

birdman hans langner – privat (personal)

duration: April 16th to June 7th 2015

opening exhibition & performance: Wed, April 15th 2015, 7 pm

closing exhibition & „Instant Art“: Tue, June 2th 2015, 7 pm

I got both my screen name and the motif from a Chinese man in Hong Kong; they literally came flying to me. Quote Birdman

The multi media artist **Birdman Hans Langner** was born in Karlsruhe in 1964; he started creating art at 25, and his works have since been shown in numerous exhibitions in Europe, Taiwan, Japan and China; he has received two cultural awards*. Since his performance in Hong Kong in 1994, when he promptly transformed himself into a bird, Langner has been called Birdman and regularly recreates his *Bird Performance*. Representations of birds through various media have become his main theme. In 2000 he dedicated his installation *Forever Friends* to the Museum de Stadshof in Zwolle, NL; it fills an entire room and is now on show permanently at the Museum Dr. Guislain in Gent, Belgium. His installation of a Bad Tölz house façade will be on show at the villa gugging until 2017.

"Art is the elixir of my life; my urge to create fulfills and satisfies me daily." Quote Birdman

Hans Langner's work is multi-faceted with a characteristic simple, unique shape language, which he constantly develops. Birdman's birds are made up of only a few brush strokes and often emerge from his refreshingly different view of an object; they stand out through their distinctness and simplicity - a triangle for a beak, a circle for the body, a dot for a pupil and a few lines for legs. Thus, he creates canvases painted in acrylic, delicate drawings in Indian ink on various kinds of paper, Edding and acrylic on wood. He considers himself a hunter and gatherer, who finds his materials on flea markets, on EBay, at garbage dumps, antique shops, in rivers and various basements. Any object is a potential material to him.

"**birdman hans langner - privat**" shows a cross selection of his oeuvre over the past 18 years and offers an overview of his work. For two years, Hans Langner has brought works he would like to exhibit to the galerie gugging. This highly personal selection of works inspired the exhibition title and the accompanying catalogue, in which Birdman himself gets to lay out his approach to art.

Birdman's exhibition will open on 14 April with his *Bird Performance*, in which Birdman transforms himself from man to bird or vice versa in front of an audience.

Each performance is inspired by and uniquely tailored to its respective surroundings. **Instant Art** is an art form created by Birdman around spontaneity and improvisation. He calls it "Improvisation Theatre in Art" when he transforms materials and themes from his audience into works of art within minutes. At the closing exhibition on 2 June, we cordially invite all our guests to interact with Birdman and watch him create one of his works.

The galerie gugging greatly enjoys collaborating with Birdman Hans Langner in this way and offers clients an opportunity to discover his world and acquire pieces of his art.

Selection Museum Exhibitions

1999, Munich Stadtmuseum and Karl-Valentin-Musäum, Munich; 2000, Museum De Stadshof, Zwolle, Netherlands; 2006, Museum Dr. Guislain, Gent, Belgium; 2008, Instant Art, Villa Stuck Garden, Munich; 2009, Stadtmuseum Bad Tölz; 2013, Museum Gugging, Maria Gugging, Austria

* Cultural Awards

1997 Hong Kong City Prize for the Promotion of Culture, awarded by the Arts Development Council; 2001, Tassilo Main Cultural Prize, Süddeutsche Zeitung

galerie gugging

Am Campus 2, A-3400 Maria Gugging
opening hours: Mon – Fri 10 am – 6 pm
and kindly by arrangement under
Tel.: +43 (0) 676 841 181 200
gallery@gugging.org www.gugging.org