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"Du wirst mich finden wartend bis die Apfel reifen" / [You will find me waiting for the apples to ripen]
2013
Cassette tape, adhesive tape and acrylic paint on canvas, 303 x 192 cm / 119 1/4 x 75 1/2 inches



"Du wirst mich finden wartend bis sie herunterfallen (The Garden, Einstürzende Neubauten)" /
[You will find me waiting for them to fall], 2013
Cassette tape, adhesive tape and acrylic paint on canvas, 303 x 192 cm / 119 1/4 x 75 1/2 inches

GREGOR HILDEBRANDT "Die Geschichte läuft über uns"
Galerie Perrotin, New York / January 9 – February 22, 2014

For my first New York solo show with Emmanuel Perrotin, I will block the path and view into the gallery by placing my work "Schallmauer" [Sonic barrier] (2012) in such a way that visitors have to walk around it to gain access to the gallery.

The work consists of vinyl record bowls, which I bought in this form on a Berlin flea market and then piled up in an alternating rhythm into pillars. Placed in a row close next to each other, they form an entire wall.

Once one enters the space, the view reveals four pictures hung face to face, each on one wall (including on the "sonic barrier made of pillars of records"), resulting in a cross.

The three pictures that are not on the sonic barrier are each framed by a wall cover made of video tapes vertically glued directly next to each other—similar to my "video curtains", so that the entire space is black from floor to ceiling. On the videotapes is a recording of the film "Der Himmel über Berlin" [Wings of Desire] by Wim Wenders.

*The picture opposite the entrance (here now opposite the 'record pillar wall') will be the negative in the 'ripping-off process' *, developed by me, the other three are the positives. The tapes used for these pictures have a recording "The Garden", a song by the Berlin industrial band Einstürzende Neubauten..*

In the downstairs space, I will show, like in a crypt, the 'Kassettenboden', consisting of music cassettes without the tapes inside. On one of the end walls, the work "Die Geschichte läuft über uns" will be shown, a mosaic of many of the little pieces of felt over which the tape in a cassette runs.

** In the ripping-off process, the coated side of cassette tapes is put on double-sided adhesive tape, the coat is pressed onto it with a painterly gesture with a brush or a roller, and then the cassette tapes are taken off again. This process can be repeated several times on different canvases, resulting in ever more delicate structures. Finally, the tapes are glued onto a canvas for good. They form the negative.*

Gregor Hildebrandt

Galerie Perrotin, New York is proud to present "Die Geschichte läuft über uns", the first exhibition by Gregor Hildebrandt at the gallery.

The Berlin-based artist Gregor Hildebrandt makes installations, sculptures, and works on canvas. His materials are, amongst other things, record carriers for sound and film, such as cassette tapes, videotapes, and vinyl records. His formal vocabulary is grounded in minimalism, but his works are charged with numerous associations. Even though there is no sound in his exhibitions, Gregor Hildebrandt's installations, objects, and pictures exude an intensity that goes beyond their mere physical components. They are stores of pop-cultural memories that contribute to identity formation.

The unreeled tapes reveal an unexpected sensual quality. The brown or gray coating becomes a form of painting. The artist even uses the small rectangular pieces of felt over which the cassette tapes run. He explores the materials in all sorts of ways and thus reaches new forms that follow their own laws.

For example, vinyl records shaped into bowls are stacked and become sculptures. The videotapes put together to form a large floor-to-ceiling wall hanging are indirectly also a projection screen: every tape bears a recording of Wim Wender's great 1987 Berlin film "Der Himmel über Berlin" [Wings of Desire]. The story of an angel who wants to participate in earthly life is set in a city that was still divided at the time. It articulated eternal themes like immortality, sadness, yearning, and transience into a contemporary visual language that to this day remains characteristic for Berlin. Embedded in this simultaneously delicate and monumental curtain is a series of four paintings that share the same origin: the negative form, from which the other three pictures are taken in a rip-off process, on the wall opposite the entrance, consists of cassette tapes with a recording of a song by the Berlin industrial band Einstürzende Neubauten. The song "The Garden" evokes, in a darkly minimalist emotionality that is typical for the band, a paradise with four stations. Like the songs and films that so fascinate Hildebrandt, his art also tells simultaneously of tenderness and coldness, romance and harshness.

