



For Immediate Release: Basel's Biggest In NYC...

Gallery 1,2& 3: "The Perfect Line?" work by Laurent Ajina
Dates: Mar 21- Apr 20, 2008

Hours: Fri. 3-8, Sat. & Sun. 12-6pm or by appt.
Contact: **Dam, Stuhltrager Gallery**
38 Marcy Ave. Brooklyn. NY 11211
www.damstuhltrager.com
info@damstuhltrager.com

Directions: L to Lorimer. Exit near token booth. Metropolitan under BQE. Left on Marcy. (Distance from train: 3 bl)

Laurent Ajina lands on American soil to command his first American solo exhibit. In an united effort among European and American allies, Basel's largest gallery, MARCdePUECHREDON, and Dam, Stuhltrager have united to shake the art world. Drawings exuding energized lines in numerous dimensions (on paper, in installations, as sculpture occupy all three of Dam, Stuhltrager's divisions with Ajina's multifaceted "The Perfect Line?"

Laurent Ajina likes to put things in our way. Rather than present the obvious, Ajina implies the abstract - or obscure - physicality of objects with minimal drawings. His unidentifiable linear compositions reflect the familiar. Lines are out of context yet construct visual references within viewers' imaginations. One's mind reverts to seeing a car, a room's interior, a landscape... Conjuring innumerable and personal cultural references within an individual viewer is what inspires Ajina's work, giving it a purpose. Separating meaning presented on canvas, paper or in his sculptures from meaning derived from the viewer, Ajina's lines visually reference Oscar Wilde's statement, "All art is quite useless."

"Laurent Ajina makes visible what is hidden and puts shadow on the most evident, a reflection on the non-identifiable context, the useless. An emanation of energy develops enormous networks between the overcharged chaos and the multiplication of different points of view. Ajina is creating interfering systems representing concrete and abstract connections linking us to each other. He establishes transitions in order to create chain reactions, interactions meant to reconstruct, regenerate the system." - Caroline Messensee

ELSEWHERE: "Sunken City/ Episode II" work by Raphaele Shirley
Dates: Mar 20- Apr 5, 2008
Hours: by appt.
Contact: **Emily Harvey Foundation**
537 Broadway, 2nd Fl, NY, NY 10012
www.emilyharveyfoundation.org

Raphaele Shirley exposes archetypal representations of space, time and emotion as they exist in our conscious and unconscious mind. Using a rule-based "Psychedelic Documentation," she systematically studies, copies, interprets and transforms a fixed set of collected shapes (Styrofoam packaging) using diverse art practices such as sculpture, photography, video documentation and painting.

In the "Sunken City" series, she combines her practices into a multi-media, abstract landscape of uncertain scale and time frame. With this new series Shirley is exploring space, place and structure, loosely implying utopian environments of awe inspiring proportions. In this she is exploring new perspectives in which we can consider our collective future, as well as charting the less tangible dynamics between entropy and order, and the fragmentation of perception through time.