

UNFINISHED BUSINESS Dutch Abstracts

Opening: 8.5.2008, 7 p.m.

Press Talk: 8.5.2008, 10.30 a.m.

Period: 9.5. – 5.7.2008, Tue – Fri 2 – 6 p.m., Sat 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Location: Kunstverein Medienturm, Josefigasse 1, AT-8020 Graz

Contact: Helga Droschl, +43.(0)316.740084, +43.(0)664.3935718, key@medienturm.at

Guest curators: Jan Maarten Voskuil, Jan Robert Leegte (Amsterdam)

Supported by: Mondriaan Foundation, Amsterdam, Royal Netherlands Embassy, Vienna, Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture, Styrian Government /cultural department, City of Graz /cultural department

Artists: Geeske Bijker, Driessens/Verstappen, Jasper van der Graaf, Ab van Hanegem, Krijn de Koning, Jan Robert Leegte, Peter Luining, Jan van der Ploeg, Remko Scha, Martijn Schuppers, Jochem van der Spek, Jan Maarten Voskuil, Thomas Wildner

Supporting Programme:

Koje Medienturm, QDK/MQ Vienna, Museumsplatz 1, 1070 Vienna, every day 12 – 7 p.m.

Geeske Bijker, LINIE ZWEI, 29.2. – 18.5.2008

Jan van der Ploeg, SALE, 22.5. – 13.7.2008



Jan van der Ploeg, WALL PAINTING No.235, UNTITELD, 2008.
Acrylic on wall.

Kunstverein Medienturm in Graz presents from 9th May until the 5th of July the group show UNFINISHED BUSINESS – DUTCH ABSTRACTS. The exhibition with Dutch-based artists, working in the field of non-objective /abstract art, features as a second part of a duo exhibition, the first part being AUSTRIAN ABSTRACTS in Amsterdam, 2006.

Nowadays, one can sense a new interest in modernism and its variants amongst younger artists all over the world. For Holland and Austria being totally different countries with a very different history in modernism and very different geographic and political positions, it's interesting to look closer into the local aspects in this usually unlocal territory of art. UNFINISHED BUSINESS is about isolation breaking the isolation. It's about locality and internationalism, new and traditional ways of generating abstraction and its about progression and reference.

The visual language of the avant-garde used to be the abstraction. Somewhere in the sixties things turned around. For many decades ever since modernism and progression seemed to be a paradox. It seems the post-modern era has turned against itself just as the modernism did. Non-objective art merely was considered as a reference to a tradition than as progression. It even could be described as academic. Maybe the biggest theoretical contributor of abstract art Clement Greenberg himself was amongst the first to notice the paradox in 1968: "Viewed strictly as art, the 'sublime' usually does reverse itself and turn (by its own success, JMV) into the banal [...]. And this is why the new versions of the 'sublime', offered by 'novelty' art in its latest phase, to the extent that they do 'transcend' aesthetic valuation, remain banal and trivial instead of simply unsuccessful, or minor." (1) In 1984, Donald Judd could have been seen as reactionary by some groups. Today, his words rather seem visionary: "Now we're all supposed to be 'doing our own thing'. Art will become the occasional gesture of the isolated person." (2) Maybe some of the new generations of artists are tired of being isolated individuals. They carry the burden of the recent post modern past but not that of the modernistic past. Will this new interest in modernism lead to progression in art or is it only a nostalgic trip? Or maybe can these opposites go together?

(1) Greenberg, Clement, Avant Garde Attitudes, The Jon Power Lecture in Contemporary Art, 17 May 1968, Power Institute of Fine Arts, University of Sydney, 1969

(2) Judd, Donald, A long discussion not about master-pieces but why there are so few of them, Part I, Art in America, New York, September 1984, p. 9 – 19



Krijn de Koning, WORK FOR THE CBK, #3, 2007.
Laminated wood.

