

Fernanda Gomes

August 28 – October 17

Galerie Peter Kilchmann is pleased to announce the first solo exhibition at the gallery by Fernanda Gomes. In 2013 a selection of works by the artist was already on display at the gallery on the occasion of the group exhibition "The things I want to express are so beautiful and pure". All the works presented in this new exhibition were produced in situ during her four weeks stay in Zurich, prior to the opening.

Fernanda Gomes' works are the condensed result of an intense investigation and confrontation with materiality, form, space and light. On display, there are new works made out of basic materials, such as wood, plexiglas, paper, threads and metal. Gomes transformed these objects in a subtle way, to create unusual, suggestive connections between the various materials. Through her works, she explores and reflects upon the intrinsic poetic value of things, often making use of white paint to create environments that result in profound experiences on the viewers.

In Fernanda Gomes' words:

"Painting white is like adding a coat of light, but at the same time I'm interested in revealing the bones of things. Each thing nourishes the other. Contrasting and complementing. I experience white like it's empty and full at the same time. It operates as an element of equilibrium. I need to create a space where I can breathe, think, move about more freely. Live in a physical space which corresponds to my mental space. Protect myself from the brutality of the world.

Visual language is a relief. It brings different perspectives. I feel like we've built our life on thought and I do these things to think better. It's so important to transform our vision of things. Art gives us this chance to transform everything based on a vision. Vision in its broadest sense, which includes intuition, imagination, poetry. It's also important to slow things down, to allow yourself to live at a different pace outside this common time. Also the idea that mistakes and flaws are the real nature of things, of life itself. Accepting the beauty of the fragility that constitutes us."

Fernanda Gomes, who was born in 1960 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and still lives and works there, has shown her works in numerous solo exhibitions, in institutions such as the Centre international de l'art et du paysage, Vassivière, 2013, the MAM Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro, 2011, the Serralves Museum of Contemporary Art, Porto, 2006 or the Chisenhale Gallery, London, 1997. She has participated in important group shows, such as "Imagine Brazil", in the Musée d'art contemporain, Lyon, and the Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo, 2013, in "Collecting history: Highlighting Recent Acquisitions", in the MOCA Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 2009, or in "Slow Movement oder: Das Halbe und das ganze", in the Kunsthalle Bern, 2009. Gomes has also presented her works in numerous biennials, such as the Istanbul Biennial in 1995 and 2013, the São Paulo Biennial in 1994 and 2012, or the 50th Biennale di Venezia, in 2003. Gomes's works are also currently on view in "Proportio", a group exhibition on display in the Palazzo Fortuny in Venice, Italy, and in "Une histoire, art, architecture et design, des années 80 à aujourd'hui", in the Centre Pompidou, Paris, France.

Works by Fernanda Gomes are included in public collections such as the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, the Tate Modern, London, the Miami Art Museum, Miami, the Fundación Jumex, Mexico City, the Museu de Arte Moderna, São Paulo, the Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, or the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago.

Among the publications about the artist there are the recently published monograph "Fernanda Gomes", from the *Arte Bra* collection, edited by Luiza Mello, 2015, the catalogue "Fernanda Gomes" from the Fundação Serralves, Portugal, 2006, and the artist's book "Fernanda Gomes", published by the Centre international d'art et du paysage, Vassivière, France, in 2013, which are available in the gallery.