

Difference, what difference?

**JOSEF KRAMHÖLLER
VERENA PFISTERER
ELMAR ZIMMERMANN**

The presence of Galerie Kienzle & Gmeiner during Art Forum Berlin is twofold:

Exclusively in the context of the special exhibition **Difference, what Difference?** curated by Hans-Jürgen Hafner, works by Josef Kramhöller, Verena Pfisterer and Elmar Zimmermann will be exhibited in Kienzle & Gmeiner's booth.

At the same time – not far from the Messe Berlin – Galerie Kienzle & Gmeiner's real exhibition booth can be found, with the exhibition **Out of Line** located in the gallery space itself. Here, artists who the gallery has been working with for many years will be presented:

François Joseph Chabrilat, Klaus Merkel and Gary Stephan. The gallery will also provide a glimpse of its most recent activities with contributions by Marieta Chirulescu, Michael Hakimi, Claudia Kugler, Bertold Mathes, Eva-Maria Raschpichler and Kerstin Stoll.

In just a few, extremely productive creative years, **Josef Kramhöller** (1968-2000), who has his roots in the medium of painting, tackled fundamental questions regarding the representation and the concrete analysis of social and economic relationships using not only a number of different media but also his own body, so to speak. Thus the question he posed: "How to colonise colonised spaces?" led him to create the series of photos presented at Art Forum, showing his own fingerprints on the windowpanes of luxury boutiques. And in repeated drawings he has freed Clara Schumann of her role as a monetary icon following her portrayal on the hundred-mark note.

The decollages of street posters, presented in the exhibition *Out of Line* also bear witness to Kramhöller's appropriation strategy that takes a critical approach to society, and which he combines in his works with the informal-gestural style that originates from his time as a student in Munich.

With the presentation of **Verena Pfisterer** (*1941) at Art Forum we will show an artist who has made a conscious decision to withdraw from the economic mechanisms of the art scene since graduating from the Academy of Art Düsseldorf in 1967. Within the context of the art fair, this approach is humorously expressed in the reconstruction of the installation she created for the happening 'Frisches' – a collaboration between Joseph Beuys, Jörg Immendorff, Chris Reinecke and Franz Erhard Walther. At the same time, the installation is a reference to the designs for experiential spaces the artist subsequently created, which can also be seen in the exhibition *Out of Line*; spaces which, according to Pfisterer, are indebted in a sensual manner to the "utopian goal of transforming the processes of consciousness."

At Art Forum three objects by the Karlsruhe artist **Elmar Zimmermann** (*1976) will be shown, which are representative for his method of working with found materials. A crate found on the street is reinterpreted as a miniature museum while cloths collected from colleagues who are painters have been sewn together to form a soft geometric panel painting, and a painting found at the flea market has been sawn up and reassembled. Hans-Jürgen Hafner writes about the independent life of Zimmermann's objets trouvés: "Here, history becomes a surface, a kind of patina, which is always communicated in some way by Elmar Zimmermann's works, sometimes being merely permitted, at other times consciously staged."