

Peter Kortmann

Drawings

13.09. – 08.11.2008

Denken Reden Tun, 2006

Video, 21:09 min, DVD

Drawings, felt-tip marking pens on paper, 7 sheets, 42 x 58 cm, framed

Using various media, Peter Kortmann investigates the acquisition of language and its transposition into a new formal and material vocabulary. In his drawings, he develops his own typographies and ways of writing, so translating words into abstract images. He transfers them onto walls and constructs them as sculptures in order to connect their significant content to a direct spatial experience, and he supplements them with videos and performances that incorporate them into each context in multiple, diverse ways.

The work “Denken Reden Tun” - consisting of a video and seven drawings - connects the processes of speaking and drawing and so describes them as a meditative aspect of the finding of form and meaning. The video shows the artist's hands over his drawing table. The left hand operates a digital audio-sampler, which plays spoken sentences when the artist presses a key; the sentences refer to his thinking, speaking and activities (“hör mich reden”¹, “sieh mich tun”², etc.); His right hand, at exactly the same time as this reproduction of the spoken language, draws lines of differing thicknesses on a sheet of paper using a black felt pen. After a number of sentences and lines, not predetermined, the process is interrupted and repeated on a new sheet of paper. The artist produces seven drawings in this way, which - in the sense of *écriture automatique* - can be read as protocols of the actions realised and the sentences heard, and lend expression to the artist's reflection on his own words and actions.

¹ “hear me talk“

² “see me do“