

press information

May 2007

Mark Handforth

Platz

June 10 to August 26, 2007

Tessinerplatz, near the Enge railway station, Zurich

Opening: Saturday, June 9, 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm,
at Strozzi's in the Enge district, Seestrasse 25, 8002 Zurich

Galerie Eva Presenhuber is delighted to present, for the first time, an outdoor sculpture project by Mark Handforth. The sculpture titled *Platz (Square)*, which has been created specially for the town of Zurich, has on the one hand a nautical touch to it, as it refers to Lake Zurich, which is just a stone's throw away from the Tessinerplatz, while at the same time evoking industrial and urban influences – a homage to Zurich, the lake-side and industrial town: Oversized, intertwined links of a chain pile up to form a seemingly organic entity, allowing but an abstracted perception of the chaining of the individual elements. With regard to the object of its association, the colorfulness of the sculpture is rather surprising.

The artist, who was born in Hong Kong, raised in England, and is currently living in Miami Beach, was featured in a solo exhibition at the Kunsthaus Zurich in 2005, which was accompanied by the publication of a catalog.

Mark Handforth is known for his adaptations of industrially manufactured signposts and urban 'furnishings' such as street lamps, tires, motorcycles, parking meters, public telephones, or hydrants.

Handforth uses these artefacts, which Ed Ruscha once termed "overlooked objects", by altering them, sometimes reproducing them partially, thus often keeping the viewer in the dark about whether they are ready-mades or not. He recognizes things existing in the world and takes them as a basis for his work, subjecting them to a shift in time. By transforming the objects, the artist lets them gain a new sense of poetry that carries the idea of vanity.

With his sculptures, Handforth creates a feel of urbanity. An integral part of his work is the negative space that the viewer intensely experiences between himself, the piece of art, and the surroundings. Within the urban context, entropy blends into memory, which both explains and multiplies the visual presence of the sculpture.

For further questions, please contact Markus Rischgasser at the gallery.

Venice Biennale, Church of San Stae: Urs Fischer / Ugo Rondinone
June 10 – November 21, 2007
Opening: June 7, 4 – 7 pm

Art | 38 | Basel June 13 – 17, 2007 Hall 2.1 Booth R4

Current exhibitions: Peter Fischli / David Weiss, *Equilibres*, June 11 to July 28
Dieter Roth, *Drawings*, June 11 to July 28

Upcoming exhibitions: Urs Fischer
August 25 – October 13, 2007
Opening: August 24, 2007
Tim Rollins + K.O.S.
October 20 – December 22, 2007
Opening: October 19, 2007