



LUMEN TRAVO

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BODY LANGUAGE

19 November – 19 February 2011

Artists: Meschac Gaba, Ni Haifeng, Rini Hurkmans, Ni Haifeng, Kristiina Koskentola, Monali Meher, Otobong Nkanga, Ibrahim Quraishi, Margret Wibmer

The group exhibition “**BODY LANGUAGE**” features six artists of the gallery, all of whom present works which address the human body, exploring the multiplicity of meanings which it can evoke. Selected works re-visit representation of the human figure, not merely as a subject for portraiture, but explore the body as an interface for story-telling.

Meshac Gaba shows Anonymous brain (2009), originally part of the installation Lake of Wisdom (2009). For this installation Gaba playfully designed a bank note for a collection of influential figures in the European art scene. He subsequently designed a golden brain for each of these figures, which he shows together with the bank notes.

Ni Haifeng shows photographic images from the series, Self-portrait as Part of the Porcelain Export History. (1999 - 2001) Haifeng explores his own identity in relation to his home country. Using his body as canvas, he sketches the historical and rather decorative references between China and the Netherlands.

Rini Hurkmans shows Pieta (2009, 1993- to date) a self-portrait, which she ritually makes every two years, re-visiting the symbolic gestures of the religious Pieta image, in which love and sorrow come together in great compassion. She adds contemporary space and meaning to the gesture inspired by this image.

Kristiina Koskentola shows photographic work entitled, Equilibrium 2010. Her photographs depict two woman conjugated by the action of cupping, and by a tube between the two cups. The action is metaphorical, useless, referring to the conditions of systems in which competing influences or elements are balanced.

Monali Meher presents two drawings Camouflaged with Chandelier (2009) and Self portrait with brain (2009). Meher uses photo performance photographs as a backdrop to create multilayered drawings. In these photographs, Meher uses her self portrait. She transforms her photographs with expressive drawings elements. In the process, transformed her portrait inside out, bringing internal organs and mythical elements to the foreground. She displays the dramatic process of her continuously fluid identity.

Otobong Nkanga shows two photographic works entitled Lying with Weapon I and II, each printed onto stone slabs. These photographic prints are part of the installation called Taste of a Stone, 2010. With the works Lying with Weapon I and II, Nkanga places the body in a state of vigilance which creates a double reading of the use of a stone as a potential weapon or as a means of protection.

Ibrahim Quraishi shows part of a 24 hour installation, Wildlife Take Away Station, staged especially for the Baltic Triennial, 2009. The installation involves several characters, who perform during hourly periods, taking the audience through moments of dramatic, yet unresolved climax. During the course of the duration piece, video and photographic documentation were taken. Quraishi presents these photographs, entitled, Woman in Take Away Station I and II.

Margret Wibmer presents photographic prints entitled, yamazaki and victor. (2010) Wibmer's ongoing research on the female form, staged in relation to architectural and technological form, explores the role of the body as a virtual, yet aesthetic form. Portraits, yamazaki and victor, explore the mechanics and power relations involved in the production of images of the stereotypical Asian female.

WORKS AT THE GALLERY:

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MESCHAC GABA

Anonymous brain, 2009 (From installation: Lake of Wisdom, 2009)

NI HAIFENG

Photographs from the series: Self-portrait as Part of the Porcelain Export History. 1999-2001

RINI HURKMANS

Pieta, 2009, 1993- to date

KRISTIINA KOSKENTOLA

Equilibrium, 2010, China size: 60 cm x 45 cm

MONALI MEHER

Camouflaged with Chandelier, 2009. 84 cm x 54.7 cm

Self portrait with brain, 2009, 84 cm x 57 cm

OTOBONG NKANGA

Lying with Weapon I and II, 2010 (part of The Taste of a Stone installation)

IBRAHIM QURAISHI

Duration performance: Wild Life Take Away Station, 2009

Photographs: Woman in Take Away Station I and II.

MARGRET WIBMER

yamazaki, 2010, lambdaprint, 106 x 80 cm

victor, 2010, lambdaprint, 80 x 80 cm