

Bertold Stallmach
Warten auf den 9 Uhr-Witz

August 26 – October 16, 2010

Galerie Susanna Kulli, Dienerstrasse 21, CH-8004 Zürich;
Tel 043 243 33 34, Fax 043 243 33 35
Hours: Tue – Fri 1pm – 6pm, Sat 11am – 4pm
www.susannakulli.ch

Opening: Wednesday, August 25, 5pm – 8pm

Joint opening night Zürich Aussersihl: Party at the Kanzleihalle on Helvetiaplatz starts at 8pm

Concert: CHANTetSON, Saturday, September 4, starting at 8pm

Bertold Stallmach, who was born in Quthing, Lesotho, in 1984, lives and works in Zurich. "Warten auf den 9 Uhr-Witz" ["Waiting for the 9 o'clock joke"] is his first exhibition at Galerie Susanna Kulli. In conjunction with the exhibition, a concert by CHANTetSON (piano and vocals) will be held at the gallery on Saturday, September 4. We'd love to see you there.

"In the exhibition 'Warten auf den 9 Uhr-Witz,' I would like to present three bodies of work. Animated film (computer technology: Flash, Cinema 4d, Aftereffects); installation (potter's clay, newspaper, plexiglass, etc.); and painting (acrylic on paper). The animated film presents the shared point of departure for the other two works.

The ten-minute film was created in 2009. An anthill is compared to a human organism. On the one hand, ant researchers try to identify the ant that coordinates the actions of the colony; on the other hand, meanwhile, the question is examined where in a human body decisions are made.

Based in their aesthetic on the computer-generated images of the animated film, the small paintings mounted on the walls suggest film stills from additional imaginary filmic works. These are snapshots capturing scenes that play out on the symbolic level between human and human as well as between animal and human.

The installation accompanying the film looks like a large man resting on the floor. Plexiglass boxes connected by tubes represent the most massive among his organs. A crawling ant population lives in the plexiglass boxes, functioning as the man's circulatory system. By operating a system of lamps, the visitor to the exhibition can activate organs, rendering them, as though in a spiritual ritual, the man's center of decision-making. The sculpture's head is made of old newspapers. It is the organ of communication; once every hour, his tongue flutters out of his mouth, and he tells a joke, like a cuckoo clock. The way body and head are represented in the installation aims to create a collision between a spiritual and a materialistic worldview."

Bertold Stallmach, June 2010

2007-2008	Japan Studies, University of Zurich
2007	Complex Systems, Hakodate Future University, Japan
2004-2008	Fine Arts, Zurich University of the Arts, Zurich

Solo shows: 2011: *Giraffe Superbrain*, Jerome Zodo Contemporary, Milano; 2010: *Warten auf den 9 Uhr-Witz*, Galerie Susanna Kulli, Zurich; 2009: *Auswertung 7 Tage*, R22, Zurich. **Group exhibitions (selection):** 2010: *Swiss Art Awards*, Basel Trade Fair Center; *(Ex)Communicate*, Jerome Zodo Contemporary, Milano; *Ich Tier! (Du Mensch)*, Perla Mode, Zurich; 2009: *Swiss Art Awards*, Basel Trade Fair Center; *Jon Etter, Andreas Helbling, Bertold Stallmach*, Dienstgebäude, Zurich; 2008: *Diplomausstellung*, Güterbahnhof, Zurich; *Konkret werden. Der springende Punkt*, Kunstraum Winterthur; 2007: *Lokalbühne*, Mehrspur, Zurich; 2006: *Tag der offenen Tür*, Kulturbahnhof Affoltern, Zurich; *go west – Festival der Künste*, Toni Areal, Zurich; 2005: *Bekanntmachungen – der Strich*, Kunsthalle Zurich; 2003: *Bilderausstellung mit Konzert*, Kulturmarkt, Zurich