

galerie gerken

Sebastian Mügge





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With the basic idea that everything can be painting, would it be a children's push chair, a box of chocolates or an old piece of clothing, Sebastian Mügge creates room gripping installations which seem to gather their environment and which - similar to a Robert Rauschenberg - aim to a fusion of the natural part of the landscape with art.

Small systems he puts together to make big ones and creates those from anonymous objects which he finds for instance in flea markets or from bulky waste and to some extend also personal objects which have a symbolic meaning for the artist.

Also in his paintings will always be found smaller objects which have been hidden or alienated and within the context of the artwork have found a new identity.

The frequent return of symbols, like the cross and objects like the steel helmet, for instance in „Abenteuerspielplatz“ or „Friendly Fire“, are evidence of the conflict with the postwar of his grandfathers as well as his own time in the German Federal Armed Forces.

Child phantasies melt together with offset pieces of the reality find their expression in expressive and at the same time symbolic structures.

Mügges works do balance between sculpture, painting and installation and therefore he uses the keyword „crossover“. According to this fact a limit can never be fixed and also finds its origin certainly in the issue of the personal identity. Swedish or German? Improvisation and permanent change is an important aspect of Mügges work which allows him to react to his environment and to give „several lives“ to each work.

Born in 1981 in Bonn, Sebastian Mügge has got the Swedish and German citizenship and studies Fine Arts at the Arts Academy Umeå in Sweden since 2006 under Ingo Vetter and Elin Wikström. In 2009 he exhibited in the Künstlerhaus Bethanien in Berlin. He focuses on installation and painting. Works have at some extend „more than one life“ after being destroyed and reinvented. This is his phantasy world to which belongs this special destroying process to some extend. This year, Sebastian Mügge exhibits with his brother Christoph at galerie gerken to show painting and installation.

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Installation, detail, 2009
page 4



„Abenteuerspielplatz“, 2009, mixed media on canvas, 150 x 240 cm
page 5



Installation, detail, 2010



„Friendly Fire“, 2010, mixed media on canvas, 150 x 115 cm



Installation, detail, 2009
page 8



painting, detail, 2010
page 9



Installation, detail, 2009
page 10



„Schützengraben“, 2010, mixed media on canvas, 150 x 280 cm
page 11

