

MATTEAWAN GALLERY

For Immediate Release:

Björn Meyer-Ebrecht: Constructions

May 4 – June 1, 2013

Opening Reception Saturday, May 4, 5-8 pm

Beacon, NY, April 26, 2013 - Matteawan Gallery is pleased to present Björn Meyer-Ebrecht: *Constructions*. *Constructions* runs through June 1, 2013, and features works in several mediums, including painting, sculpture, and collage.

For this exhibition, Björn Meyer-Ebrecht created a group of wooden floor sculptures that are meant to be walked on, becoming part of the gallery itself. These works relate to an ongoing interest in architecture and how it engages with people and the world around them. Meyer-Ebrecht views architecture as not simply a means in itself, but understands it, in his words, “as an imprint of society, just as a chair can be seen as the imprint of the human body.” In this regard, architecture is nothing less than a document of social ideas and historic shifts in culture.

For Meyer-Ebrecht, architecture doesn't need to be on a grand scale, but can be a simple structure that defines a space. The painting *Untitled (market stall)* features two men assembling a wooden framework in a public square. In this work, parts of a photograph are painted over with red, yellow, blue, and gray forms, obscuring what is below while creating a new image. In Meyer-Ebrecht's chair collages, two different photographs of chairs from an architecture book are cut on a diagonal line and joined together. The resulting image is both familiar and strange, as the chair becomes useless and a new abstract image is created.

Wall-mounted book cover sculptures complete the exhibition. In these works the pages of a book are removed, and the cover is cut into pieces and reassembled. Meyer-Ebrecht explains that he was thinking about the book's own architecture “...with the cloth-cover functioning as a façade of sorts. By cutting the book cover apart and reassembling it in the shape of an illusionistic, opened book, I created an object that...exists simultaneously as an abstract shape, the iconic image of a book, and also still as the book itself.”

The various works in the exhibition relate to each other in the use of color and geometric shapes, the references to architecture, and through an interest in books as a material and inspiration. The common threads linking his work together through different media and forms are very important to Meyer-Ebrecht: “I set up certain rules for each group of work, and then am able to play freely within these confines. Often quite literally one is able to recognize building blocks in my work, and it always relies on very simple methods of construction.”

Björn Meyer-Ebrecht received an MFA from Hunter College and studied Fine Art at Universität der Künste Berlin (Berlin University of the Arts), Berlin, Germany. He currently lives in New York City and has exhibited in New York, the US and Internationally.

Gallery hours are Friday and Saturday from 12-5, and Sunday by appointment. For additional information please visit www.matteawan.com or contact Karlyn Benson, info@matteawan.com or 845-440-7901.