



# MICHAEL MÜLLER

\*1970

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Michael Müller's work develops out of linguistic, numeric, mathematic as well as stellar systems. Emanating from a material basis in reality, these systems are then often modified along fictitious lines. His work engages with the pictorialization of complex thought processes, whose transformation by various methods constitutes a slow and patient appropriation. Müller produces works in many media, including sculpture, installation, painting and drawing.

Müller often cultivates in his works a type of skeptical interest. He engages with existing forms, methods and norms: systems which he scrupulously pushes to their limits. The irrational moments that result from this engagement with limits conjures in him the will toward his own form-finding. This interest is reflected, for example, in a contention with the systematic and structural phenomena of language, especially in its dissolution and refraction. So it appears in his writing project K4, which has figured in his practice for decades. Stemming from the pursuit to translate Robert Musil's *The Man Without Qualities* into his own form, this unique writing system arose, which, when last reckoned in 2014, consisted of at least 400,000 characters. The strictly regulated transformation of letter groups into individual characters, this act of translation, is likewise an overarching theme in Müller's oeuvre. Translation figures in Müller's work, as in this case, as a purely linguistic - from word into word - methodology, but also elsewhere as the translation from one level of reality to another. Many works dedicate themselves to the intangibility of these transient, fleeting moments of translation.

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*Michael Müller (\*1970) lives and works in Berlin, Germany. In addition to gallery exhibitions, including an 18-part exhibition cycle at Galerie Thomas Schulte, Müller has taken part in many national and international group exhibitions. These include, among others, the Landart Biennale in Ulan Bator, Mongolia (2010), the Kunstsaele in Berlin (2010), the Kunstmuseum Kloster unser lieben Frauen in Magdeburg (2010) and the Kunsthalle in Kiel (2010). His works were shown at the Kunsthaus Dresden (2012), in the Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik (2013), in the Kunst-Werke Berlin (2013&2015) and in the Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden (upcoming).*