

Rootfilling – VERONICA BROVALL (SW)

Gallery 1

Rise And Shine – ANNEKE EUSSEN (NL)

Gallery 2

03.06.2007 – 15.07.2007 wed – fri & sun 2-6 pm or by appointment

PREVIEW Sunday 3rd of June 2 – 6 PM



Veronica Brovall, *Rootfilling* (Wurzelfüllung)-detail, 2006, wood, metal, adhesive tape, plastic foil, black feathers, 5 ventilators, transparent tape, PVC pipes, steel wire, chicken wire, 10 x 4 x 2,8 m
Anneke Eussen, *Paper Warrior III*, 2007, colour pencil on paper, 95 x 150 cm, framed

PRESS RELEASE

OneTwenty Gallery is proud to present two solo shows by Veronica Brovall and Anneke Eussen. Both artists live and work in Berlin and will present new work in the gallery for the second time.

The title of **Brovall's** presentation is derived from the centre piece of the exhibition, a life size sculpture model of a fallen tree crossing through the gallery space, which will be shown in combination with drawings and collages. Brovall uses her daily surroundings to reformulate the logic of things by creating a new order that plays with the conventional meaning of objects and systems. As such the focus in '**Rootfilling**' (2006) is not on the upper part of the tree, or the part that is generally perceived as a symbol for life, but on the lower and invisible part of the tree –the roots, which function as the underlying system of activity. A human figure is entangled in the roots and sucking its toe. Ventilators sticking out of the roots are creating movement of the black feathers attached to what would be the soil, while bringing forth a buzzing sound. The new logic also

appears in her material use: daily materials as tape and plastic at once become the reflecting black skin of the tree, giving an essentially primitive object a 'sexy' appearance. In the smaller sculpture 'Rootfilling 2' (2007, 190 x 90 cm), the physicality gets a new direction: the trunk of the upstanding tree is made out of toothpicks, creating a dry and prickly sensation.

The juxtaposition between rational logic and emotion, or instinct and reflection can also be found in the collages and drawings. 'Essen, Essen, Essen' groups a series of collages that combine images of meat parts, forks and knives, tires and cupboards into an amazing and surreal landscape. Although the subjects refer to consumer products it is not the artists intention to criticize consumer society as such, but to create a new order questioning our rational and functional way of perceiving our surroundings. A selection of drawings offers us another insight in the creative process of Brovalls grant, physical, confrontational, but overall humorous logic.

Veronica Brovall (1975, Falun) studied at the Academy of Arts, Umeå, Sweden. Since moving to Berlin in 2003, she has participated in various projects in public space, a.o. in Vietnam, Berlin and Falun as well as in several group exhibitions, a.o. the Malmö Konsthall (SW), the KUMU Art Museum, Tallin and Ticker 10 in Galerie Carlier Gebauer curated by Aurélie Voltz. She had solo shows in the Overgarden Institute for Contemporary Art Copenhagen and Sint-Lukasgalerie, Brussels. Brovall is represented in museum collections in Sweden and in several private collections in Europe. After having presented her work in the project space of Arndt & Partner Galerie in 2006, she will have her first solo show there in July.

With '**Rise and Shine**' **Anneke Eussen** brings together a selection of new drawings. As in previous work, the drawings can be seen as a reflection of a return to genres in art. 'Paper Warriors' (2007), a group of 3 human-scale colour pencil drawings of kids with animals, represent an almost futuristic take on classical portraits. In contrast to Eussens more graphical and Japanese anime inspired depictions of adolescent boys and girls, these hybrid compositions of computer-engineered portraits are highly realistically executed. By re-using images from several popular culture sources like internet and fashion magazines, Eussen not only questions the uniqueness of identity and image, but also the possibilities and borders of the virtual realities created in this multimedia era.

The interest in loss of identity as a consequence of society's search for a certain idealistic beauty, returns in 'Hide and Seek' (2007), a series of 8 drawings on A4-format. Similar to the 'Second Skin'-series, which will be presented in her forthcoming solo exhibition in de Bond, Brugge, the drawings depict headless human figures in certain positions, like internet images without identity. Eussen's reference to the child's game Hide And Seek reflects on the fact that within the existence of this virtual internet reality, people stay hidden behind an anonymous identity, while being exposed WorldWide. Although Eussen raises questions about the realness of our reality and experience, her work also embodies an optimistic challenge to dare and dream, making possible the impossible. She creates an imagery where beauty supersedes reality, giving a freeway to a fantasy world that is seemingly harmless and innocent, but kinky and dangerous at the same time.

After graduating at the Academy of Fine Arts in Maastricht, Anneke Eussen (1978, Maastricht) followed a post graduate at the Higher Institute of Fine Arts, Belgium. She was awarded the first Prize of the 'Young Artists on the Road Award' resulting in the solo exhibition Threats/Treats in the Suermondt Ludwig Museum, Aachen. She participated in several group exhibitions, a.o. Parkstadt Limburg Prize, Stadsgalerij Heerlen (NL), Tardis, Ename (B), And Lucy Liked It, cur. by Ann Demeester, Will Holder & Maxime Kopsa, Extiem – Watou 06, cur. by Joost Declercq & Lieven Declerck. Eussen has works in the collection of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as in several private collections. In September she will premier a new body of sculptures during her big solo show at De Bond, Brugge.

For more information and images contact the gallery or check:
www.veronicabrovall.com
www.anneke-eussen.com

| **OneTwenty Gallery** | Burggravenlaan 40 | B - 9000 Gent |
| + 32 9 324 45 29 | info@onetwenty.be | www.onetwenty.be |
| Wed - Thu - Fri - Sun from 2 till 6 pm and by appointment |