

Galerie Rompone

Tom Duimstra @Salone Rompone

22. April - 10. Juni 2023

“The use of ubiquitous materials and discarded objects is important to my artistic process, which involves manipulation and re-presenting objects in new contexts. I am interested in investigating the ways in which aesthetic value is created and assigned, by both the artist and the viewer. “

When you look at your oeuvre do you have subjects and themes that are constantly to be found in your sculptures?

„I’m not sure, I don’t really think about it, the work just emerges. The older I get the less I have to comment about it. I’m an artist, this is what I do, how I process the world. It’s everything and nothing.
Love, hate, destruction, redemption, hope, despair, life, death, car crashes.“

Why is the use of ubiquitous materials and discarded objects important to your artistic process ?

„It’s how I see the world. I’ll pick up an object, or see something that looks interesting, and start putting things together. This action leads to the next, there is a thread that connects the progression, but it is not a preconceived process. Everything is potentially interesting, it’s the context and presentation that change how it is experienced.“

Would you say that the found materials are comparable to words that all together form a sentence, a new statement ?

„Yes, that’s possible. (Maybe I’m a poet and I don’t know it.)
It seems as if it is important to you to show that different materials (as carriers of ideas) are put together. Because we often can see clips and brackets that hold together the different materials. Please comment on this !
I like to repurpose things. I find materials everywhere, pick things up off the street, or get things from demolition projects. I like repetition. I look for materials that are easily accessible, affordable (or free) so I end up using

things like staples, tape, wire, twine, wrappers, plastic.“

You were born in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The city is called the city of furniture. How important is wood in your work?

„It's not any more or less important than any other materials I use. I do prefer to paint on wood because I like the texture and solidity. I like wood for the ease with which it can be altered.“

Are there references in art history which are important to you?

„My art school was the art section of the library. I have many influences. As far as artistic movements, Art Brut, Cobra painters, Abstract Expressionism, Post Modernism and Minimalism are referenced in my work.“

Tom Duimstra:

*1951, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA

studierte an / studied at University of California at Berkeley.

Duimstra stellt seit Mitte der 1970er Jahre auf internationaler Ebene aus/
exhibiting his work internationally since the Mid 1970ties.

Eine seiner ersten Ausstellungen fand in der Race Street Gallery statt, die später das Urban Institute for Contemporary Art in Grand Rapids, Michigan wurde/

One of his earliest shows was at Race Street Gallery, which later became the Urban Institute for Contemporary Art, in Grand Rapids, MI.

Auswahl an jüngsten Museums- und Galerieausstellungen
selected recent museum and gallery shows:

Middlebury College Museum of Art, Middlebury, VT.

Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, Great Falls, MT.

Loveland Museum and Gallery, Loveland, CO.

Museum of the Southwest, Midland, TX

Boecker Contemporary, Heidelberg, Germany

Center Art Gallery, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI.

Divisible Projects, Dayton, OH

Hooks/Epstein Gallery, Houston TX.

Garde Rail Gallery, Seattle, WA.

Mars Gallery, Chicago, IL.

Gallery Gris Gris, Utrecht, Netherlands.

Tangent Gallery, Detroit, MI.

Terrace Gallery, London, England

Momenta Gallery, Brooklyn, NYC

Neon Heater Gallery, Findlay, OH

Space 776, Brooklyn, NY

Classroom, Coventry, United Kingdom

Galerie Rompone, Cologne, German

Objects Jump Sideways, Site:Lab,

Gridspace, Brooklyn, NY.

UICA, Grand Rapids, MI.