



Sign In
Gallery Membership / Newsletter
About us
Forum/Classifieds

Exhibitions

Artists Exhibitions Galleries



Sammy Engramer - Space Limit 15.2. - 29.3.

traversée Zeitgenössische Kunst, Türkenstrasse 11, 80333 Munich, Germany
city map
hotel accommodation

traversée Zeitgenössische Kunst

Sammy Engramer's work, which bears a spiritual kinship to conceptual art and the singular posture of Marcel Broodthaers, questions the relationships between art and language by mining the unconscious, equivocal, and humorous. Engramer's puns manifest themselves in painting, sculpture, and photography, but also in books and videos. No matter the medium, his work invariably concentrates on the object as such, which it implements with utmost precision and an eye for optimum simplicity, verging on the ready-made, in an attempt to avoid a personal "signature", a particular "style", or even thematic continuity.

Engramer's works initially derive from conceptual and sculptural intentions: What is an image in and of itself? What exactly is an artwork - objectively speaking? Playing with appearances allows the artist to evacuate an object's conventional or symbolical signification, and extract from it analogies, redundancies, or contradictions, be they formal, chromatic, or linguistic. It's only afterwards that he reflects on the critical (or even political) content produced, for instance, by the juxtaposition of different works.

The decision to leave things open-ended also allows Engramer to adopt several perspectives at once. He thus takes an "objectivist" stance prone to uncovering latent, forgotten, or buried interpretations. The signs he manipulates without too much sophistication are more of an indication than a revealing image. Engramer rather creates frameworks into which spectators are invited to project content, as in Park, a square-shaped arrangement of four crowd barriers at 1/2 scale evoking a playpen, outlining an empty space that functions like a training ground for one's imagination.

While each work is created autonomously, Engramer never hesitates to display them together, clustered around a general theme that will invest them with new meaning - until the next exhibition.

While understood, the thematic complex for Engramer's exhibition at Traversée gallery - art/money/politics - will simply serve to connect the works among each other, as the artist in no way premeditates the resonances generated by the coexistence of works, some of which have been produced at ten years' interval.

Connections are nevertheless visible, such as an obvious obsession with holes. From the random perforation of a Monet painting (Pièces de Monet) to ostrich eggs with nine holes corresponding to the nine orifices in the human body (Neuf) and the identical holes on the upper part of all the keys in the eponymous series of 19 small paintings (Keys), the void drawn by the absolute form - the circle - literally begs to be filled with the countless psychoanalytical solutions at hand.

Whenever the exhibition addresses politics, it adopts a martial, a pessimistic perspective. The four-metre-long music score of a military march by Franz Schubert is thus composed of heads of hanged people in lieu of round-shaped notes, a danse macabre echoed by A Great Opening to the XXIst Century, a collection of metal casts of religious and ideological signs scattered in a dustbin - a rather expeditious if not anarchist gathering yet an efficient commentary on the great theories that have both dominated the history of the 20th century and exterminated a substantial part of mankind. Bank, a Marx Brothers or cartoon pistol, communicates the same spontaneity than the "Bank!" sign in slot machines. This object clearly associates the pistol with money, and money with armed robbery. In Love of Money of Love..., an LED display with crawling text, **Sammy Engramer** reunites the two institutions of power whose driving principle is enshrined in the word "owning". The steady flow of words is similar to the effect of hypnotic and enticing music, money and love being two concepts that turn heads around, like the frenzied waltz to which the artist invites us.

For **Sammy Engramer's** second exhibition in Germany, Traversée gallery has decided to present a dozen, mostly new works.
(Text: Eric Foucoult, Translation from french: Patrick Kremer)

[Email this page](#)



Participating Artists:

Sammy Engramer



[Ads by Google](#)

Resale Glass Exchange

Secondary market - fine art glass Venue for the buyer & the seller

www.glassart-exchange.com



Amazon.com



Music from the Motion Picture "Purple Rain" Prince & the New Power Generation



N.E.W.S. Prince New \$16.98



Beguiled by the Wild Charley Harper New \$32.97



Prince Prince New \$17.99

[Privacy Information](#)



top