



Aanant & Zoo

JOCHEN DEHN

»FIVE EASY PIECES AND SCHOOL FOR INVISIBILITY«

February 09 – April 13, 2013

Opening Friday, February 08, 2013 / 7pm

From the 8th of February to the 13th of April we present „Five easy pieces and school for invisibility“, Jochen Dehn's first solo-show in Germany.

In the Aanant & Zoo gallery space the artist proposes weekly training courses in ambiguity and diffusion and shows possibilities to dissolve without disappearing. His performances are experimental set-ups aiming at the reduction of the distance between viewer and beheld.

Jochen Dehn inscribes his artistic practice in that which already exists. He makes use of things that he finds in situ, often things that are overlooked; or else he brings props with him, which are then subject to multiple transformations.

Jochen Dehn: „If we write about my artworks it might be best to do so under the heading: *Stuff, art, tools. The status of the objects that I deal with varies a lot. Two austrich eggs can be used to cook a giant omelette, you can dry them, until they are completely empty if you are lucky enough that they don't start to smell, or you can use them to show the difference between figuration and abstraction.*“

A tree, a hotplate, a drill or shaving foam, everything is used to conjure up the hocus-pocus. What we see becomes something else, or what was unseen appears before our eyes. A scientist, observing a phenomenon through a microscope, uses similar approaches and witnesses related appearances. In contrast to scientists Jochen Dehn does not make use of high quality tools, developed for a specific application but researches and subverts the possibilities of objects that surround us and examines their modalities of interaction and their usage.

To enhance their semantic content he uses techniques of collision, failure and misunderstanding. The objects, persons and contexts are by turns maltreated, glorified or put to good use. He defies our everyday perceptions and offers exercises to change the relation of our bodies to the environment. It's not about solutions, he tries to enlarge the space of the undetermined and irresolvable.

Jochen Dehn: „I tell stories, I perform and I show demonstrations. The objects and contents that I use in my performances, often share the qualities of a conversation piece*. If they don't do so already I try to bestow it upon them by means of a performance. Obstacles are essential for my work. They force me to collide, skip, jump and dodge. They lead to falls, failures and stops and thus to instants of realisation: moments in which place, gesture, form and concept become tangible.“

(translated by the artist)

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09. Feb – 13. Apr 2013

Aanant & Zoo

Bülowstr. 90, 10783 Berlin

VERNISSAGE

Friday, 08. Feb 2013 / 7pm

OPENING HOURS

Wed. – Sat., 11 am – 6 pm
and by appointment

PUBLICATION

A documentation will be published on the occasion of the exhibition.

CONTACT

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* In the 80ies and 90ties of the 20th century an interior design fashion spread in american households. People placed something in their entrance hall or in any first room an invited person would enter. Value and beauty were no decisive criteria for these objects, they were supposed to be or look as if they were out of place, annoying, ugly or simply without taste. These visual obstacles were supposed to trigger conversation. They were the cause and content of a dialogue that would determine if the invited stayed or left and they permitted the host to chose the way of his reception. They were called conversation pieces.