BIOGRAPHIES

Geeske Bijker (NL)

*1971, te Weert, Netherlands
lives and works in Amsterdam, artist

Education

2002 – 1996, Malerei, Gerrit Rietveld Academy Amsterdam
1996 – 1991, Schauspiel, Universität Amsterdam
1993 – 1992, Produktion, Dutch Film & Television Academy

Shows /grants (selection)

2008 "Unfinished Business", Kunstverein Medienturm, Graz
Kamer Laakkwartier or Soba Beograd, Den Haag
quartier21 Vienna, residency via Kunstverein Medienturm, Wien
2007 Projectstudio BERLIN, residency via foundation: Fonds BKVB
2006 "Tape this", Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam
2005 Slewe Gallery, Amsterdam
Raid Projects, box-set project for ArtLA, U.S.A.
2004 Uitgelicht 04 – Kunstvlaai, by Fonds BKVB, Amsterdam
Gespot, Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam
2003 BovenIJ hospital, Amsterdam
stipend by foundation: Fonds BKVB, Amsterdam
2002 Van Nelle Ontwerpfabriek (co-operation Zitzo), Rotterdam

Driessen/Verstappen

Erwin Driessens (NL), *1963, Wesseem, Netherlands
Maria Verstappen (NL), *1964, Someren, Netherlands
live and work in Amsterdam, artists

Education

1988 – 1991 Rijksakademie, Amsterdam
1982 – 1987 Academy of Fine Arts, Maastricht

Solo shows (selection)

2005 "Morphogenesis", Gallerie VOUS ETES ICI, Amsterdam
2002 "Follicle", Mediamatic Supermarkt, Amsterdam
2001 "Driessens & Verstappen", Gallerie VOUS ETES ICI, Amsterdam
2000 "Driessens & Verstappen", Consortium, Amsterdam

Group shows (selection)

2007 "BIOS 4", The Andalusian Center of Contemporary Art, CAAC, Sevilla
"Genesis, life at the end of the information age", Centraal Museum Utrecht
"Contour", Museum Het Prinsenhof, Delft
2006 "Natural Habitat", Netherlands Media Art Institute, Amsterdam
"Slow Motion", Museum Boijmans van Beuningen, Rotterdam
"L'esprit des Lieux", Domaine de Chamarande
"UPDATE, the origin", Cirk Zebrastraat, Gent
"Garden of Delight", Palazzo Trussardi, Mailand
2005 "Pleinmuseum", mobile pavilion, seven cities in the Netherlands and Belgium
"About land, sea and faces. Present-day Dutch Video Art", Museum het Valkhof, Nijmegen

Jasper van der Graaf (NL)

*1975 Dordrecht, Netherlands
lives and works in Apeldoorn, artist

Education

Willem de Kooning Academie, Rotterdam

Solo shows (selection)

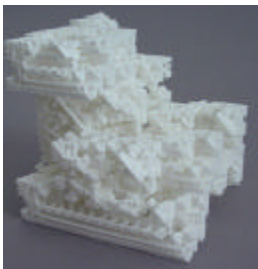
2006 "Surplus II", Kunstuitleen CBKG, Apeldoorn
2002 "Jasper van der Graaf: S10Y99M40", Stichting Archipel

Group shows (selection)

2008 "Schil/ders", DCR, Den Haag
2007 "Und Jetzt", Galerie Le Petit Port, Leiden
"CODAtrace 1", CODA Museum Apeldoorn
2006 "Tape This", Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam
"Surplus", H29 Gallery, Brussels
"Sainte Victoire", Stichting Safe, Dalfsen
"Het Gerucht-Rygtel: Verrassende selectie Deense en Nederlandse grafiek", CODA Museum Apeldoorn



Geeske Bijker, ENTFLECHTUNG, 2007. Mixed media.



Driessens/Verstappen, BREEDMODEL 271, 2001. Sculpture.



Jasper van der Graaf, UNTITELD, 2006. Acrylic on wall.

