

A sensed perturbation

Nina Beier / Marie Lund
Manon de Boer
Matthew Buckingham
Alejandro Cesarco
Moyra Davey
Kenneth Goldsmith
Josh Shaddock

18 June – 31 July 2009

opening 18 June from 6 to 8 pm

Murray Guy is very pleased to present *A sensed perturbation*, an exhibition featuring recent work by Nina Beier and Marie Lund, Manon de Boer, Matthew Buckingham, Alejandro Cesarco, Moyra Davey, Kenneth Goldsmith, and Josh Shaddock, curated by Jacob King. Please join us for an opening reception on June 18 from 6 to 8 pm.

The works in this show are gestures that strive for attentiveness to affects, situations, atmosphere; finding forms amidst a sense of uncertainty.

In particular, these works evoke the practice of close reading espoused by New Criticism in the 1950s, which called for close attention to the internal dynamics of a text, to the denotation and connotations of language, to structures of paradox. Rather than imposing a theory upon a text, close reading aimed, at best, for a description of the phenomena it attempted to explain.

Simultaneously, though, these artists put pressure on the “closeness” of close reading—the implied proximity to a source—confounding flatness and plenitude, reflecting a disturbed sense of distance and time.

This exhibition takes its departure from, amongst others, Cleanth Brooks’ reading of John Donne; from Moyra Davey’s observation that she mixes “choice and chance somewhat scandalously”; from John Ashbery (cf. *For John Clare*, 1955); from a report on CNN that mindfulness can reduce stress; from Giorgio Agamben’s reflections on gesture—“What characterizes gesture is that in it nothing is being produced or acted, but rather something is being endured and supported”; from a concept of faciality; from Lauren Berlant’s description of “living in a stretched out ‘now’ that is at once both intimate and estranged.”

For more information or images, please call the gallery at 212-463-7372 or email at info@murrayguy.com. Gallery hours in June are Tues-Sat, 10am-6pm, and in July, Tues-Fri, 10am-6pm, as well as by appointment.

Nina Beier (b. 1975) and **Marie Lund** (b. 1976) live and work in London and Berlin. Recent exhibitions and events include, *Nought to Sixty*, ICA, London (2008), *Laughing in a Foreign Language*, Hayward Gallery, London (2008), and *Actions and Interruptions* at Tate Modern, London (2007).

Manon de Boer (b. 1966) lives and works in Brussels. She was recently the subject of a large survey at Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt (2008), and a solo exhibition at Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam (2008). She was included in the 5th Berlin Biennial (2008) as well as the 52nd Venice Biennale (2007).

Matthew Buckingham (b. 1963) lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. An extensive survey of his work, *Matthew Buckingham: Time Proxies*, will be on view this summer from June 30 – September 28 at the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid. Recent solo exhibitions include Index, Stockholm (2008); The Art Institute of Chicago (2008); the Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin (2007); and the traveling exhibition *Play the Story*, which originated at the Camden Arts Center, Camden, UK (2007).

Alejandro Cesarco (b. 1975) lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Recent solo exhibitions include *Now and Then*, Charles H. Scott Gallery, Vancouver (2009), *Once Within a Room*, New Langton Arts, San Francisco (2008), and, in collaboration with John Baldessari, *Retrospective*, Murray Guy, NY (2007). He will have a solo exhibition at Murray Guy in September, 2009.

Moyra Davey (b. 1958) lives and works in New York. She was recently the subject of a large survey at the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard, *Long Life Cool White*, coinciding with the publication of a book of her writings and photographs by the Yale University Press. She exhibited previously on many occasions with Colin de Land's gallery American Fine Arts, and, from 2006-2008, was a partner in the collaborative gallery Orchard.

Kenneth Goldsmith (b. 1961) lives and works in New York. As well as being an important conceptual poet, he is a founder of UbuWeb and senior editor of PENNsound. Goldsmith trained as a sculptor before turning to poetics. Recent books include *Sports* (2008), *Traffic* (2007), *The Weather* (2005), *Day* (2003), *Siloloquy* (2001), and *Fidget* (1999). He was recently awarded the The Anschutz Distinguished Fellow Professorship in American Studies at Princeton University.

Josh Shaddock (b. 1973) lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. He recently had a solo exhibition with Gallery C, a project space within Team Gallery, NY, and currently has work on view in *Second Look (At the Surface)*, Kunstlerhaus Palais Thurn und Taxis, Bregenz, Austria.