

SALON INTERNATIONAL 2008

Peter Bauhuis, Munich, Germany

Doris Betz, Munich, Germany

Andi Gut, Zürich, CH/ Pforzheim, Germany

Sally Marsland, Melbourne, Australia

Mascha Moje, Melbourne, Australia

Manon van Kouswijk, Amsterdam, The Netherlands,

OPENS 23 JULY (5-7pm) UNTIL 20 AUGUST

Monash University, Faculty of Art & Design

Faculty Gallery

Art & Design Building

900 Dandenong Road Caulfield East 3145

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Opening hours: Monday to Friday (10am to 5pm)

There is a strong link between contemporary jewellers in Australia and Europe, more particularly between Melbourne, Amsterdam, Munich and Pforzheim.

All of these cities have tertiary institutions with a strong jewellery department, and all have galleries that highlight jewellery, whether it is the Schmuckmuseum, Pforzheim or the State Museum of Applied Arts and Design, Munich each with dedicated historic and contemporary collections, or Galerie Ra, Amsterdam, Gallery Funaki, Melbourne, both recognised as the leading international galleries specialising in contemporary jewellery. Linked by study, friendships and respect the artists in

Salon International 2008 capture the complex network of friendship, collaboration and stimulating exchange between a group of international makers working from a background in gold and silversmithing. The six artists first exhibited together at Rathausgalerie Munich in March 2004. Salon International 2008 brings these artist together in Melbourne at the Faculty Gallery, Monash University, Peter Bauhuis and Doris Betz are from Munich, Andi Gut from Zürich, Manon van Kouswijk from Amsterdam, Sally Marsland and Mascha Moje from Melbourne. The Faculty of Art and Design will host Doris Betz, as Artist in residence in July/August.

Study, travel, exhibitions and friendship have forged connections between these makers, the exchange of ideas is sometimes intense and confronting, sometimes tenuous, but they share a mutual respect and willingness to extend dialogue and discourse through the objects they make and exhibit together. This is not a group of artists with written objectives or a manifesto but a more amorphous group, each highly respected and acknowledged in their own country and internationally for the contribution they make to craft, art and design. I find many exceptions and contradictions in the associations between them and in the work they produce, however the most compelling aspects of this exhibition is the diversity of the makers and their work coupled with the visible shared references and connections. Their approach to making is primarily from the jewellery tradition, careful choice of material and how it is manipulated, considering how the object will engage and interact with the viewer, concern for formal aspects with a strong conceptual base. Underpinning all the work, I feel, is the seduction of the viewer, we are invited to feast our eyes, tempted by the very human desire to hold, handle and to keep close to ourselves objects which resonate with a range of references across mass-production, preservation, recycling, surveillance, care, time - past present and future.

MARIAN HOSKING

Senior Lecturer, Studio Co-ordinator

Metals and Jewellery

Monash University