



ABA ART CONTEMPORANI

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Aba Art Contemporani presents

Katharina Pfeil

Bios

Basic Input Output System

Opening night Thursday, 18 September 2008 20:00h
(NIT DE L'ART 08)

Exhibition 19 September – 22 November 2008

ABA Art Contemporani has the pleasure to introduce to you the first individual exhibition of the artist KATHARINA PFEIL (Cologne, Germany 1968).

The title “BIOS, Basic Input Output System”, and its installations, objects, paintings and artworks on paper take us through the elementary processes of the human being and the nature. Through the destruction, construction, suffering and liberation, Pfeil investigates the cyclical and existential transformations, which are necessary to the human being and his evolution. As the artist says “If we combine the fear of change, the pressure of wanting to be perfect and the fear of not being perfect, the outcome is a delay or an obstruction in a necessary evolution”.

The word BIOS signifies “Basic Input Output System” in the computer science language. BIOS can also have the Greek meaning of “life” and for the artist the final -s in the word signifies not only a system, but also a “sphere”, in other words a space, a surrounding or an environment.

Starting with this concept, all the works of Katharina Pfeil are based around the BIOS. The idea of Katharina Pfeil’s BIOS originates in the day when she found a simple object on the floor in her house. It was a very simple object, with two openings that looked like hollow, empty canals through which it was easy to input something from one side and output something from the other side. It was an object, which could receive something. This object perfectly explains the concept of BIOS: the two openings symbolise the INPUT/OUTPUT, while the hollow/empty space symbolises the different processes and vital transformations of the human being.

Pfeil works with HORIZONTAL BIOS because the first cylindrical and horizontal object she found in her house influenced the ideas behind her artworks. The idea of VERTICAL BIOS came afterwards. It is the kind of BIOS that we are more used to, as people,



plants, animals, products and all the objects of our everyday life are more often vertical than horizontal. The artworks and installations that you will discover during this exhibition show us this system of two openings, the input/output and the processes that exist in the hollows of each piece. For the artist, these processes symbolise the ignorance, the exaggeration and omission in the acts of human beings.

Katharina Pfeil works with Earthy materials, such as hydraulic lime, plaster, chalk, coal, wood, canvas, paper etc., which are all simple and artisan materials.



Since a little girl Katharina Pfeil had the need to express herself in an artistic way. She expressed her ideas through drawings, stories or melodies. Soon she was attracted by ceramics, painting, illustration and design, but she decided to specialize in scenery in San Francisco. Since 19 years old, the artist worked creating sceneries for the theatre and the cinema, learning how to combine different kinds of materials. When Katharina returned to Germany, she established a restaurant company and in 1996 she opened, together with other artists, a studio in Cologne where she started her first experience as an artist. This is where she had the opportunity to exhibit her works during the “open door studios”. In 1999 Katharina moved to Mallorca where she now lives. Since this, the island has become the primary scene for her creations.