

ANTON KERN GALLERY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Lothar Hempel**

*PEOPLE LIKE YOU FIND IT EASY*

September 4 – October 4, 2014



Like a futuristic stage impresario, and seemingly without effort, Hempel choreographs figures and objects, matches disparate materials and techniques, and arranges geometric shapes, luminous colors, and sinuous organic lines into paintings and drawings of self-conscious aplomb.

The artist applies acrylic, ink, oil, crayon, spray-paint, and pencil to primed, screen-printed aluminum sheets, often augmenting these panels with found objects such as coins or crystals, creating works that reveal a great sense of syncopated rhythm and temperament. Hempel's work displays a kind of sprezzatura, an "aristocratic cool," that in the past has related to frank amorality or illicit pleasures, but may still be understood as a metaphor for the freedom and release sought from the weight of artistic tradition and critical expectations.

\* On September 5 and 6, 2014, The Kitchen is screening Lothar Hempel's new film *Mäusebunker* (Mice Bunker). At once dystopian vision and subjective portrayal of Germany since the early 1980s, *Mäusebunker* is performed by lay actors, all friends and colleagues of the artist in Berlin. The screening will be accompanied by a live reenactment-performance.

Lothar Hempel has exhibited continuously since the 1990s, most recently in solo shows at La Conservera Centro de Arte Contemporanea, Ceuti (Murcia), Spain (2012); Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin (2008); and Le Magasin, Grenoble (2007). His work has been included in the Herzliya Biennial for Contemporary Art, Herzliya, Israel (2011) and group shows at Contemporary Art Andratx, Mallorca (2011); Louis Vuitton Cultural Space, Paris (2010); Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles (2010); MACRO Testaccio, Rome (2010); Beaufort 03, Ostend; Athens Biennale, Athens (both 2009). He lives and works in Berlin, Germany.

Both exhibitions open on Thursday, September 4 and will run through Saturday, October 4, 2014. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am - 6 pm. For further information and images, please contact the gallery at (t) 212.367.9663, or email: [jasmin@antonkerngallery.com](mailto:jasmin@antonkerngallery.com).

**Upcoming exhibition: Chris Martin (October 9 – November 15, 2014)**

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