

THE SPHERES! THE CIRCLES! THE WHEELS!

KARIN HUEBER, IAN KIAER, ANSELM STALDER, BERNARD TAGWERKER, BRUNO TAUT, CLAUDIA WIESER

Two-part exhibition at Alte Fabrik and Kunst(Zeug)Haus

16 August – 28 September 2008

Opening: Friday, 15 August 2008, 7 pm Alte Fabrik, 7.45 pm Kunst(Zeug)Haus

With «The Spheres! The Circles! The Wheels!» Christiane Rekade, the first scholarship holder of the *KURATOR advancement training programme, concludes her exhibition programme. For the final presentation, Alte Fabrik and newly opened Kunst(Zeug)Haus in Rapperswil-Jona collaborate to present the exhibition in both venues.

The exhibition series at Alte Fabrik began last year with «Aufstieg vom Bergsee» («Ascent from the Mountain Lake») and now ends in outer space, in an infinite system of «spheres, circles and wheels». The first year of exhibitions in Gebert Stiftung für Kultur's advancement training programme *KURATOR was themed «Alpine Architecture», after the utopian sketches published by Bruno Taut in 1919/20. The final exhibition therefore unites the German architect's six drawings (seen here as exhibition copies), which provide the title, with works by three young artists, who in part directly refer to Taut. Two works from the collection of Kunst(Zeug)Haus (Peter and Elisabeth Bosshard) offer a further view into the universe.

Sheet no. 28 of Alpine Architecture, which has «Die Kugeln! Die Kreise! Die Räder!» (The Spheres! The Circles! The Wheels!) written on its bottom edge in pencil, is indeed not the last sheet in the architect's series of drawings, but arguably the most gaudy and sumptuously made. **Bruno Taut** (1880-1938) staged it in crimson, blue, silver and gold as the colourful apex of the sequence. Orbs, stars and rays push out from the luminous red sphere in the centre. It is a portrayal of the universe, of an all-embracing global mechanics that can be read at the same time as a sole big eye. The solar system, as well as consciousness, perception of things and oneself plays a role in the drawing. This and the other five exhibited sheets offer an insight into Bruno Taut's visionary drawings.

British artist **Ian Kiaer** (*1971) has dealt with Bruno Taut's oeuvre in several works. In 2006 he created a fine, subtle group of works entitled «Erdrindenbau Project», which directly refers to

Taut's Alpine Architecture (one of its chapters is called «Erdrindenbau»). Two works from this group are on view at Alte Fabrik. The fragile objects, made predominantly from simple materials, are reminiscent of (architectural) models. Almost inconspicuously placed throughout the room, they are precise arrangements, kind of «notes» and connotations to Kiaer's research. Kiaer's titles provide clues to a possible reading of his precise compositions. In the work «Building for Scheerbart», for instance, he alludes to the friendship between the poet Paul Scheerbart and Bruno Taut.

Anselm Stalder (*1956) unites spheres and planets in his large-format inkjet print «Universo Piatto», which belongs to the collection of Kunst(Zeug)Haus.

In her installations and drawings **Claudia Wieser** (*1973) pursues a modernist visual vocabulary and refers to the utopian discourses of classical modernism. In Rapperswil the Berlin-based artist shows her wall installation «Promenade géométrique», which she will realise twice, in variations. Wieser produces a dense black and white crystal structure that is created by scanning, printing and arranging reprographic paper. In its first part, the wall installation in the exhibition space at Alte Fabrik enters a dialogue with works by Taut, Kiaer and Stalder and in its second part in Kunst(Zeug)Haus it visually connects the two exhibition venues.

Young Basel-based artist **Karin Hueber** (*1977) deals with modern architecture in her practice, as well as with questions of psychological and physiological effects of dimensions and spatial concepts upon human beings. In her installations, she intervenes purposefully and precisely into a space, reacts to it. For Kunst(Zeug)Haus Hueber will create a new installation that attaches itself to the room, occupies it, and reproduces several of its shapes. Hueber sensitises our eye and our body to the space and its architecture.

Bernard Tagwerker's (*1942) aquatint series from the Kunst(Zeug)Haus collection shows random compositions and arrangements from a given number and size of dots. In their compositions the prints evoke star constellations.

Information on further exhibitions:

*A site-specific installation by **Karin Hueber** is still on view at Atelier Amden until 15 August 2008.*

www.xcult.org

***Claudia Wieser** will participate in the group exhibition «The Eternal Flame» at Kunsthaus Baselland, curated by Burkhard Meltzer and Sabine Schaschl. 10 August 2008 – 5 October 2008,*

www.kunsthautbaselland.ch

FURTHER EVENTS:

Public tour of the exhibition (in both venues)

Sunday, 24 August 2008, 2 pm Alte Fabrik

Art-lunch for families

Sunday, 7 September 2008, 11 am Alte Fabrik

(Registration at: kunstvermittlung@kurator.ch)

Finissage and presentation of the publication Curator 2007/2008

Sunday, 28 September 2008, 2 pm Alte Fabrik

Public tours at Kunst(Zeug)Haus

Every Wednesday, 7.15 pm

Every Sunday, 11.15 am

Advance reservation for groups

Museum night Rapperswil-Jona

Saturday, 20 September 2008, 6 pm – 2 am

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Opening times: Wed–Fri 5–8 pm, Sat–Sun 2–5 pm

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Opening times: Wed 2–8 pm, Thur–Fri 2–6 pm, Sat–Sun 11 am–6 pm

Please note different opening times in both venues!

For further information or images please contact Christiane Rekade. rekade@kurator.ch;
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