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MARC FOXX

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GUDIO VAN DER WERVE

NUMMER ZEVENTIEN
KILLING TIME ATTEMPT ONE
FROM THE DEEPEST OCEAN TO THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN

14 JANUARY – 11 FEBRUARY 2017

MARC FOXX is pleased to present *Nummer zeventien killing time attempt one: from the deepest ocean to the highest mountain*, a two-channel video installation showing Dutch artist Guido van der Werve in a ten-hour performance action.

In *Nummer zeventien*, Van der Werve references two extreme sporting achievements: the climbing of Mount Everest, with its peak at 8,848 meters and the manned descent into the Atlantic Ocean's Mariana Trench, with its deepest point at 11,040 meters. In contrasting these two accomplishments with the domestic setting chosen for the film, Van der Werve transposes these spectacular feats into everyday life, transforming mundane gestures into Herculean acts of endurance.

Physical exertion and sport play a central role in Van der Werve's work, and his artistic and athletic practices have evolved simultaneously. Since 2007, Van Der Werve has competed in a number of marathons at an international level. Unlike traditional athletic achievements, the metaphorical "high" and "low" in *Nummer zeventien* are presented as equally worthy of the same sense of accomplishment. Both tasks are completed by performing a simple gesture in one place repeatedly for ten hours, and thus require acute mental and physical stamina. In this way, the artist conflates the two extremes of "high" and "low," and suggests perhaps that extreme ups and downs are both necessary in life, and therefore should not be looked at as inherently "good" or "bad."

Guido van der Werve was born in Papendrecht, the Netherlands in 1977 and currently lives and works in Finland, Amsterdam, and Berlin. Van der Werve pursued studies in industrial design, archaeology, music composition, and Russian language and literature at several universities in the Netherlands before beginning to create his first video documented performances around 2000. Since that time he has created a variety of works, including films, videos, and artist's books in chronological order from two to eighteen.

Recent showings of his work include solo exhibitions at the Kyoto City University Art Gallery, Kyoto; 14th *Istanbul Biennial*, Istanbul, Turkey; Museum of Contemporary Art, Cleveland; Hirshorn Museum, Washington DC; Museum of Modern Art, New York; the High Line, New York; the Giuliani Foundation, Rome; and de Hallen Haarlem in the Netherlands. His recent film, *nummer veertien, home*, won the 2013 Golden Calf award in Amsterdam for Best Short Film. The performance of his Requiem, *home*, written for this film, has been performed internationally several times, including in such cities as Moscow, Rome, and New York.