

**Jeroen de Rijke / Willem de Rooij**

“Forever and Ever”

10 September – 30 October 1999

opening reception on Friday, 10 September 1999, 7-9pm

The Dutch artists Jeroen de Rijke (\*1970) and Willern de Rooij (\*1969) present their 16mm-film “Forever and Ever” at Galerie Daniel Buchholz. The film has been produced during the artists’ stay in India in 1995. Bombay and its vicinity, where all four short narratives are filmed, is less interpreted as an exotic set of a cinematic event, but rather as the place of Indian Bollywood film production, apart from Hollywood the world’s largest film industry.

Within their interest in the emotional vocabulary of classical Hollywood film, which appears to be even more exaggerated in Indian cinema, the artists develop here a kind of abstract frame of sentimental set-ups in four sequences. All four places, where the scenes were shot, are references to four cinematic patterns of narration.

“The first camera movement always describes a topography of seeing when constructing a space where the scene of presentation is tied to the look on this scene. Here, this first space is entirely fixed to painting, when “Forever and Ever” starts with a slow pan-shot over an Indian bay called “The Queen’s Necklace” where the line of the horizon is exactly in the middle of the image. Heaven and sea both almost monochromely overlap as abstract blue surfaces; even when the urban skyline comes into view blue remains the dominant colour. Because of the widely opened aperture the panorama the slow pan-shot delineates loses all depth and horizon.” (Vanessa Joan Müller)

“Contexts are indeed not completely eliminated but reduced to a minimum. The bay is a promise, the landscape is a setting for a detective novel, the house offers diffuse suspense and the camp-fire an intimacy (...). The genre sets standards, the rest are images and their polysemy; sense only results from overlapping layers of chance and meaning. In the end, this fixation on space and time seized patterns of disposition but also the way of appropriating reality, which comes up to a loss of reality. Therefore also the vague emotion of melancholy, of loss in the abstraction of all unequivocal in the world of unstable signs.” (Vanessa Joan Müller)

At the opening the film will be screened at 7, 7.45 and 8.30pm, after that it will be screened during opening hours of the gallery Tuesday-Friday 11am-6pm and Saturday 11am-3pm.