

PRESS RELEASE

Miroslaw Balka
SCHMERZSTILLEN

opening: Thursday May 31 2007 6pm-9pm Miroslaw Balka will attend
place: Galleria Raffaella Cortese Via Stradella 7 20129 Milan, Italy
dates: June 1 - July 28 2007
hours: Tuesday - Saturday 3pm-7.30pm also by appointment

The second solo exhibition in Italy by Miroslaw Balka, has been created on purpose for Galleria Raffaella Cortese. The artist takes inspiration by the striking poem "*Nature Morte*" by the Ukrainian poet Paul Celan. Balka 's attention is attracted by his tormented life under the war in Romania during the Soviet invasion. As for his poems, Balka's works are also distinguishing for an elaborate interpretation, for suggestive strenght.

*"Bougies avec les bougies, scintillances avec les scintillantes, luers avec luers. Et ici en dessous, ceci : un oeil./
dèpaieillé et couls".*

Balka enlighten eyes and hearts with new dazzles, with steel lamps , and brightly " holes" of memory. But in dispite of his poor and strong materials, in this way he could soothe (Schmerzstillend) pains in the world. His sculptures made of steel, wood are apparently opposite to video proiections. Still works dwell together with installation in which walk on, making awful sounds set against traditional Polish lullaby. Imitating magnetic flows image and sound are focusing the work of Miroslaw Balka in the lates years. The artist uses viseo as a blocknote, enclose within works like a natural speading of three-dimensional objects.

Miroslaw Balka was born in Poland in 1958. He grew up in a small town outside Warsaw. His work draws on memories of his Catholic upbringing and his childhood home, which he now uses as a studio. He revises collective and personal memories, through the relationship between space and artwork.

As a result a sense of the sacred pervades his work , also recollecting history of Poland unders Socialist regime, where popolar icons were rejected, and the most painful episode in the recent Polish history: the Holocaust.

He liver in Warsaw and works in Otwock, The artist was representative of Poland at 1993 Venice Biennale, and then again in 2005.