

Serge Spitzer at the Museum of Fine Arts of Berne

Round the Corner

March 22 –May 21 2006

Delicate paper markings using titanium and nanotechnology (“Law Blanks”, 1992) together with very large wall drawings (“Firewall”, 2005-2006), a robotic platform with a soccer ball (“Global Culture”, 2004-2005) and suspended pneumatic tubes together with Kunstmuseum Bern’s drawings (“Übergang”, 1982) from its collection are part of this new exhibition of early and recent works by Serge Spitzer.

What combines these (and from their description) apparently heteroclitic manifestations is less the medium or the materials than the preoccupation with the line itself: the line on and about a sheet of paper; or on the wall as an object; the unpredictable virtual line traced by the rolling soccer ball; or one that leads the mind and ends in apparent confusion, releasing itself from the sign while creating links to the real.

As the title of the exhibition “Round the Corner” indicates, the sudden deviation of the line leading to the many possibilities of everyday, can be found just round the corner. Spitzer describes his works as “reality models”. He combines art conventions and contexts with technological, biological, social and other systems and attempts to question processes of communication, perception and the awakening of consciousness.

Serge Spitzer is considered one of the preeminent artists of his generation. He was born in Bucharest, Romania, in 1951 and since the early eighties lives and works in New York. His work has been shown in many museums and art institutions, among them: Folkwang Museum Essen 1979, Museum of Modern Art New York 1983, Kunstmuseum Bern 1984, Magasin Grenoble 1987, Gemeentemuseum The Hague 1992, Kunsthalle and Kunstverein Düsseldorf 1993, IVAM Centro Julio Gonzales and Centro del Carne Valencia 1994, Henri Moore Institute Leeds 1994, Westfälischer Kunstverein Münster 1995, Kunsthalle Bern 2002. He participated in many international art exhibitions and biennials, such as: Documenta 8 Kassel 1987, Istanbul Biennial 1994, Biennale de Lyon 1997, Kwangju Biennial 1997, Venice Biennale 1999, and contributed works to many group and thematic exhibitions. His work is represented in many public and private collections, among them: Brooklyn Museum New York, Fogg Art Museum Cambridge MA, Museum Folkwang Essen, Haags Gemeentemuseum The Hague, Kunstmuseum Bern, IVAM Instituto Valenciano d’Arte Moderno Valencia, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago IL, Musée d’Art Contemporain Lyon, Nationalgalerie Berlin, Staatliche Museen Neue Galerie Kassel, Staatens Museum for Kunst Kopenhagen, The Museum of Modern Art New York, The Menil Collection Houston, Yale University Art Gallery New Heaven CT.

Kunstmuseum Bern

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Press Release

Bern, March 20 2006

Re/Search (Alchemy and/or Question Marks with Swiss Air), 1996-2002

22 March 2006 – end of 2007

This installation is being redesigned and adapted by Serge Spitzer to a new space at Kunstmuseum Bern. The original concept was first shown at the Biennale in Lyon as "Re/Search (Bread and Butter with the ever present question of What is the Difference between a Croissant and a Baguette)", 1996-1997, and under the current title in the Pavilion of the Swiss National Bank conceived by Harald Szeemann at the Expo.02 in Biel, Switzerland (2002). The installation "Re/Search (Alchemy and/or Question Marks with Swiss Air)" will now be on view till at least the end of 2007 in a room on the ground floor in the old wing (opened in 1879) of the museum. The transparent labyrinth of synthetic tubing sprawls throughout the room, creating an impassable tangle through which pneumatic tube systems transport air capsules by chance, in the hope of never colliding.



Serge Spitzer, "Re/Search (Alchemy and/or Question Marks with Swiss Air)", 1996-2002

Curator:

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Exhibition:

Opening: Tuesday, March 21 2006, 18h30

Speeches by: Matthias Frehner, Director, Bernhard Fibicher, Curator

Round the Corner: March 22 to May 21 2006

The installation "Re/Search (Alchemy and/or Question Marks with Swiss Air)" will be exhibited till the end of 2007

Opening Hours of the Fine Arts Museum Bern:

Tuesday 10h – 21h / Wednesday 10h – 17h / Closed on Mondays / Closed on Good Friday (14.04.06) / Easter (16./17.04.06) 10h – 17h

Preview:

May 18 - August 27 2006: Museum für Moderne Kunst Frankfurt

„Territorials“ – Serge Spitzer and with a collaboration with Ai Wei Wei

Press Release Serge Spitzer: Round the Corner
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