Evariste Richer Caesium

05.06. - 15.08.2010

Evariste Richer (born 1969 in Montpellier, lives in Paris) links his interest in the natural sciences and concepts of space and time, combining their manifestations like a chemist who is empirically testing reactions between elements. An alchemistic approach, for twelve years Richer's work has been characterized by a world viewed in the light of its geological and cosmic elements and in which abstraction and formal simplicity are accompanied by the sublime. The works being presented in the exhibition *Cæsium* reflect a wide variety of physical phenomena and play with the perception and measurement of time and space.

The title of the exhibition, *Cæsium*, is borrowed from a chemical element suggestive of a silvery-golden metallic liquid. The alkaline solution has particular significance for the chronometry of atomic clocks and is used by the Observatoire de Paris-Meudon and the Physikalisch Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB) in Braunschweig to define the measurement standard of time. Richer visited both institutions and developed new photographs and objects based on his experience with the "chronolaboratories".

The exhibition is being curated by Marianne Lanavère, director of *La Galerie*, *Contemporary art center in Noisy-le-Sec*, within the scope of **thermostat**, a cooperation project involving 24 French centres d'art and German art societies.

Thermostat, initiated by d.c.a and Institut français in Berlin, is supported by the Kulturstiftung des Bundes, Culturesfrance, Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes, Ministère de la culture et de la communication, and Der Bevollmächtigte der Bundesrepublik Deutschland für Kulturelle Angelegenheiten im Rahmen des Vertrages über die Deutsch-Französische Zusammenarbeit.



Evariste Richer *Caesium* is supported by the Niedersächsisches Ministerium für Wissenschaft und Kultur, Veolia Environnement, Robert Bosch Stiftung, BS | Energy



We extend our appreciation to the Physikalisch Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB), Braunschweig.





Linker Raum:



Caesium shoes $20 \times 25 \times 32 \times cm$ Working shoes from the artist's studio, five-gram cæsium ball of used to define the measurement standard of time.



North face 231 x 156 cm, Lambda print on paper Silver side of a rescue blanket



West pole
6 x 4,5 x 4,5 cm
Magnet bought in Quito, Ecuador
(0° 10' 39" S 78° 28' 36" W)
Quito is located near the Cayumbe Volcano, the
only place on the equator line with perpetual snow



Waiting for a walk with Stanley 84 x 77 x 17 cm Never used measuring wheel whose meter counter indicates zero



My Ultra Violet

300 x 875 cm

1:1 print of the artist's studio windowpane structure on black Diazo paper revealed by UV and ammoniac, a technique used to produce blueprints. This wall in the Remise has the same geodesic orientation as the artist's studio window.



South face 231 x 156 cm, Lambda print on paper Golden side of a rescue blanket



East pole
15 x 24 x 7 cm
Magnet bought in Padang , Indonesia
(0° 57' 0" S 100° 22' 0" E)
Padang is situated on the equator, 180 degrees from Quito.

Rechter Raum:



Killing time 6,5 x 17,5 x 11,5 cm

Spessartite stone with red garnats, manual cell counter

The counter indicates a relative number of garnats counted by the artist.



Delhi dust 80 x 105 cm The sky of Delhi taken at night and printed on black Diazo paper

Oben:



Contemplation cube

50 x 50 x 50 cm

Plexiglas cube filled with remnants of screens recycled from a cinema projection screen factory.

The screens have been perforated with thousands of one-mmdiameter holes per square meter in order to allow the soundtrack through.



La ruine 146 x 90 cm Shadow of a dead pine tree printed on blue Diazo paper