2005 "FRONT", stichting outLINE, Amsterdam
2004 "Eindeloze werken", Nieuwe Vide, Haarlem
2002 "Maximale Resolutie deel II", CBK Gelderland Arnhem

Ab van Hanegem (NL)

*1960, Vlissingen, Netherlands
lives and works in Amsterdam and Berlin, artist

Education

1979 – 1985 Academie voor Beeldende Kunsten St. Joost, Breda
1987 – 1989 Rijksacademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam

Solo shows (selection)

2007, 2004, 2003, 2001, 1997, VOUS ETES ICI, Amsterdam
2001 In Situ Gallery, Aalst (with Martijn Schuppers)
2000 A B, Museum De Beijerd, Breda
1999 Lokaal 01, Antwerpen (with Pieter van Unen)

Group shows (selection)

2006 "Floating Forms", Museum Ludwigshafen
2005 "What would a world without paper be like?", VOUS ETES ICI, Amsterdam
2002 "Holland – Schweiz 3 : 2", Kunsthalle Palazzo, Liestal
2000 "suite voices #1", VOUS ETES ICI, Amsterdam
"What's New", Eugen Lendl, Graz
1998 "10 Years Charlotte Köhler Prize", Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam
1997 "Hand-Computer", Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam
1996 "Bouwfondscollectie", Museum Boijmans – Van Beuningen, Rotterdam

Krijn de Koning (NL)

*1963 Amsterdam, Netherlands
lives and works in Amsterdam, artist

Education

Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam
Ateliers '63, Haarlem
Institut des Hautes Etudes et Arts Plastiques, Paris

Exhibitions (selection)

2007, 2004, 2002, 1998, 1996, Galerie Slewe, Amsterdam
"Contour / Continuïteit, Heden en Verleden", Museum Het Prinsenhof, Delft
2006 "Krijn de Koning: Virtueel Museum Zuidas te gast bij Platform 21", Amsterdam
"Presentatie op: Super!", Triennale Hasselt
2005 "Den Haag Sculptuur 2005: De Paleistuin", Den Haag
"Krijn de Koning: Atelier – Werk voor het Mondriaanhuis", Amersfoort
"In This Colony", Kunstfort bij Vijfhuizen
2004 "Erfgenamen van Piet Mondriaan", Het Mondriaanhuis, Amersfoort
"Krijn de Koning: Twee ruimtes", Kunstenlab, Deventer
2003 "Arti et Sedibus", Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam
2002 "On track: Hogesnelheidskunst", Nederlands Architectuurinstituut (NAI), Rotterdam

Jan Robert Leegte (NL)

*1973, Netherlands
lives and works in Amsterdam, artist

Education

1992 – 1995 studies of architecture, TU Delft
1995 – 1999 studies of fine art, Willem de Kooning Academie, Amsterdam

Solo shows (selection)

2007 "Leegte", Mediaruimte, Brussels
2006 "Jan Robert Leegte", ACAF, Alexandria
2005 "Jan Robert Leegte", de Verschijning, Tilburg

Group shows (selection)

2006 Earational, Den Bosch
"Sainte Victoire – denken naar abstractie - #3", SAFE, Dalfsen
"Overstijgen, Transcending the Medium", Kunstverein Medienturm, Graz
"untitled (ornaments)", Ovalhalle, Museum Quartier, Vienna
2005 "Techno2", Montevideo, Amsterdam
2004 "Uitgelicht 4", Fonds voor beeldende kunsten, vormgeving en bouwkunst, Amsterdam
2003 "Leegte, Luining, van der Spek", Zapf Dingbats, Den Haag
"Abstraction Now", Künstlerhaus Wien



Ab van Hanegem, CODFISH, 2007. Acrylic on canvas.



Krijn de Koning, WORK FOR CAPRI, 2006. Painted wood.



Jan Robert Leegte, SELECTIONS, 2006. Installation.

