

Galleri Riis

Stein Rønning

Script-intern #1

February 29 - April 6, 2024

We are pleased to announce a new exhibition with Stein Rønning; the opening reception will take place on Thursday, February 29 from 6-8 pm.

Script-intern # 1 is Rønning's thirteenth exhibition with Galleri Riis since his first in 1987, and presents individual works from four series produced in 2023.

There are two groups of sculptures, all of which are made of plaster painted with shellac mixed with celadonite and iron oxide. One series is entitled re-set, and is based on parts from various casts of a digitized and sintered version of Rønning's sculpture *dbl blnd* from the 1990s. The second series is based on an analogously enlarged replica of that same form. Parts and sections of the replica are completed with straight planes that fill in the continuous shell that defines each individual sculpture. These are titled *re-fused vertikal*.

Furthermore, two groups of photographic works are shown, where one with the title *horizon* examines the dismantling of an obviously visible and basic gestalt, isolates its elements and then arranges them as "valid pictures", outside of the gestalt's origin.

The second series is entitled *tempera*. It consists of pictures that have been in the works for the past five years, and initiate a discussion of materials – as a basis for issues that are more explicitly articulated in the sculptures, but where these images have something to say. A small publication containing a close reading of what the artist sees as important in this exchange, will accompany this series.

This exhibition is a continuation of Rønning's previous exhibition in the gallery, *Epicurean Allegory* in 2022, and where issues between sculpture and image are further articulated.

Stein Rønning (b. 1953) in Askim, Norway, received his artistic education from The Academy of Art in Trondheim and Vestlandets Kunstakademi in Bergen 1975-79. After several decades of teaching and holding professorships at Oslo National Academy of the Arts and Bergen Academy of Arts and Design, Rønning has exhibited regularly in recent years, as well as publishing a series of smaller publications and two monographs. In his work he pursues an interest in combining painting, photography and object. His photographic prints seem to camouflage as painted surfaces and the finely tuned nuances among the works themselves command a heightened sense of attention in the viewer, as well as a calibration of the exhibition space. Rønning employs a similar complex and conceptual approach to his long-standing and meandering series of sculptures in various materials as plaster and cellulose coated with pigments and polymers, as well as patinated cast bronze.