

PRESS RELEASE

Peter Leisinger & Nikola Zaric | Nobody Loves Me

Opening | Sunday 11. July 2010 | 4.00 to 7.00 PM
Exhibition | 13. July - 17. September 2010

Rätus Casty, Annette Bailleux and Alessandra Ruggieri are pleased to invite you to the **Opening** of the group show featuring works by **Peter Leisinger** and **Nicola Zaric**, which will be held on Sunday **July 11th 2010** in the Galerie Rätus Casty.

Under the title **Nobody Loves Me** the two Swiss Artists stage an in-between world of loved and unloved figures. With great irony and humor they consequently analyze the contrasts and the associations between men and beasts. The connotations are partly funny, grotesque, as well as nostalgic and they mostly allude to everyday life scenes of the contemporary society.

Technically the show faces two antagonistic tendencies of sculpture, since Peter Leisinger works with hard materials and Nikola Zaric with plastic materials: Leisinger realizes his sculptures carving the blocks of different kinds of wood – such as maple, ash, cottonwood, basswood, larch, cherry, walnut, pear and apple tree – with the skillful use of the chainsaw. Nikola Zaric, on the other hand, tools the clay with sharps utensils and captures the shape primary in a plaster cast, later he casts the definitive form in cement mortar.

In both cases the final sculpture preserves the different traces of the processing. The imprecise, raspy surface confers on the one hand a certain humanity, because it reminds that the artwork is man-made. On the other hand the unclear and vague form stimulates the eye and the fantasy of the observer.

Peter Leisinger (*1942, Küsnacht) is Painter, Graphic Artist, Draftsman, Xylographer and Sculptor. His skilled artwork comes solely from his auto-didactic will. Since the 80s he has had different Solo and Group Exhibitions in Switzerland and abroad. Since 1993 he has began with the art of chainsaw carving. He regularly works with public art and gets involved in different Film Projects. His artwork takes place in renowned international private collections, as the Collection Annette & Peter Nobel, Zurich and the Sculpture Park Kloster Schoenthal, Langenbruck. Peter Leisinger lives since 1995 in Malans, GR.

Nikola Zaric (*1961, Martigny) is Draftsman and Sculptor. Between 1987 and 1993 he studied Visual Art at the École supérieure d'art visuel (ESAV) in Geneva. In the past twenty years he has had several Group and Solo Shows around Europe. His artwork takes part of international private and public collections, as the Fond des arts plastiques Lausanne and the Fond cantonal d'art visuels Genève. Zaric has also manufactured many sculptures for public spaces, as for the Park Mirany in Geneva, the Holcim SA in Eclépens and for the Department of Homeland Security in La Tour-de-Peilz, VD. Nikola Zaric lives and works in Lausanne since 1988.

Alessandra Ruggieri