

Kai Richter

Somewhere in Between

Exhibition: 03.02.2017 – 01.04.2017

Opening reception: Friday, February 03, 2017, 6-9 pm

Galerie Christian Lethert is pleased to present the exhibition *Somewhere in Between* with new works by sculptor **Kai Richter**. The solo exhibition combines large-size wall works and sculptures as well as collages which once more show Richter's multifaceted and diverse interpretation of contemporary sculpture.

The materials – wood, metal and concrete – Richter uses for his sculptures and assemblages refer to the process of building. Some titles like *Das schwarze Dreieck* (2017) or *Barnett* (2017) correlate with well-known names in art history. Richter encounters the specific qualities of the varied materials and artistic positions with curiosity. He questions and explores their potential in order to utilize and to develop it. In his understanding artistic practice means observation and experimentation.

While Richter has to respect gravity and statics with his wall works and sculptures, the collages open up a more fantastic sphere. The impossible gets designed and built in these two-dimensional collages. But works like *Sonde* (2017) or *Prop* (2017) show that there is only a fine line between fragility and stability, between imbalance and balance, in other words between conceived and constructed works. Hence *Sonde* stalks on thin scaffolding poles through the entrance area of the gallery while *Prop* seems to lean weightlessly against the wall.

In the adjacent room of the gallery, the work *Das schwarze Dreieck* made of brittle and awkward construction materials demonstrates how Richter uses simplicity and clarity of form to elicit sensual aspects of the material. Even though there is accordance and harmony there is also a certain unrest, questions are starting to take shape: What, for example, differentiates a sculpture from a so-called objet d'art. What takes precedence – the material, with which the sculptor occupies a space, or the space itself, which the artist makes visible and perceptible with his art? The answer lies somewhere in between.

Kai Richter, born 1969 in Munic, studied at the Kunstakademie Münster and Düsseldorf. His works are shown in numerous national and international exhibitions and are part of public collections like Kunsthalle Mannheim or Art museum of the Archdiocese of Cologne, Kolumba. In 2015 Richter received the Kahnweiler price for sculpture.

From March 2nd till 5th we will again exhibit at NADA New York. Furthermore we participate at Art Brussels from April 21st till 23rd and at this year's Art Cologne from April 26th till 29th.

We are delighted to open our next exhibition with works by Jill Baroff during Art Cologne in April 2017.