

Exhibition

Ursula Sulser

**«Words in my head are like voices underwater»
16. November – 21. December 2013**

Counter Space is an exhibition and project space in Zürich, which aims to present the use of temporary and process-like methods in artistic work. The exhibition with the title “Words in my head are like voices underwater” is from the Swiss artist Ursula Sulser (*1964).

Sulser’s work in Counter Space presents in a double project “Changing room” of 360 degrees rotation, an extract of Alice Boner’s dressing room in Varanasi in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh. Audible in the background are sounds of sitar from the daily practice of the musician Mahadev Cometo (The Young Gods). Another projection records the wall clock of the exhibition space, which is an integral part of the architectural concept of the architect Haefeli Moser Steiger (HMS). During the opening of the exhibition, the wall clock depicts on the reserve side the time anticlockwise.

The artist claims in her work a space free from a particular use or meaning. The temporarily available elements – the dressing room, the clock, the sounds of the sitar and makeshift complex here at Kirchenweg 4 – are able to make visible courses of action, which are not yet articulated. “Words in my head are like voices underwater” straddles, through the absence of predetermined functions and roles, two spaces that are purpose-free: on the one hand a projected room “Changing room”, which stimulates movement like one would implement it and on the other hand, a time limited exhibition space which we can enter on the spot. Sulser connects and puts into question the imagination of these two spaces – the relationship between the sayable and visible, of value and recycled, and of the imagined and memorable.

The artist describes her method: “There is no need to create an artwork for the space, but to show a flexible transition from research to work. The work does not necessarily have to be anticipated and could be suspended for as long as possible.”

The resilience to go into the unknown, to approach it, to possess it is the characteristics of Ursula Sulser’s work.

Artist:

Ursula Sulser (* 1964) lives and works in Zurich. *Exhibitions, projects (selection)*: 2011 Zwischenlager, Ankäufe der Stadt Zürich 06 – 10, Helmhaus Zürich; 2010 Werk- und Atelierstipendienausstellung der Stadt Zürich, Helmhaus; 2009 Heimspiel, Kunstmuseum/ Neue Kunst Halle St. Gallen; 2007 Werk- und Atelierstipendienausstellung der Stadt Zürich, Helmhaus; 2006 Was macht die Kunst; Helmhaus Zürich. *Kunst am Bau-Ausführungen*: 1999 Primarschulhaus Illighausen, Architekten Stauer & Hasler, Frauenfeld. *Grants (selection)*: 2011 Varanasi (Indien), Atelieraufenthalt der Stadt Zürich. *Bibliography (selection)*: Archiv und Publikation Kunsthof Zürich, Institut für Gegenwartskunst, Zürich, voraussichtlich Winter 2013; Insert für Entwürfe Nr. 53, Zeitschrift für Literatur, Text von Nadine Olonetzky, Zürich 2008; Was macht die Kunst; Ankäufe der Stadt Zürich

2001-2006; Präsidi­alamt der Stadt Zürich, Edition Fink Verlag: Zürich 2006; Morphing, Hrsg. Klinik/Morphing System, Edition Patrick Frey, Zürich 2000.

Counter Space:

Counter Space strives to ask a range of questions: How do we imagine an art space that is close to artistic practice? How can we reduce the pressure to produce that characterizes the entertainment society? Hence: how to create new cultural and artistic connections and fields for experimentation? Our objective is to find criteria for the definition of an art space that is close to practice and to put them in to a current discourse.

Angelo Romano, curator, and Tashi Brauen, artist, founded the exhibition space Counter Space in 2012. They live and work in Zurich. Angelo Romano has realized projects in Poland, Shanghai and Switzerland. Tashi Brauen has shown his artistic work in Switzerland, the United States, and France. The exhibition space, is situated at Kirchenweg 4 in Zurich-Seefeld.

Curated by Angelo Romano und Tashi Brauen
Editors: Johanna Rickenbach, Yasmin Kiss
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