

Eberhard Bosslet

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David Buob, review generator, 2005

bosslet:

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bosslet: A constant for -based artist bosslet is the idea of connection and its absence, which he uses to create projects that focus on imaginative power rather than on the object or image itself. One could say that his works function as devices to see what does not appear.

This is exactly why his older work is so interesting to view today and why his new series of works yet again gives us an insight into the workings of the history of art in contemporary artistic developments. bosslet makes unexpected connections precisely between the trivial and the elevated, the serious and the absurd, history and personal observation - something we can also observe in his oeuvre as a whole. These oppositions, or rather contradictions, within reality (life, art, the world...) are what fascinates him and what he translates in a highly personal manner.

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Bosslet: supporting measures

This particular quality is additionally underscored by enigmatic titles. In his choice of titles, Bosslet makes a phonetic link between the image and the name; at the same time this act of naming gives the work a portrait-like character.

In his work the artist seeks to address the problem of representation and the difficulty of attaching meaning to experience. Bosslet's tendency to shift between different media highlights the inadequacy of the tools to hand, he frequently uses scraps of words and images arranged in open-ended configurations to describe the loose and associative process by which sense is given to things.

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Bosslet: vespa color

Bosslet suggests that behaviour is as directed by external contexts as it is by internal motivation, and studies this dynamic by creating an empty space between intent and action, between will and idiosyncrasy. Socially determined patterns of expectations about human behaviour are dislocated through a denial of all motivation or conclusion. Our perceptions are driven by these expectations. What happens when they are not complied with? Such are the questions that confront us as viewers: How do we recognize meaning in behaviour? What are the rules for evaluating social behaviour? How is our own behaviour determined? By focusing on the tensions between individuals and collective identity or behaviour, the viewer is challenged to evaluate his own actions and perceptions. The unstable systems that Bosslet creates bring into question all the theories on which our lives and our behaviour are contingent.

There is wit as well as prophecy in Bosslet's vision, and he uses irony as a way of slipping past our guard, his creative process connects Bosslet to other artists of his generation, who also worked outside the mainstream to address its ills. A redemptive art, Bosslet's works makes us smile, and it makes us think. It's a potent combination.

In his work, Bosslet combines a both emotional and physical approach with analytical precision in an extraordinary way. This equally emotional, physical and intellectual level of perception to which he transports himself and the viewer is never the arena of a collective but always of a very intimate, personal experience - an exploration of both the relationship between artist and artwork and the relationship between artwork and viewer.

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