

PRESS RELEASE

Exhibition: »Roman Signer – Der letzte Schnee«
Opening: Thursday, 25 June 2009, 6–9 pm
Exhibition: 26 June–5 September 2009
Tuesday–Friday 11 am–6 pm Saturday 12–4 pm

From 17 to 30 August 2009 the gallery will be open for scheduled visits only.

Häusler Contemporary is proud to present the exhibition »Der letzte Schnee« (The Last Snow) with new sculptures and photographs by the Swiss artist Roman Signer (b. 1938 in Appenzell).

Roman Signer is one of contemporary art's great mavericks. Although he has always considered himself a classic sculptor, his work reaches far beyond the traditional, often monumental notion of sculpture. Throughout his career Signer has consistently pursued a conception of sculpture that undermines the notion of the three-dimensional, immutable object by including time as a fourth dimension.

Since the 1970s Signer has thus been redefining sculpture through a series of »sculptural events« and installations that incorporate time, acceleration and change into the sculptural process and, in doing so, has constantly explored the possibilities of the medium. His work can be said to unfold in three successive stages: the preparation of the process, the transformation of matter through energy and, finally, the presentation of the traces remaining at the end of the process. Signer's preferred materials are fire, water and air in different aggregate states.

The exhibition »Der letzte Schnee« was specifically designed for Häusler Contemporary. Water, snow and ice are elements that Signer has been using since the 1970s, for instance in his two-part work »Wasser und Eis« (Water and Ice) from 1976. His latest work presents snowballs gliding over wooden cross-country skis and shows the artist putting snow in a little package, which he then transports and delivers to someone's door step.

Signer's work also commonly uses ordinary household items such as fans, tables, chairs, suitcases, bicycles or umbrellas. These objects often remain as sculptural elements after the artist's intervention, subtly hinting at the possibility of formal transformations. Shown in this exhibition, »Turm auf Sandsäcken« (1998), for instance, presents a tower resting on a wooden base, which is itself propped on four sandbags. If one of the bags were to be damaged, the sand would flow out, making the tower tilt and eventually collapse.

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We would be pleased to welcome you at our premises for this exhibition. Further information and images may be obtained from Benita Meißner (bm@haeusler-contemporary.com).

We would also like to attract your attention to the exhibition »Roman Signer: Projektionen. Filme und Videos 1975 – 2008« on display at Kunsthalle Hamburg from 5 June to 27 September 2009.

Selected exhibitions since 2003

- 2009 »Werke 1975 – 2007«, Sammlung Kamm, Kunsthaus Zug
»Projektionen Filme und Videos 1975 – 2008«, Hamburger Kunsthalle
- 2008 »Alles in Fluss«, Städtische Museen Heilbronn
»Projektionen«, Helmhaus Zürich, Zurich
»Installation. Unfall als Skulptur«, Kunstraum Dornbirn
»Reisebilder zwischen Leben und Tod«, Bonnefanten Museum, Maastricht
»Works«, Rochester Art Center, Rochester, MN
St Paul St at Artspace, Auckland
Hauser & Wirth, London
Galerie Martin Janda, Vienna
- 2007 »Works«, The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh
»Open Art«, Häusler Contemporary München, Munich
Flick Collection, Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin
Galerie Barbara Weiss, Berlin
»Obrazy z cest«, Langhans Galerie Praha, Prague
»Fotografie di viaggio«, Aprile Fotografia 07, Museo Diocesano di Padova, Padova
- 2006 Kunstpreis Aachen 2006, Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen
»Aller/Retour 3«, Centre culturel suisse, Paris
»Reisefotos«, Kunsthaus Aarau, Aarau
»Esculturas e instalações«, Centro Galego de Arte Contemporánea, Santiago de Compostela
- 2005 Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf
Art: Concept, Paris
OK Centrum für Gegenwartskunst, Linz
- 2004 The Museum of Contemporary Photography, Michigan
Busan Metropolitan Art Museum, Busan
Galerie Martin Janda, Raum Aktueller Kunst, Vienna
»Neue Arbeiten«, Häusler Contemporary, Munich
- 2003 Sammlung Hauser & Wirth, Lokremise, St. Gallen
Galerie Stampa, Basel
»Recent Works«, Shiseido Gallery, Tokyo