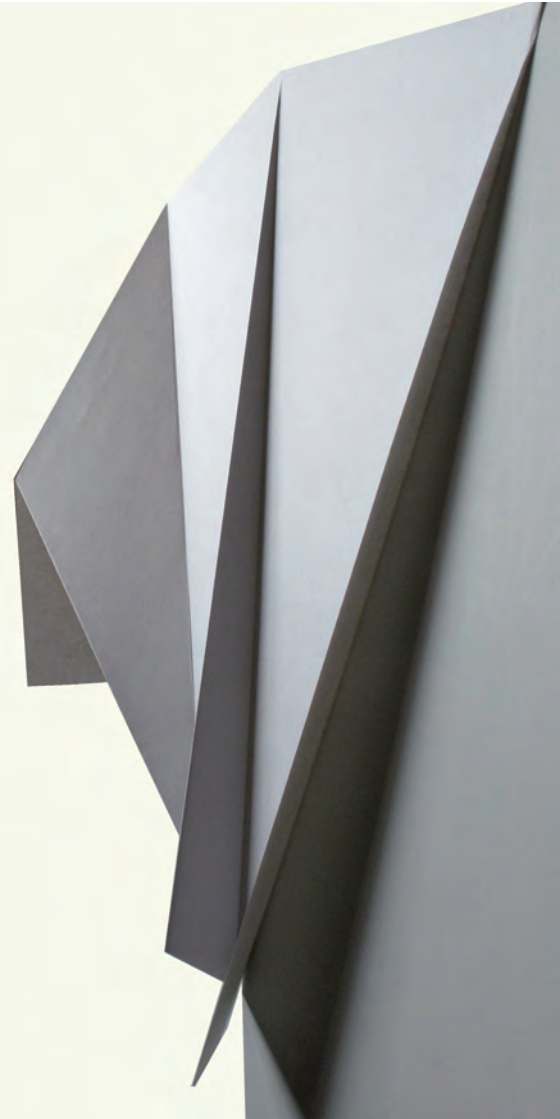


MARTIN GERWERS

WERKMAN ZAAL 18

27. APRIL 2013-18. AUGUST 2013



Martin Gerwers – Projects Gallery

Martin Gerwers (b. 1963, Velen, D) is fascinated by 'the experience of looking' – perhaps the most elementary aspect of the way we relate to the visual arts.

At the start of his career he produced paintings clearly rooted in the tradition of geometric abstraction that flows from Piet Mondrian. A century ago, Mondrian's quest for universal harmony made him banish all suggestion of three-dimensionality from his pictures and reduce his means of expression to straight vertical and horizontal lines and primary colours. In his early work, Gerwers adopted a similar approach. He was inspired not only by Mondrian, but also by artists working in the second half of the twentieth century, who picked up Mondrian's thread. A canvas devoid of all illusion of depth is a flat surface; but if painted in a single colour, it becomes – taken together with its stretcher – a monochrome three-dimensional form hanging on the wall. By creating 'shaped canvases' in this way, artists like Elsworth Kelly took the reduction of painting a step further.

But artists of the following 'Minimal Art' generation condemned even such severely reduced mounted canvases as over-traditional – one reason why Sol LeWitt resorted to painting directly on walls.

Martin Gerwers' current work has reverted to three-dimensionality but is developed out of the flat surface: his reliefs and sculptures look like sheets of paper folded to produce three-dimensional shapes (and, indeed, that is how he designs them). These recent works are, therefore, deeply rooted in the history of twentieth-century painting.

But when two-dimensional paintings are turned into three-dimensional objects, new aspects come into play in the way they are perceived – aspects more usually involved in the perception of sculpture. For example, issues of human scale, the viewer's unconscious assumption of the effects of gravity, or the simple fact that the viewer can see only one side of the object from any given position. Gerwers' reliefs have other, sometimes surprising, aspects but to discover these you have to walk around them.

The irregular structures in this exhibition have been designed specifically for display in the Projects Gallery of the Gemeentemuseum and are therefore site-specific. By positioning them on the walls and free-standing in space, and by painting some planes in different colours so that the fold-lines become, in effect, lines delineating the colour accents, Gerwers structures in advance the way viewers will perceive his installation. Now it is for us to bring a conscious awareness to the work and to the way we experience it.



ILLUSION IS BUT A THOUGHT
left 360 x 90 x 40
right 360 x 90 x 40
Gesso, Acrylics on Mdf





