

ACKLANDARTMUSEUM

Multiple Identities: New Thinking about Recent German Art

Thursday, 7 April 2011

5:30 – 7:00 PM

Ackland Art Museum

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Free and open to the public; seating is limited

For over three decades, contemporary art from Germany has commanded extraordinary attention from the international art world. This forum will present leading scholars from a young generation of exciting new thinking about these achievements, focusing especially on the artists represented in the special exhibition **DE-NATURED: German Art from Joseph Beuys to Martin Kippenberger; Selections from the James Keith Brown and Eric Diefenbach Collection.**

Introduced and moderated by **Peter Nisbet**, Chief Curator of the Ackland Art Museum, organizer of the exhibition, and author of the accompanying publication, the panel will include:

John J. Curley (assistant professor, Department of Art, Wake Forest University) will speak on Richter and photographic/painterly ambiguity in the context of the Cold War. Curley received his Ph.D. from Yale University in 2007, and has published articles on Richter, Willem de Kooning, Lothar Baumgarten, and Andy Warhol. He is preparing a book on the topic of Andy Warhol and Gerhard Richter in the Cold War.

Richard Langston (associate professor, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, UNC-Chapel Hill) will speak about Bernd and Hilla Becher and their students, considering how their works appropriate and adapt the modernist logic of the grid in the digital age. The recipient of the Ph.D. degree from Washington University in St. Louis in 2002, he is the author of *Visions of Violence: German Avant-Gardes after Fascism* (Northwestern University Press, 2008) as well as scholarly articles on postwar and contemporary film, literature, and art.

Gregory Williams (assistant professor, Department of Art History, Boston University) will speak on the idea of mobility and itinerancy in Martin Kippenberger's work. He received his Ph.D. from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York in 2006. His book *Permission to Laugh: Humor and Politics in Contemporary German Art* will be published by University of Chicago press next year. His essays on Rosemarie Trockel and Martin Kippenberger have appeared in exhibition catalogues for museums in Cologne, Basel, London, and Düsseldorf, and he has also written for *Artforum*, *frieze*, and other art periodicals.

Cary Levine (assistant professor, Department of Art, UNC-Chapel Hill) will offer responsive comments on the forum presentations. He received his Ph.D. from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York in 2006, and is currently completing a book on the work of Mike Kelley, Paul McCarthy, and Raymond Pettibon to be published by the University of Chicago Press. Levine's research focuses on strategies of cultural politics in art, the miscegenation of art and music, and issues of subculture, gender, sexuality, and popular culture. His essays have appeared in numerous art journals and exhibition catalogues, and he has written criticism for *Art in America*, *BOMB*, and other art periodicals.

The exhibition **DE-NATURED** opens at 5:00 PM on April 7, allowing attendees time to view the show prior to the discussion. A public reception follows the panel from 7:00 – 9:00 PM.

DE-NATURED was made possible by James Keith Brown and Eric Diefenbach, and the William Hayes Ackland Trust. Publication available.

Exhibition media sponsor: WUNC North Carolina Public Radio

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The Ackland Art Museum

The Ackland Art Museum is located on the historic campus of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Ackland's holdings consist of more than 16,000 works of art, featuring significant collections of European masterworks, twentieth-century and contemporary art, African art, North Carolina pottery, and folk art. In addition, the Ackland has North Carolina's premier collections of Asian art and works on paper (drawings, prints, and photographs). As an academic unit of the University, the Ackland serves broad local, state, and national constituencies.

Hours and Admission

The Ackland is open Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM; Thursday 10 AM – 8 PM; and Sunday 1 – 5 PM. Admission to the Museum is always free, with donations accepted.

Location and Parking

The Ackland Art Museum is located on South Columbia Street, near the corner of East Franklin Street, in downtown Chapel Hill. Parking is available at several nearby municipal and private parking decks, and at meters on Franklin Street. Most Chapel Hill Transit buses (free) provide service to downtown Chapel Hill. More information is available at 919.966.5736 or www.ackland.org.

For more information, please contact:

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