

GALERIE RÜDIGER SCHÖTTLE

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Dan Graham / Jeppe Hein
From Seriousness to Silliness

July 9 until August 9, 2008

Opening reception: Tuesday, July 8, 2008, 7 – 9 p.m.

The American artist **Dan Graham** (born in Urbana, Illinois, in 1942) is famous for his architectural sculptures in the form of complex glass pavilions. These pavilions are based on simple geometrical forms and are walk-in structures of metal and two-way reflective glass. They operate as instruments of perception and awaken a complexity of associations in the viewer. As early as the 1960s, this conceptual artist was already causing an international stir with his performances, installations, video and film pieces, photographs and theoretical writings. Dan Graham has been working with the Rüdiger Schöttle Gallery since 1979.

The works of the Danish artist **Jeppe Hein** (born in Copenhagen in 1974) likewise question the spatial and institutional structures of art. They often operate as interactive installations that confront the viewer with completely new physical and spatial experiences. A typical example is his fountain installation with four curtains of water arranged in a square. As the viewer approaches, the water “collapses”, only to form a “prison” of water again when the viewer steps into the square. A dry escape is possible only with extreme care and not a little courage. The essential element of his works is the movement triggered by the exciting interaction between the viewer and the object.

Dan Graham and **Jeppe Hein** are planning for July 2008 a joint exhibition in which the approaches of artists of two different generations are contrasted. While the older artist Dan Graham explores the “body in space” phenomenologically and works with transparent and reflective materials, the younger artist Jeppe Hein emphasizes the visual charm of the surface and adopts a more playful approach to the theme of “reflections”. The results of their collaboration will be shown both in Munich and in Cologne (Johnen + Schöttle).