Peter Luining (NL)

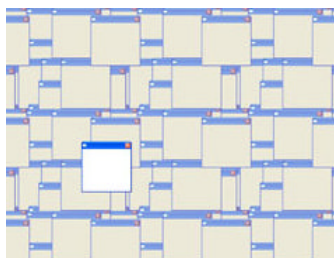
*1961 Hoogkerk, Netherlands
lives and works in Amsterdam, artist

Education

1984 – 1989 Rijks Universiteit Groningen (philosophy)

Shows (selection)

2006 "Overstijgen, Transcending the Medium", Kunstverein Medienturm, Graz
Transition Galerie West, Den Haag
2005 Art Frankfurt
"Access", Consortium, Amsterdam
"Overzicht 01", Galerie West, Den Haag
"proto_gabber 3.11", New Langton Arts, San Francisco
2004 Stedelijk Museum (CS11), Amsterdam
2003 "sonic light", Amsterdam
"Leegte, Luining, van der Spek", Zapf Dingbats, Den Haag
"Abstraction NOW", Künstlerhaus Wien, Vienna
2002 KIMAF, Kiev
Cyberonica, ICA, London



Peter Luining, 100 WINDOWS, 2005. Installation.

Jan van der Ploeg (NL)

*1959 Amsterdam, Netherlands
lives and works in Amsterdam, artist

Education

1980 – 1982 Rietveld Academie Amsterdam
1982 – 1983 Croydon College of Art London
1983 – 1985 Rijksakademie Amsterdam

Solo shows (selection)

2007 Hammer Museum, Los Angeles
2006 "WALLPAINTING No.155", Museum Boijmans van Beuningen, Rotterdam
2005 Aschenbach & Hofland Galleries, Amsterdam, Straight Circles
"WALLPAINTING No.151", Gemeentemuseum, Den Haag
2004 Michael Lett Gallery, Auckland
2003 Aschenbach & Hofland Galleries, (with DJ Simpson), Amsterdam
2002 Aschenbach & Hofland Galleries, (with Gerold Miller), Amsterdam

Group shows (selection)

2007 Museum Het Prinsenhof, Delft, Contour
2006 "Wall Works II", Fleisch, Berlin; CLUBSproject, Melbourne
"PaintedObjects", CCNOA, Brussels
"New York, I am Yours", Now Sikkema Jenkins & Co.
"Tape This", Arti et Aemicitiae, Amsterdam
2005 ARCO, Goddard de Fiddes, Madrid
"Minimalpop", Galerie les filles du calvaire, Brussels; Paris

Remko Scha (NL)

lives and works in Amsterdam, artist

Shows (selection)

2005 "Artware 3", ICPNA, Lima
2004 "News from home.", The Annex, New York
"Alternate.", De Vleeshal, Middelburg
2002 "Artificial meets Rik van Iersel.", Mu, De Witte Dame, Eindhoven
2001 "Dialogue", Audioinstallation, Stubnitz/ Las Palmas, Rotterdam (with Arthur Elsenaar)
2000 "Kiborg 1", 6th International Computer Arts Festival, Maribor /Ljubljana
"Agent Radio", De Appel, Amsterdam
1981 "The Machines.", Jack Visser Gallery, Amsterdam

Martijn Schuppers (NL)

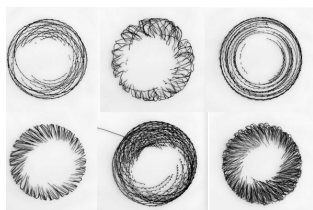
*1967, Almelo, Netherlands
lives and works in Groningen, artist

Education

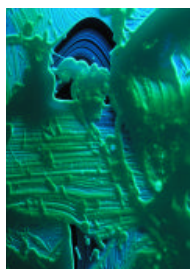
RHG Academy Minerva Groningen (NL)
Hunter College, New York (USA)
MFA, Frank Mohr Institute, Hanze University Groningen (NL)



Jan van der Ploeg, WALL PAINTING No.183, Grip, 2007.
Acrylic on wall.



