

GALERIE RÜDIGER SCHÖTTLE

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**Steven Claydon
The Ground Is Good**

3rd July – 1st August 2009

Opening: Thursday, 2nd July 2009, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.



"The Ground Is Good" is concerned with the fragments revolving around the problems of deploying materials, artifacts and documents, and with their subsequent manifestation as an array – from the squelching material genesis as indivisible substrate via the condescension inherent in the hierarchies of production and conferred status to an aimless inspection of the

shifting institutional and archival trends that influence the taxonomies of display.

The presentation is an attempt at artificial re-pupation (from moth to caterpillar) using tools from a very particular and depleted arsenal. The works create a temporary climate in which to examine the vacillation between 'earth' (material) and 'world' (culture). Dionysus versus Apollo. Then there is the conceit of hindsight that we, in the late Holocene, employ as a historical perspective in order to commodify, reorder and digest the recent and distant past.

This constructed (fictional) retrospective apparatus is of course self-serving, lineal, insufficient and more or less unusable. So what? The ground is good.

Steven Claydon

Steven Claydon, also known to many as a musician in the all-electronic band Add N to (X), was born in 1969 in London, where he still lives and works. His last exhibition in Munich took place in 2007, when he participated in a sculpture exhibition at the Rüdiger Schöttle Gallery. He will be taking part in a group exhibition - "Goldene Zeiten" – at the Haus der Kunst in Munich in 2010.

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Alastair MacKinven

ABSTRACT CAPITALIST REALISM - dark side of the wall

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The title given by the artist Alastair MacKinven to his first exhibition at the Rüdiger Schöttle Gallery is "Abstract Capitalist Realism". The nucleus of the exhibition will be a series of silk screen prints showing the patterns familiar to us from the opaquely patterned insides of envelopes from banks and commercial companies: the enlarged, closely meshed ornaments – otherwise serving for data protection – are here combined with flame patterns and rows of numerals to form abstract images.



*"As the **realism** part of the title implies, I am making POP paintings that are not only abstract patterns but also relate to very **real** elemental forces: gas for heat – water – payment for the roof over my head. Undeniable **realism**. As the economy has altered over the last year, the abstract nature of money and value has become apparent to the wider world, somewhat of a paradox, **an abstract realism**."*

Alastair MacKinven

On the evening of the opening of the exhibition, the artist will make the daring attempt, with the aid of his installation "The Exorcism of the Spirit – Terrestrial Survivalism", to turn twelve bottles of consecrated wine into clear water.

Alastair MacKinven's oeuvre comprises painting, installations, performance and video art. He was born in Clatterbridge in 1971 and lives and works in London.