

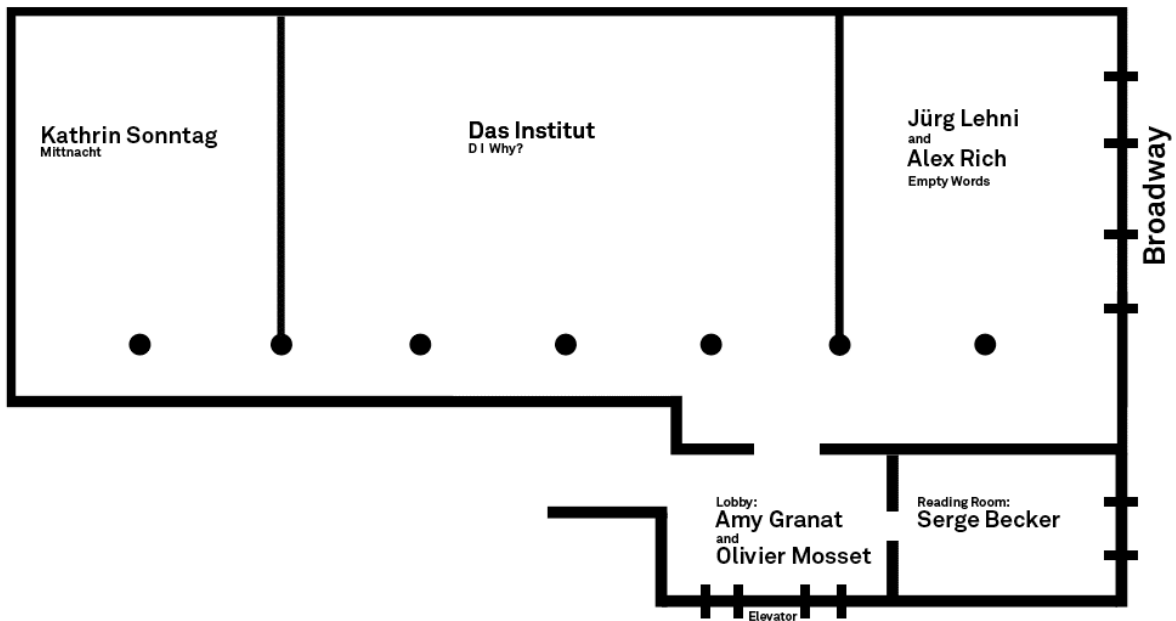
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# SI

*For Immediate Release*

September 19 - October 31 2009

## A New Era



### Lobby: Amy Granat / Olivier Mosset

SI presents a collaborative project between filmmaker Amy Granat (born 1976, lives in New York City) and painter Olivier Mosset (born in 1944, lives in New York City and Tucson). The two artists designed the wallpaper that covers the lobby walls; the pink pattern combines Mosset's famous dot motif with a strip of Granat's unwound film.

[www.wallpapersbyartists.com](http://www.wallpapersbyartists.com)

### Reading Room: Serge Becker

Serge Becker (born 1961, lives in New York City) is a graphic and an interior designer, as well as a creative entrepreneur. In short, he is a downtown New York City legend. Upon receiving carte blanche from the SI, Becker created a traditional reading room with unconventional means. Constructed of mylar, the bookshelves in the reading room draw from sources as diverse as library and Op-art. Becker's project innovates the mundane to challenge our perceptions of the everyday.

### Jürg Lehni and Alex Rich

#### Empty Words

The work of Jürg Lehni and Alex Rich (born 1978 / 1977, live in London and Cardiff) playfully addresses the development of printing technology, as well as

*turn page*

the interface between machine and user. In *Empty Words* (2009), a plotter punches characters into paper, mechanically visualizing the artists' favorite song titles. The sheets are installed as a narrative panorama on the gallery walls. Visitors are invited to produce their own artworks and to find the balance between auto-manifestation and technological constraint.

## Das Institut

### D I Why?

DAS INSTITUT is an import/export agency founded in 2007 by Kerstin Brätsch and Adele Röder (born 1979 / 1980, live in New York City). Their collaboration characterizes advertising strategies to manipulate and exchange information. Comprised of paintings by Kerstin Brätsch and computer-generated images by Adele Röder, the exhibition *D I WHY?* is set in a context of reproduction (copy), advertisement (announcement) and branding (pattern). The trade mode of DAS INSTITUT develops products such as printed reproductions, silkscreened fabrics, posters, napkins and stickers.

For *D I Why?* DAS INSTITUT invited five friends to contribute artworks. Displayed alongside D I's printed matter is a video by Jeremy Eilers, an artist's catalog by Urania Fasoulidou, three drawings by Nikolas Gambaroff, an object by Allison Katz, and two photographs by Lucas Knipscher.

## Kathrin Sonntag

### Mittnacht

Kathrin Sonntag (born 1981, lives in Berlin) uses common objects and situations in a multitude of mediums such as sculpture, photography, film and drawing. She undermines their reading to elicit the moment "when abstraction hits everyday life". The 81 black and white slides of *Mittnacht* (Midnight) (2008) were photographed in the artist's studio and employ images connected to paranormal phenomena. Reminiscent of the spiritualist photography of the 19th century, these *mise-en-scenes* generate reflections through mirrored surfaces and glass objects. *Mittnacht* generates a proliferation of mental projections and thereby explores photography as a ghostly medium.

## About Us

The Swiss Institute is a not-for-profit contemporary art gallery operating in New York City since 1986. As a truly international space, we occupy an ambitious, boundary-crossing role fostering interaction between American, Swiss and European artists and audiences. Our institution works like a European Kunsthalle, presenting cutting-edge art within a forward-thinking intellectual framework. Because we have no collection and no responsibilities to the art market, all our energy goes towards the realization of artistic and curatorial projects. An additional vital part of our programming is an ambitious series of events creating crucial opportunities to weave contemporary art into the fabric of everyday life.

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