PEDER LUND

Ugo Rondinone • "outside my window" 7 May - 18 June, 2011







Peder Lund is pleased to announce the opening of the first solo exhibition in Norway with the renowned Swiss artist Ugo Rondinone (1964-). The exhibition, which Rondinone has titled "outside my window", displays a group of new small-scale paintings beside three still life sculptures from his ongoing series *still.life*.

Ugo Rondinone works in a variety of different media including painting, drawing, video, photography, sculpture and installation. His poetic work is made up of an impressive number of work groups and exhibitions that *ensemble* make up an almost complete catalogue of the history of Modernism. There are examples of traditional Romantic art, as well as parts of Expressionism, Dadaism and Art Brut. Rondinone's works are produced in series and executed with the display, which often incorporates the entire exhibition space, in mind.

In the exhibition at Peder Lund a group of small paintings, which are executed with graphite on gesso on linen, hang in a horizontal line through the gallery space. The delicate paintings are transferred from the artist's own sketches and display building elements, furniture and still life. As the title of the exhibition suggests, Rondinone's motifs are taken from his own apartment, from walks and from looking out of his window. On the back of each painting is an excerpt from the *New York Times* from the day the painting was executed.

Through the exhibition's three still life sculptures: still.life. (five apples in a line), still.life. (four pieces of styrofoam) and still.life. (two stools), Rondinone's fascination with improving and creating an ennobled edition of what is fragile and perishable is presented. The still life sculptures are re-contextualised both by being taken out of their natural habitat (and placed in a gallery space) and by being everyday objects that have been transformed to art works in resistant materials such as bronze and lead. The sculptures also refer to the long tradition of still life in art history that can be traced back to early Oriental and Egyptian art through to Dutch Master paintings in the Renaissance and later in the works of artists such as van Gogh, Cézanne and Picasso.

Ugo Rondinone was born in Brunnen in Switzerland and educated at Hochschule für angewandte Kunst in Vienna (1986-1990). Solo exhibitions of his work have been shown at museums such as Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney, Muséo de Art Contemporáneo de Castilla in León, Sculpture Center in New York, Kunsthalle Wien and Aargauer Kunsthaus in Aarau. In 2007 Rondinone represented Switzerland at the international biennale of art in Venice together with the artist Urs Fischer, Rondinone lives and works in New York and Zürich.

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