LISTEN
April 2013
427 x 185 x 60
Gesso, Acrylics on Mdf

FORGOTTEN WHAT I HAVE SEEN
April 2013
Gesso, Acrylics on Mdf
460 x 135 x 135









UNTITLED 2012
acrylic and oil on MDF
117 x 88 x 44

small work
UNTITLED 2012
acrylic and oil on mdf
107 x 90 x 32





ILLUSION IS BUT A
THOUGHT
360 x 220 x 40
Gesso, acrylics on Mdf

THE NEW
April 2013
427 x 200 x 85
Gesso, acrylics on Mdf

KNEW IT ALREADY
April 2013
427 x 90 x 70
Gesso, acrylics on Mdf





LISTEN
April 2013
427 x 185 x 60
Gesso, Acrylics on Mdf

KNEW IT ALREADY
April 2013
427 x 90 x 70
Gesso, acrylics on Mdf









THE NEW
April 2013
427 x 200 x 85
Gesso, acrylics on Mdf

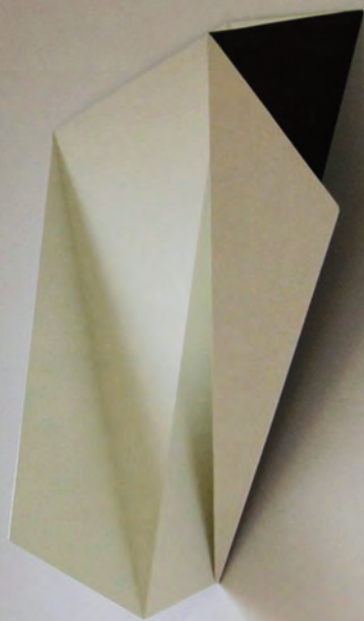




UNTITLED 2012
acrylic and oil on MDF
140 x 88 x 38

Untitled, 2012
acrylic and oil on MDF
140 x 88 x 38 cm





UNTITLED 2012
acrylic and oil on mdf
107 x 90 x 32

UNTITLED 2012
acrylic and oil on MDF
117 x 88 x 44



SOLOSHOWS

1989 Galerie "Anna Blume", Aachen
1993 Konrad Fischer Galerie, Düsseldorf
1994 "Ein Raum mit Wandmalereien", Konrad Fischer Galerie, Düsseldorf
1996 Galerie Tschudi, Glarus - CH
1997 Konrad Fischer Galerie, Düsseldorf
1998 Galerie Luis Campana, Köln
1999 Galerie Slewe, Amsterdam
2000 Galerie Luis Campana, Köln
2002 Galerie Heimer & Partner, Berlin
2003 Galerie Slewe, Amsterdam
2004 Concept Space Shibukawa, Japan
2004 Design Planets Maebashi, Japan
2004 Gastatelier Van de nieuwe Dingen, Tilburg, Holland
2005 Galerie Tschudi, Zuoz-CH
2007 Concept Space Shibukawa, Japan
2008 Galerie Slewe, Amsterdam
2009 Galerie De Rijk, Den Haag
2010 Centraltrak, UT Dallas, TX
2012 Galerie Slewe, Amsterdam
2013 Gemeentemuseum Den Haag

GROUPEXHIBITIONS

- 1988 "Die anderen Zehn", Neuer Aachener Kunstverein
- 1991 Neuer Aachener Kunstverein
- 1993 "Förderkoje Art Cologne", bei Konrad Fischer Galerie
- 1996/1997 "Ars Viva 96/97" Malerei,
Galerie am Fischmarkt, Erfurt, Krefelder Kunstmuseum, Ulmer Museum
- 1997 Farbe, Malerei der 90er Jahre, Kunstmuseum Bonn
- 1998 Galerie Tschudi, CH-Glarus
- 1999 "Walls - Wände", Konrad Fischer Galerie, Düsseldorf
- 1999 Galerie Tschudi, CH-Glarus
- 1999 "Primary Structures", Galerie für Zeitgenössische Kunst, Leipzig
- 2001/2002 PhoenixArt, Hamburg-Harburg
- 2002 "Minimalism and After" Daimler Chrysler Contemporary, Berlin
- 2003 Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, collection of the museum
- 2003 The Daimler Chrysler Collection, ZKM Karlsruhe
- 2003/2004 The Daimler Chrysler Collection, "On the Edge", The Detroit Institute of Arts
- 2004 Galerie Heimer und Vogel, Berlin
- 2004 Galerie Slewe Amsterdam
- 2005 Galerie Fricke, Düsseldorf
- 2005 Parkhaus, Düsseldorf
- 2006 Parkhaus, Düsseldorf
- 2008 Galerie für Zeitgenössische Kunst, Leipzig
- 2009 Sammlung Lafrenz, Museum Wiesbaden
- 2011 Grosse Kunstaussstellung NRW, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf
- 2012 Grosse Kunstaussstellung NRW, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf
- 2012 Galerie Slewe, Amsterdam
- 2012 Concept Space, Shibukawa, Japan
- 2012 Kunsthalle Karlsruhe

Biographie

1963 in Velen geboren
1984 - 1989 Studium der Visuellen Kommunikation Fachhochschule Aachen
1989 - 1993 Kunstakademie Düsseldorf

lebt und arbeitet in Düsseldorf

Stipendien und Preise

1992 ReiseStipendium der Freunde und Förderer der Kunstakademie Düsseldorf
1995 Förderpreis des Landes Nordrhein- Westfalen Für junge Kunst
1996/1997 "Ars Viva Malerei 96/97" Kunstpreis des Kulturkreises der deutschen
 Wirtschaft im BDI
2001/2002 Förderungsstipendium des Kunstfonds Bonn
2004 Kunst- und Bauwettbewerb, Universitätsklinik Düsseldorf,
 Chirurgische Abteilung

