

GALLERIA RAFFAELLA CORTESE

PRESS RELEASE

Miroslaw Bałka – Roni Horn Gespräche über persönliche Themen



November 28, 2012 – February 2, 2013

From Tuesday to Friday 10-1pm; 3-7.30pm; Saturday 3-7.30pm

And by appointment

Opening Wednesday, November 28 from 7 to 9pm. The artists will be present

Raffaella Cortese is proud to present a double solo show by Miroslaw Bałka and Roni Horn, which will occupy simultaneously the gallery spaces in Via Stradella #1 and Via Stradella #7. This is a new chapter in the series of two-solo artist shows that the gallery has begun to experiment with last season showing Daria Martin with Anna Halprin and Michael Fliri with Asta Gröting.

The German title for the show is a hard translator's game. The idea is that of a "dialogue between privately situated topics". This evokes the themes of identity and of memory which both artists have consistently invested in giving birth each to a hard-hitting, essential body of work, able, at once, to generate intense and penetrating poetry.

Roni Horn will present two sculptures: the first is titled *Black Asphere* (1988/2006) and it is typical of her post-minimalist production. The second, *Double Moebius* (2009), is titled after the namesake geometrical strip having one face only but appearing as possessing two. The optical illusion that originates gives this sculpture an impression of intimacy yet of eternity. There will be also several photographic sets taken from the artist's series *Untitled (Weather)* (2011) that show a character's facial expressions varying according to climatic conditions.

Miroslaw Bałka will show two new sculptures that are cast out authentic wuthering drama that characterizes his research. *2x(250x200x100cm)* references the Nazi past as it appears in the picture of Irma Grese, sharply and frontally outlined against what one may interpret as history itself. There will be also works by Bałka that function as mementos for people's inner phobias and obsessions as, for instance, *50x50x91*. In accordance, the series of lithographs titled *A Crossroad in A*. shows landscapes of the Auschwitz concentration camp modified by the artist - a glacially intense work that well suits the photographic shots of people and landscapes by Roni Horn.

Miroslaw Bałka (b.1958,Warsaw) graduated from the Sculpture Faculty of the Warsaw's Academy of Fine Arts. He is interested in sculpture, drawing and experimental film. He is member of the Akademie der Künste in Berlin. He runs the Spatial Activities Studio at the Faculty of Media Arts and Scenography at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. The artist participated in a number of important international exhibitions such as Documenta in Kassel (1992), the Venice Biennale (1990, 1993, 2000, 2005, 2013), the Carnegie International in Pittsburgh (1995), the São Paulo Art Biennale (1998), the Biennale of Sydney(1992, 2006), the Santa Fe Biennale (2006). In 2009 he realized the project "How It Is" in Turbine Hall, Tate Modern, London.

Roni Horn was born in 1955 and lives and works in New York. Recent solo exhibitions include 'Roni Horn. Recent Work', Hauser & Wirth London, Savile Row (2011); 'Photographien / Photographic Works', Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg, Germany (2011); and 'Well and Truly', Kunsthhaus Bregenz, Austria (2010). In November 2009, Horn's comprehensive survey exhibition, 'Roni Horn aka Roni Horn' opened at Tate Modern and travelled to Collection Lambert in Avignon, France (2009); the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York NY (2009); and The Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston MA (2010). Horn's works are featured in numerous major international institutions and collections including the Guggenheim Museum, New York NY; Museum of Modern Art, New York NY; The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago IL; Tate Modern, London, England; Kunsthalle Hamburg, Germany; Kunsthhaus Zürich, Switzerland; and Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France. On the 3rd December a show at Sammlung Goetz will be opened.

A special thank to Grand Hotel et de Milan

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