

Joanne Tatham and Tom O'Sullivan

Lead Rhetoric & Other Category Errors

27th October - 24th November 2007

Opening: Friday, 26th October, 7.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.

The artists will be present at the opening.

Joanne Tatham *1971 Great Britain

Tom O'Sullivan *1967 Great Britain

Both artists live in Glasgow

Joanne Tatham and Tom O'Sullivan have been working together since 1995. Their repertoire comprises objects, installations, theatrical installations, conceptual projects and performances. Such titles as "The Slapstick Mystics with Sticks" or "Think Thingamajig" lead the viewer into a veritable cosmos in which British humour, stick figures and obscenities are just as much at home as magic, atavism and mysterious pyramids. Certain forms and objects, such as pink diamond-patterned cubes or wallpapers, pyramids both with and without faces or stick figures in top hats crop up time and time again. The installations are unfathomable at first glance and coded messages are the programmatic part and parcel of the artists' strategies. The magical elements, combined with enigmatic proportions and funny figures, are reminiscent of the world of Alice in Wonderland. The monumental pink pyramids with their cut-out comic faces and the top-hatted stick figure that passes like a ghost – in all sizes – through the installations seem to be about to address the viewer any time now and ask him who he is and what he is looking for. The installations are flanked by drawings in which the top-hatted figures play croquet with the diamond-patterned cubes or build gigantic letters of the alphabet.

The Rüdiger Schöttle Gallery will now be presenting the first solo exhibition of Joanne Tatham and Tom O'Sullivan in Germany. Under the title "Lead Rhetoric & Other Category Errors", the artists invite the viewer to step into a world of unfamiliar dimensions, a surreal world of topsy turvy perspectives. A cut-out silhouette portrait becomes a monumental memorial, while the white cube of the gallery becomes the pink-papered, diamond patterned room of a doll's house – all under the motto *You've gotta get into it to get out of it.*

Joanne Tatham and Tom O'Sullivan took part in the Venice Biennale in 2005 and 2003, and in the Berlin Biennale in 2001.