

carlier | gebauer

Press information

Marcellvs L. | 9493 & 0720

April 27 - May 26 2012

Opening: Friday, April 27th, 6-9 pm

On the occasion of Gallery Weekend Berlin 2012, carlier | gebauer is pleased to present Marcellvs L.'s most recent works continuing his ongoing project VideoRhizome which started in 2002. Based on Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari's notion of rhizome delineated their philosophical essay Mille Plateaux, an open ever-growing network that forms momentary alliances with other networks and like a root, a rhizome is a map of multiplicities. For the VideoRhizome series, the artist determines specific criteria that both the production and the distribution follow. The title of each work consists of 4-digit numbers determined by rolling dice, a random process that is re-enforced by their method of distribution to numerically corresponding addresses extracted from the local telephone book. A coincidental community is thereby created and becomes a self-expanding structure. Unscripted and often edited during shooting, the videos allow for chance relationships among the circumstances captured in their visual and auditive eventuality.

While 9493, filmed during the day, focuses on a child playing in a tent in which the wind is heard blowing loudly, 0720 captures snow falling at night under the light of a street lamp. Despite the common movement of the wind of these two works and their very dull presence by the sound - paradoxically played loud -, the images produced and captured are almost static and make the whole installation out of time, an abstract piece which cannot be situated in reality, bringing us back to our own perception of time. As with Deleuze and Guattari's rhizome, Marcellvs's VideoRhizome is without "beginning or end; always in the middle, between things, interbeing, intermezzo", resisting progression and chronology.

Marcellvs L. examines movement so closely that it can hardly be discerned from one moment to the next. The most binding element is the wind, an invisible force of nature that generates movement and sound, translating into an extreme slowness the anguishing power of the mass, energy and force in space and time. The relationship between humanity and nature, time and life, are intertwined, yet remain an unresolved mystery.

Whereas the color and light of each work stand in contrast to another, 9493 and 0720 explore the idea of indifference. 9493 shows us how two fundamental forms can coexist: the indifference of nature to men and the indifference of man to an established reality. Both times, they are not contradictory but evolve in parallel. 0720 can also be seen as a metaphor of indifference, representing a tentative of light giving form to darkness.

The work of Marcellvs L. can be understood as well as a commentary on video art as well as on urbanity, nature, architecture and time. Most compellingly, as Adriano Pedrosa has marked, the viewer is asked to "slow down and focus, stop and ponder, calling attention to what would otherwise pass quickly by us as quite unremarkable".

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Born in Belo Horizonte, Brazil in 1980, Marcellvs L. lives and works in Berlin where he was nominated at the Nam June Paik Award in 2006 and awarded the GASAG Kunstpreis in 2008, won an Akademie der Künste scholarship in 2009 and a Berliner Senat in 2011.

In 2012, his work will be part of the exhibition Made in Germany Zwei in Hannover. His work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at Berlinische Galerie, Berlin; Bloomberg Space, London; The Living Art Museum, Reykjavik; Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna and also presented in collective exhibitions in 16th Biennial of Sydney; 9th Biennial of Lyon; 27th Biennial international of Sao Paulo; Kunstverein Hannover, Hannover; Cité internationale des arts, Paris; NBK-Neuer Berliner Kunstverein, Berlin; Museum Wiesbaden, Wiesbaden; Hangar Bicocca, Milan; Centre Pompidou, Paris; New Museum, New York; Today Art Museum, Beijing; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid; Frieze Art Fair, Regent's Park, London; KunstFilmBiennale Köln 2005, Cologne.