

BORTOLAMI

Ben Schumacher
D S + R and the bar at the Orangerie
February 22 - March 30, 2013

Bortolami is pleased to present Ben Schumacher's first solo show at the gallery, running from February 22 - March 30, 2013, with an opening reception on February 22nd from 6-8 PM. Titled *D S + R and the bar at the Orangerie*, the show will include a collaboration and exchange with New York based architecture firm Diller Scofidio + Renfro; an employee from the firm will work in the gallery for the duration of the show, restoring early models from competitions and realized projects. At the office of Diller Scofidio + Renfro, Schumacher will install several works available to the public through images.

The exhibition will be an interconnected weaving of different elements: beside the architectural models and the employee's desk, there will be marble sculptures of cable management racks; lights made from reconfigured Ikea fixtures wrapped in handmade leather sleeves; a series of free-standing glass sculptures with three-dimensional composite prints and vinyl imagery; small figurative paintings; still packaged Ikea shelves set in plexi boxes with inserted rapid prototypes; functioning tablet screens set into marble slabs. The diverse elements form a fluid, layered effect, both in the exhibition as a whole, and in the individual works.

The title refers to the architecture of modern modes of information transmission, comparing the contemporary use of data centers as storage to the cultivation of foreign plants year-round in orangeries. The greenhouse acts as a chassis for the preservation of botany that could otherwise not be sustained locally, rendering fruit available regardless of season or location, just as the internet provides immediate global information, available at the same time everywhere. Looking at the Orangerie as the 20th century architectural space for cultivation and storage, the gallery becomes a metaphor for the internet "cloud", a hub of communication and data storage.

Ben Schumacher was born in 1985 in Kitchener, Canada. Recent exhibitions include "Greek" with Hugh Scott Douglas at Croy Nielsen, Berlin; "1867, 1881, 1981" with Elaine Cameron-Weir at Bodega, Philadelphia; James Fuentes, New York; Room East with Dan Shaw-Town, New York; Martos Gallery with Ryan Foerster, New York; "Short Stories" at the Sculpture Center, New York; "Reverse Boustrophedon" at Tomorrow Gallery, Toronto; "Of the Andirons" at Galerie Desaga, Cologne, Germany. He graduated from New York University's Steinhardt program with a Masters in Fine Arts in 2011.

For more information, please contact Caroline@bortolamigallery.com