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Loft8 - Galerie in der Brotfabrik presents Maria Muñoz at „Another Destination“

Loft8 – Galerie in der Brotfabrik presents at the *Parallel Vienna 2015* the Chilean artist Maria Muñoz. For this year's „*Another Destination*“ exhibition two art pieces by Muñoz, who works in the media of drawing, sculpture and installation, have been chosen. *Progression of Color* and *Interruption* are the representatives of her sculptural efforts, in which she explores the possibilities of the rendering of the material for the purpose of the creation of the new poetic reality. She performs this aim by means of abstract geometric art.

Muñoz is preoccupied with the searching of the inner structure of the space - she is dealing with the questions of the proportions, geometry, movement, time and their effects on the viewer. Her means of expression consist of the basic geometrical elements, the colour and the material she uses. The starting point for her work is the carefully chosen material. She prefers "organic" and "lively" materials as wood, usually bought in the building supply store.

Two basic geometrical elements play the main role in Muñoz's works: the lines and the surfaces. They are characterized by the artist herself in the opposing terms. The line stands for an allusion on emptiness and absence of the body. On the other hand, the surface is associated with the volume, presence and the mass. The one-dimensional lines and the two-dimensional surfaces are compiled together into her dynamic-looking three-dimensional pieces. The objects are painted in colours, which should relate to the place and to the movement of the body of the viewer. The inner dynamics of the objects consist of the relationships between these basic elements. Two works exhibited at *Parallel Vienna 2015* are the variations of the previous object installations, in which Muñoz develops her thoughts about space.

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In the *Progression of Color* (2015) Muñoz is playing with the borders of two and three-dimensionality. She performs that by means of a simple construction, which resembles at the first sight a wooden toy or a brain teaser. The placement of the work on the wall, usually reserved for the flat medium of painting, is challenged through the plastic forms of this rhombus. The wooden pieces were cut under the flat-looking angle. The prominent place is devoted to the colour, which opposes the flatness and brings the deepness through the graduated purple-blue hues. *Progression of Color* is not linear, it has neither beginning, nor end.



Maria Muñoz, Progression of Color, 2015, Plywood, wooden slats, acrylic paint, acrylic lacquer, enamel, 130 x 80 cm, © Maria Muñoz



Although graduate painter Muñoz abandoned the medium of painting, her approach to the three-dimensional work ***Interruption*** (2015) could be described as painterly. She works by means of painted lines and surfaces, but within the space. *Interruption* is a site-specific installation, which reacts to the given room. It consists of three bent and painted arcs of plywood. It defines the space in the new way, interrupts the orthogonal character of room and cuts it into pieces with the colourful slabs. The interrupted circular shapes of arcs attract our attention and ask for the completion. This need could be described, according to the Gestalt psychology, as the "law of closure". The similar optical illusions had been explored on the canvas by op-art, whose Chilean representative Matilde Pérez influenced the work of Muñoz. Muñoz's artistic inspiration stems from the Russian constructivism, abstract geometric art and minimalism. She constantly re-evaluates them in her conceptual analysis of the space, which she began during her art studies in Europe.



Maria Muñoz, Interruption, 2013, exhibition view, Kunsthalle M3, Mengerzeile, Berlin, Plywood, acrylic paint, acrylic lacquer, dimensions variable, 3 parts, © Maria Muñoz



Maria Muñoz (*1980) is an artist from Chile, currently based in Berlin. She studied philosophy at the University Alberto Hurtado in Santiago de Chile for a year. In 2012 she graduated with honours from the University of Arts in Berlin, where she studied painting in the class of prof. Robert Lucander. Recently, her works were exhibited at the group show „SALOON“ at Sexauer Gallery in Berlin or in 2014 at „Migrant I“ at Zhong Gallery in Berlin. Muñoz was presented for the first time in Vienna as an artist in residence at the exhibition „DU UND ICH IM QUADRAT“ at Loft8 in 2013. The artwork **Untitled (PAL300)** has been since July 2014 an integral part of the *Kunst im öffentlichen Raum Wien* in the student dormitory Donau Base, Kaisermühlenstraße 14 in Vienna.



Loft8 - Galerie in der Brotfabrik is a platform and a gallery for the new positions of Austrian and international art. Since 2013 the gallery has been running the solo and group exhibitions of the younger Austrian and international artists with the focus on the media of painting, graphic arts, sculpture and installation.

At *Parallel Vienna 2014* Loft8 presented the artists Oliver Kropf, Federico Vecchi and Nicolas Dellamartina.



For further inquiries:

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Abb.1:

Maria Muñoz, Progression of Color, 2015, Sperrholz, Holzlatten, Acrylfarbe, Acryllack, Emaille, 130 x 80 cm, © Maria Muñoz

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Abb.2:

Maria Muñoz, Interruption, 2013, Ausstellungsansicht Kunsthalle M3, Mengerzeile, Berlin, Sperrholz, Acrylfarbe, Acryllack, Maße variabel, 3-teilig, © Maria Muñoz

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