

"An entire city of museums would be nice, each stuck in its own time." Mark Dion

Since the 1980s Mark Dion makes art that deals with the cultural representation of nature. Nature, the artist once said in an interview, is one of the most sophisticated arenas for the production of ideology. Dion's work addresses the ideological inclinations of cultural codes of both, of common behavior and highly specialized knowledge (science). The objects he uses for his installations include books, toys, objects trouvés, skeletons and stuffed animals (real and fake), stranded goods, tools, and so on. His passion for museums, especially those of the 19th Century, which, in Dion's opinion, should never be modernized but stay as a historical expression of the thinking (culture/politics/ideology) of their particular time, strongly influences his preferred artistic form of presentation: the collection.

His present exhibition at Galerie Christian Nagel Berlin can be seen as a micro retrospective that spans over twenty-one years of this work with a focus on sculpture.

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