

MAI 36 GALERIE

Manfred Pernice – *chocolé*

Mai 36 Galerie is pleased to present the fifth solo show by Manfred Pernice (*1963 in Hildesheim, Germany).

For about twenty years Manfred Pernice has been making sculptures and installations that often incorporate drawings, photographs, and objects. Using building materials such as chipboard, tile, iron bars, and concrete, he explores themes of public space, architecture, and place; his characteristic motifs evoke associations with walled squares, platforms, containers, buoys, and towers.

For the exhibition *chocolé*, Manfred Pernice places seven cylinders along with the following 4 images: blockade, setting, wallpaper, chocolate; and a passage from Cesare Pavese's 'The House on the Hill', 1948, p.65:

I had it explained to me where I could find it. I pressed the giant's mighty hand. Then I left in the sunshine. I ate in a coffee house in the center of the city, where they talked as if nothing had happened. One thing was for sure - it was also clear from the enemy radio reports - no bombs would fall from the sky in the next few days. I looked inside the school, but no one was there. So I went on alone, strolling through streets, sitting in coffee houses, browsing through books at a bookseller's, stopping in front of old houses that held long-sunken memories. Everything seemed new, fresh, beautiful like the sky after a thunderstorm. I knew well that it could not stay like that, and very gradually I stopped towards the hospital where Cate worked.

The cylinders are distributed around the room. Thanks to their positioning they function as static bulky things, which can thus always be included in the readings of sculpture history; as well as containers (cans), some of which can contain info material.

In this setting, the viewer is exposed to an artistic composition, a field of tension that reflects Italian post-war literature, the crisis of meaning in sculptural art as well as questions about political presence and action.

Manfred Pernice studied graphics and painting at the Hochschule für Bildende Künste in Braunschweig, as well as sculpture at the Hochschule der Künste in Berlin.

Pernice's solo exhibitions have been held at the Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris, 1998; Portikus, Frankfurt, 2000; Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin, 2000; Witte de With, Rotterdam 2001; Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich; 2003, Neues Museum, Nuremberg, 2008; Secession Vienna, 2010; Haus der Kunst, Munich, 2013; Institute d'art contemporain Villeurbanne, 2013 and Kunstmuseum St. Gallen, 2016.

His work has been exhibited in major exhibitions such as the Lyon Biennale, 1997; Berlin Biennale, 1998; Manifesta 3, 2000; Documenta 11, 2001; Venice Biennale, 2001 and 2003, Seville Biennale, 2006; Sculpture Projects Münster, 2007 and Carnegie International 2008. Pernice currently teaches at the UdK, Berlin and lives and works in Berlin.