is a way of showing the overlap of time, of demonstrating construction.

The black, one-dimensional geometric form is revealed through varying shades of gray; grey pale, grey pigeon, grey before black, grey asphalt, grey clay.., then placed and transposed onto an architectural landscape.

Drawing has traditionally been regarded as a tool for study and of process, and not as a final product. Yet it is the artist's first act, and drawing can itself capture something fundamental.

The planar drawings were used as an interpretation of the New Models sculpture works, and serve as a kind of story process, an extension of the New Models themselves.

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Gallery *rauminhalt_harald bichler* is based in Vienna and offers a unique platform in Austria for new visual approaches at the disciplinary interfaces of design, art and architecture. In regular solo and group exhibitions, current artistic positions are presented within these areas of interplay and the possibilities of a dissolution of the boundaries between different cultural fields are put up for discussion from different perspectives.

On display are among others works by Gilbert Bretterbauer, Celia-Hannes, Markus Guschelbauer, Bernhard Hausegger, Gisela Stiegler, Alexandra Pruscha, Torsten Neeland, Stefan Oláh, Jakob Gasteiger, Markus Mittringer, PRINZpod, Charly Pruscha, Christiane Reiter, Simon Veres, Stefan Zeisler, Darius Edlinger, Christian Hutzinger, Klemens Schillinger, Rudi Klein, Sascha Reichstein.

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