

Meredith Rosen Gallery

Meredith Rosen Gallery is pleased to present *Installation*, a new Transformation-installation by Guillaume Bijl. The show opens on Saturday, September 10th and remains on view through October 23.

Since 1979, Guillaume Bijl has contended with the status of exhibition space through his *Transformation*-installations by meticulously reconstructing gallery spaces into a *Casino* (1984), a *Secondhand Cars* dealership (1984), a *Fitness Center* (1984), a *Shooting Gallery* (1985), among others. Each *Transformation*-installation is site specific, taking into account the architecture of the space and context of the location within a city. The gallery becomes displaced with a replica of an existing type of space. The precision of Bijl's practice places the viewer in a disorienting scenario, wherein objects hover between the illusion of their expected setting and their situation as art objects. Bijl's *Transformation*-installations have dealt with subjects as wide ranging as church, education, army, travelling, building, careerism, sex, psychiatry, and the rut of blue-collar existence. By foregrounding the lack of function within the art space, Bijl's *Transformation*-installations suggest their reality as a fictional space. *Installation* shows what should not happen to the art space, he shows a sort of archeology of civilization in the present moment. This is the first exhibition of Guillaume Bijl in New York in over three decades.

Guillaume Bijl (b. 1946 Antwerp, Belgium) has been included in numerous solo and group exhibitions internationally, including the Paris Biennial (1982), Kunsthalle Bern (1986), Belgian Pavillion - Venice Biennial (1988), New Museum, New York (1989), Documenta 9, Kassel (1992), Skulptur Projekte, Münster (2007), 11th Lyon Biennial (2011), Istanbul Biennial (2013) and Manifesta 11, Zürich (2016). Recently he has taken part in the following projects: *Beaufort* (2018), the Adriaen Brouwer year, Oudenaarde (2018), *Play*, Kortrijk (2018), Félicien Rops Museum, Namur (2018), *Power to the People*, Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt (2018), the Bruegel year, Dilbeek (2019) Bijl's work will be shown at Centre Pompidou, Shanghai (2021) and Draxler Gallery (2022) This is his first exhibition with Meredith Rosen Gallery.