The floor installation on the lower floor has exactly the dimensions of the Berlin herringbone parquet in Hildebrandt's apartment on Rosenthaler Platz in the formerly eastern part of the city. The square on the narrow side consists of about 27,000 cassette felts and measures 79 by 79 cm. On the one hand, these are the measurements of Malevich's "Black Square", at the same time 79 stands for the year of birth of his partner, the artist Alicja Kwade.

"Die Geschichte läuft über uns" is an ambiguous title. It could be translated as "The Story Runs Across Us" or indeed "History Walks Across Us". It is these minimal contact points where the deconstruction of the material finds a new beginning.



"Ob Dichter bei den Engeln stehn" / [Are there poets standing with the angels] 2013
Laser engraving on granite, 124 x 92 cm / 48 3/4 x 36 1/4 inches



"Die Geschichte läuft über uns" / [The Story Runs Across Us] or [History Walks Across Us], 2013
Audio cassette filters on canvas, 79 x 79 cm / 31 1/8 x 31 1/8 inches

Born in 1974 in Bad Homburg, Germany. Gregor Hildebrandt lives and works in Berlin, Germany.

SOLO SHOWS (selection)

- 2013** "In Jade stände eine Stadt", Wentrup Gallery, Berlin, Germany; "Orphische Schatten", Almine Rech Gallery, Brussels, Belgium; "Interior and the collectors", Biennale de Lyon, France; "Du Stehst im Licht, du Stehst im Schatten", Sommer Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv, Israel
- 2012** "Ein Koffer aus Berlin", Saarländisches Künstlerhaus, Saarbrücken, Germany; "Nächtliches Konzert (with Jorinde Voigt)", Museum Van Bommel van Dam, Venlo, Netherlands; "Schlaf ist Zeit, die Dir gehört", Gallery Avlskarl, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2011** "Für kommende Morgen", Wentrup, Berlin, Germany; "Seiten im Buch wie Wände im Raum", Almine Rech Gallery, Paris, France; "Und dass zu frühe die Parze den Traum nicht ende", Grimm Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2010** "Und vor der Tür stehen weiße Pferde", Almine Rech Gallery, Brussels, Belgium; "Shapeless in the Dark Again", Sommer Contemporary, Tel Aviv, Israel; "Die Nacht trägt den Plan", Van Horn, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2009** "Daß dieser Mai nie ende", Wentrup, Berlin, Germany ; "Weiße Nacht hängt an den Bergen", Grieder Contemporary, Zurich, Switzerland; "Der Himmel im Raum", Berlinische Galerie, Berlin, Germany
- 2008** "This was made to end all parties", Ursula Werz, Tübingen, Germany; "Front Room", Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, St. Louis, USA; "Hokuspokus", Kunstverein Schwerte, Schwerte, Germany; "Und im Garten blüht ein Blumenbeet", Haus am Waldsee, Berlin, Germany
- 2007** "Dunkle Fahrt zu hellem Tag", Kunstverein Ludwigshafen, Germany; "Dunkle Fahrt zu hellem Tag", Galerie Jan Wentrup, Berlin, Germany; "Zum Wohl der Tränen", Almine Rech Gallery, Paris, France
- 2006** "B:1F-134 (with Alicja Kwade)", UBERBAU, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2005** "Von den Steinen zu den Sternen", Galerie Jan Wentrup, Berlin, Germany; "Tage und Stunden zerspringen vor Glück", Städtische Galerie Pankow, Berlin, Germany
- 2004** "Allnightlong (with Jenny Rosemeyer)", Kaiserpassage 21a, Karlsruhe, Germany; "Und dieses Wasser wird sich immer schwarz färben", Arsenal HKM1, Raum für Kunst, Mainz, Germany
- 2003** "Dunst blauer Tage", Kunstverein Eisingen, Germany; "Hausmusik", Mt. Warning, Berlin, Germany; "Schwarze Fahnen unter dem gelben Mond (with Carola Deye)", Hinterconti, Hamburg, Germany
- 2002** "Tönende Jugend", WBD, Berlin, Germany

