

SWISSINSTITUTE / CONTEMPORARY ART  
495 BROADWAY / 3RD FLOOR  
NEW YORK / NY 10012  
TEL 212.925.2035  
WWW.SWISSINSTITUTE.NET



*For Immediate Release*

## Under Destruction I-III

Nina Beier and Marie Lund, Monica Bonvicini, Pavel Büchler, Nina Canell, Jimmie Durham, Alex Hubbard, Alexander Gutke, Martin Kersels, Michael Landy, Liz Larner, Christian Marclay, Kris Martin, Ariel Orozco, Michael Sailstorfer, Arcangelo Sassolino, Jonathan Schipper, Ariel Schlesinger, Roman Signer, Johannes Vogl

Curated by Gianni Jetzer and Chris Sharp

*Under Destruction* is a group exhibition featuring 20 internationally renowned contemporary artists that examine the use and role of destruction in today's art. Fifty-one years after Swiss artist Jean Tinguely's historic auto-destructive machine *Homage to New York* at MoMA (1960) the present exhibition proposes a series of alternative approaches to the theme of destruction. Initially presented at the Museum Tinguely in Basel in one large exhibition in 2010, *Under Destruction* will be divided into three successive chapters for its incarnation at the Swiss Institute. Varying significantly from one another, each chapter will feature works loosely grouped together as much according to theme as to mood, and, although each chapter will function as an autonomous exhibition, three separate visits will be required to grasp the exhibition as a whole. This factor inevitably reflects the progressive, time-based nature of its subject matter while describing the narrative arc that links the three parts together.

### **Under Destruction, Chapter I: April 6 to May 8 | Opening Tuesday April 5, 6–8PM**

The first part introduces destruction in some of its subtlest forms, exhibiting works whose destructive character and process seem to be either all but concealed or carefully controlled. *With artworks by Nina Beier and Marie Lund, Monica Bonvicini, Pavel Büchler, Nina Canell, Alex Hubbard, and Michael Sailstorfer.*

### **Under Destruction, Chapter II: May 18 to June 19 | Opening Tuesday May 17, 6–8PM**

Part two is more oriented toward cyclical issues of consumption and spectacle. It can be seen as the crescendo of the exhibition. Here, destruction assumes the more aggressive and dramatic character one might normally associate with it. *With artworks by Jimmie Durham, Martin Kersels, Michael Landy, Liz Larner, Christian Marclay, Ariel Orozco, Arcangelo Sassolino, Roman Signer, and Johannes Vogl.*

### **Under Destruction, Chapter III: June 29 to August 7 | Opening Tuesday June 28, 6–8PM**

The third and final part can be read as the dénouement of the exhibition. Paired down to a comparatively restrained, but no less powerful selection of works, it foregrounds the theme of the *memento mori* present in all three parts. *With artworks by Alexander Gutke, Kris Martin, Jonathan Schipper, Ariel Schlesinger, and Roman Signer.*

In conjunction with the exhibition, a catalog, edited by Gianni Jetzer and Chris Sharp has been published by Distanz, with texts by Barbara Casavecchia, Boris Groys, Martin Herbert, Justin Hoffmann, Gianni Jetzer, Piper Marshall, Chris Sharp, Roland Wetzels, and Michael Wilson.

The exhibition is a cooperation with Museum Tinguely, Basel. It is made possible with the support of George Foundation, Winterthur and Pro Helvetia, Swiss Cultural Council.

A longer press release is available upon request. For press inquiries please contact Piper Marshall, [piper@swissinstitute.net](mailto:piper@swissinstitute.net)

**Please note our new opening hours: Wednesday to Sunday noon to 6PM**