Remko Scha, SIX CIRCLES, 1981. Machine drawings.
149 – 154



Martijn Schuppers, ZOOM INSIDE OUT, 2004.
Photo work.

Shows (selection)

2007 "The Magic of the Painted Image", Stedelijk Museum Aalst
2006 "Unisono 14: The Nature of Painting", Stedelijk Museum, Schiedam
"BSTRCT", Kunstruimte 09, Groningen
2005 "The Nature of Painting", VOUS ETES ICI, Amsterdam
2004 "Schone schijn", Galerie IN SITU, Aalst
2003 "FRESH", with Wolfgang Ellenrieder, Gallery IN SITU, Aalst

Jochem van der Spek (NL)

*1973, Rheden
lives and works in Amsterdam, artist

Shows (selection)

2007 "Seen and not Seen", Centre for Contemporary Non Objective Art, Brussels
2006 "fireflies", light composition for 8 light houses, (commissioned by RAPP+RAPP architects), Ypenburg
"Edelweiss", de Lichtfabriek, art in public space, Haarlem
2005 Eneco Infra NV Bürolobby, Rotterdam
"Art Energy", Electronhal, Breda
2004 "Mute", art in public space, Haarlem
2003 "Lopend Beeld 2.", Nieuwe Vide, Haarlem

Jan Maarten Voskuil (NL)

*1964, Arnhem
lives and works in Haarlem, artist

Education

1985 – 1989 Rijks Universiteit Groningen
1996 – 1997 Hogeschool voor de kunsten Arnhem: Ateliers Arnhem (post graduate)

Solo shows (selection)

2007 "Flat and Outstanding", Museum Het Mondriaanhuis, Amersfoort
"Het punt is, er is geen punt", Galerie Le Petit Port, Leiden
Galerie De Vierde Dimensie Plasmolen
"Loop", Kunstruimte 09, Groningen
2006 "Spare Parts II", De Boterhal, Hoorn
2005 "Commodity Act", RC de Ruimte, IJmuiden
"Jan Maarten Voskuil", Kijkkasten Nieuwe Dijk, Amsterdam

Group shows (selection)

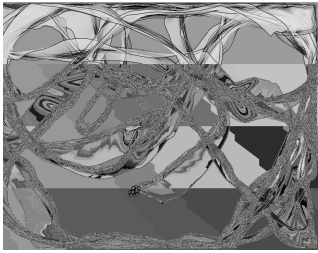
2007 "Pas de soucis...", Non Objectif Sud, Tulette
"Non Objectif Sud Fundraiser", Gary Snyder Fine Art, New York
"A bit of white", CCNOA, Brussels
2006 "2 step", UH Galleries, Hatfield

Thomas Wildner (D)

*1966, Essen, Germany

Shows (selection)

2006 "Sainte victoire – denken naar abstractie #2", SAFE, Dalfsen
"volume een", provincie Noord Holland, Haarlem
2005 "tracing Spaces", 66 east, Amsterdam
2004 "Stay", Futura gallery, Prague
"Eindeloze Werken", De Nieuwe Vide / de Loge, Haarlem
2003 "Willekeur en/of het goed geproportioneerde lichaam", ARTIS foundation, s'Hertogenbosch
"Home and Away", Cherrydelosreyes Gallery, Los Angeles
2002 "Non members only", Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam
"selective whole", Raid projects, Los Angeles
2001 "Multiple meervoud" und "On Sight", De Parel, Amsterdam
2000 "99 Standpunkte", Kulturstiftung Langenhagen, Hannover-Langenhagen



Jochem van der Spek, DRAWINGMACHINE 1, 2005.
Computerstill.



Jan Maarten Voskuil, OVERZICHT BEELD, 2004. Sculpture.



Thomas Wildner, RW FUTURA FF, 2004. Acrylic on wall.