



DOMINIK LOUDA

PLANE SPACES

Opening: 13.09.2011, 6 pm

Exhibition: 14.09.2011- 05.11.2011

Press release

The Kerstin Engholm Galerie is pleased to present the first solo exhibition „Plane Spaces“ by Dominik Louda (*1985, Salzburg).

In the paintings of Dominik Louda house walls, floor coverings, roofs, pillars, strivings and windows seem to tilt into one another. Each of the interlaced architectural elements thereby forms a separate plane, which seen individually trails the principles of central perspective, whereas they contradict each other as a whole. Thus unreal multi-dimensional rooms emerge, eluding a clear categorisation of the viewer's perspective, of internal and outdoor space and of proportions.

Since Dominik Louda's painted architectural set-ups are not planned beforehand, in many places traces of further planes of architectural subjects show through. The pictures grow and transform during the process of painting, thus attaining a detailed complexity. The motif of the window, as a verge between different premises, is constantly recurring.

By the invention of central perspective in the Renaissance era, as propagated by Leon Battista Alberti in his treatise "Della Pittura" (1435) as well as by Albrecht Dürer later on in "Underweysung der Messung" (1525), and by the accompanying quest for rational epistemology, the metaphor of the window for the acquisition of knowledge – and based on that for panel painting alike – came into existence. The main idea therefor was the notion of the possibility of recreating the three-dimensional on a two-dimensional surface realistically. It was assumed that a curious spectator could reach more precise and meaningful insights, when fixing his very own position, choosing an extract of reality and analyzing everything that becomes visible. Just as if the observer was standing in front of a window, he could look upon the under the rules of central perspective on canvas depicted and attain veritable cognition of the world.

Without these scientific developments and the in those days arisen theory of painting the formation of the nine paintings and four gouaches of Dominik Louda shown under the title "Plane Spaces" is inconceivable, even though the works of Louda oppose to these achievements' principles in many respects.

By extracting the separate architectural subjects they appear as rendered according to the rules of central perspective, while it's these rules that are deconstructed at large. Instead of attempting to obtain realistic assertions about the world Dominik Louda assembles architectural elements found in different sources as illustrated books, the internet, magazines and own photographs. He strips them of their actual context and thereby exhibits a world of his own derived from reality, but contradicting its regularities.

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