GROUP SHOWS (selection)

- 2013** "Happy Birthday Galerie Perrotin / 25 years", Tripostal, lille3000, France; "The show is over," Gagosian Gallery, London, England; "KlausNomi - 2013", Neuer Aachener Kunstverein, Aachen, Germany; "Gestohlene Gesten", Kunsthaus Nürnberg, Nuremberg, Germany; "Decenter, An Exhibition on the Centenary of the 1913 Armory Show", Arbrons Arts Center, New York, USA
- 2012** "Painting and Sculpture", The Martin Z. Margulies Collection, Miami, USA; "The Garden of Eden", Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France; "Von Sinnen. Wahrnehmung in der zeitgenössischen Kunst", Kunsthalle Kiel, Germany; "Ich bin ein Berliner", Tel Aviv Art Museum / Helena Rubinstein Pavillion and Convento Carmelo, Sassari, Italy / Mestrovic Pavillion, Zagreb, Croatia; "A House Full of Music", Institut Mathildenhöhe, Darmstadt, Germany; "The Record: Contemporary Art and Vinyl", Miami Art Museum, USA / ICA Boston, USA / Nasher Art Museum, Durham, USA; "Nouvelle présentation des collections contemporaines, des années 1960 à nos jours", Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
- 2011** "Su nero nero/Over black black", Castello Rivara, Italy; 'Private/Corporate IV', Daimler Art Collection, Stuttgart / Berlin, Germany ; Prague Biennale 5, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2010** "Fischgrätenmelkstand", Temporäre Kunsthalle (curated by John Bock), Berlin, Germany; "Berlin Box", Kunsthalle Andratx, Mallorca, Spain "Berlin Transfer", Berlinische Galerie, Berlin, Germany
- 2009** "Zeigen. Eine Audiotour durch Berlin", Temporäre Kunsthalle, Berlin, Germany; "No Soul For Sale - a festival of independants", X Initiative, New York, USA ; "XVI. Rohkunstbau ATLANTIS I. Hidden Histories – New Identities", Schloss Marquardt, Potsdam, Germany; "Prose pour des Esseintes", Karma International, Zurich, Switzerland; "Begegnung Bauhaus. Kurt Schmid und die Künstler der Avantgarde – von Kandinsky bis Vasarely, Magritte et la lumière", Almine Rech Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2008** "Nico – Köln, Berlin, Paris, New York – Stationen einer Popikone", Museum für Angewandte Kunst, Cologne, Germany; "Musical Paintings", Galerie ScheiblerMitte, Berlin, Germany; "Forgotten Bar Project", Forgotten Bar, Berlin, Germany; "The Demolition Party", "Le Royal Monceau, Paris, France; "Zuordnungsprobleme", Galerie Johann König, Berlin, Germany; "Back to black. Die Farbe Schwarz in der aktuellen Malerei", kestnergesellschaft, Hannover, Germany
- 2007** "La Bomba IV", Rowley Kennerk Gallery, Chicago, USA; "Substance and Surface", Bortolami Gallery, New York, USA; "At home", Galerie Yvon Lambert (curated by Mario Testino), New York, USA
- 2006** "Totalschaden", Bonner Kunstverein, Bonn, Germany; "pigment piano marble", Maipú 327, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2005** "37 x 26 x 10", ehem. Palast der Republik, Berlin, Germany
- 2004** "klak", Kulturbahnhof Kassel, Germany; "Golden Pudel Club", Hamburg (with Axel Geis und Alicja Kwade), Germany; "Endless Summer", Turboplex, Berlin, Germany
- 2003** "Kunststudenten stellen aus", Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik, Bonn, Germany; "Bis ans Ende der Welt, In Memoriam Bob Ross", Kunstverein Konstanz, Germany; "Wheeling London", Ceel Project Space, London, England

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