

Press information

Janaina Tschäpe
Fred Tomaselli

4th June – 9th July 2005, Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Vernissage 3th June, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

On 3th June 2005 carlier | gebauer will be opening two new solo exhibitions. In Arch 51 three new works and a large selection of editions by the American Fred Tomaselli will be presented, whilst in Arch 52 the second solo exhibition by Janaina Tschäpe with a photo series and large-format multi-part drawings will be on display.

Works by the German-Brazilian **Janaina Tschäpe**, born in Munich in 1973 and now living in New York, will be on display in Arch 52. In contrast to Fred Tomaselli her works are something almost physically gestated, characterised by their undulating latency and organic plenitude.

At the very core of Tschäpe's drawings, photos and video works lies the search for possibilities of female representation, or, in the spirit of Tomaselli's art, these works are evidence of a search for female transcendence. In Tschäpe's art femininity, which is always derived from the masculine and imprisoned in stereotypical depictions, is to be freed from images through images.

While it is true that Tschäpe gives latency a clear form, this is however subject to permanent imaginative and morphological transformations. It is always journeying towards becoming something else: an eerie incubus. carlier | gebauer will be showing a photo series, which Tschäpe developed while she had a grant in 2004 in Weimar, along with large-format multi-part drawings.

Fred Tomaselli, born in 1956 in Santa Monica, USA, has lived in New York since the 1980s and is among the most prominent artists of his generation. His works combine assemblage, painting, relief and collage blended into hybrid tableaux and bring together aesthetic approaches derived from punk, Tantra, Islamic ornamentation, Renaissance painting à la Arcimboldo and the naive transcendence of Rousseau. Tomaselli manages to work in this style without post-Modern irony or citations – the techniques and the subject-matter are equal partners in his work.

The most striking aspect of his art is the choice of materials: all kinds of drugs in various different forms: Cannabis leaves, Ecstasy, mescaline, a plethora of brightly coloured pills arranged as long chains, creating cascades and abstract forms under synthetic resin. Furthermore Tomaselli also rifles through anatomy books, magazines, and cuts out images: hundreds of body parts such as eyes, mouths, ears, sexual organs, as well as blossoms, butterflies, birds, leaves etc. In conjunction with highly pristine sections in acrylic paint, images emerge that are spilling over with realism and the organic. However, the subject-matter of his work is intangible: transcendence, the Other, that which is distant; the notion that every society is constructed around precisely this idea. The promise is to be found in consumption, in drugs, in religion and in technology. His works do not open up a window but instead deliver evidence of the diversity of human attempts to reconfigure body and spirit.

For detailed press information and photos, please contact Philipp Selzer at ps@carliergebauer.com or by phone +49 (0) 30 280 81 10.