

“It is not important to understand what I am doing. It is perhaps better if the audience don’t understand it. What is important is what they feel.” Kazuo Ohno

The Galerie Bernd Kugler is delighted to present in its gallery space the fourth solo exhibition of new works by Holger Endres , 01 / Magenta Black White (Homage to Kazuo Ohno).

What does the artist perceive, and what happens, when he trains his full attention on painting lines, producing in this way mural painting filling the entire space in a process lasting five days? Holger Endres will paint in an alternating sequence first a vertical black line and then a vertical white line on the walls primed in magenta. In a working process expected to last 45 hours, the 36m long, 2.80m high walls to be painted will be transformed into a forum for enquiry into the meaning of life, for the interplay between space and time, life and death, joy and mourning.

Commencing at the upper edge of the painting surface, Endres will draw his lines freehand allowing them to run into the magenta. A small interstitial space will be created between the black lines and the white lines, so that they do not meet one another. His body will be entirely focused on painting the lines. A rhythm will be generated in this way, impelling Endres forward step by step. His consciousness and perception will shift. Energy will be produced as a result of his physical and mental efforts. He will observe himself. His experience, his thoughts and his internal imagery will flow into the act of painting. Will space and time resolve themselves in the process?

At the end of each day, Holger Endres will encapsulate its essence on a small canvas. Five works will be produced, capturing the energy and will power of the day, ensuring the continued existence of the ephemeral mural painting.

The work, 01 / Magenta Black White is an homage to the famous Butoh dancer, Kazuo Ohno, who died aged 103 on 1.6. 2010.

Butoh is a dance without set forms. The dancer develops his dance technique by means of experience and via his own body. The themes associated with Butoh are birth, life and death. “Who am I? What am I? What is the world? What is the cosmos? What is the universe?”- these are recurring questions and are reflected in the philosophical approach of the dance. Endres takes up these themes in his artworks. Central to his work is an interrogation of his existence, the justification for it and the opportunities afforded by it.

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