

DAM GALLERY

PATRICK LICHTY Artifacts

Exhibition: 30 January – 21 March 2015

Preview : 29 January 2015, 7 – 9 PM

The artist will be present.



Patrick Lichty is presenting his first solo show in Europe. Lichty is part of a second generation of artists, after the early pioneers, who responded to the emergence of the World Wide Web in the early 1990s, although he first went on the Internet as a college student in 1983. Even before then, he has been fascinated by technology, and the way it shapes our perception of reality. Like other early pioneers, he has researched cultural phenomena through solo work and as part of the collective Second Front, which performs in Second Life, a virtual commercial world that `mirrors life`. He worked together with Gazira Babeli, an avatar artist, who is now `deceased`. But this is only part of his activities.

DAM GALLERY Neue Jakobstraße 6 10179 Berlin

Phone: +49 30 280 98 135 office@dam.org www.dam.org
Opening hours: Tue – Fri 12 – 6 pm · Sat 12 – 4 pm · and by appointment

DAM GALLERY

At DAM Gallery we show three important groups of artworks that deal with digital culture, material and performance: A series of tapestries that refer to Lichty's current and past bodies of work, like the low-res 8 Bits or Less, a video series dealing with his periodic blindness, to the 404: File Not Found series that refers to ruptures and breakdowns in the Internet. Lichty became interested in the Jacquard tapestries as one of the first industrial uses of digital fabrication.

Another group of work are wood laser engravings of figuratives and from 8 Bits or Less that use the removal of material from the wood block as a metaphor for memory being the absence of what was the present.

And we will also feature a selection of virtual performance videos from Second Front and related Virtual Fluxus performances that feature Second front in concert with legendary Fluxus performance artists like Larry Miller and Bibbe Hansen.

In over twenty years of art production Lichty has produced a wide range of work, spanning from painting, photography and video to animation and different kinds of internet art. Not only due to his ongoing practice-based research, what you experience is an artist who is standing on the boundary between real life and virtuality with all its consequences. He is on top of all that as an activist, part of RTMark and The Yes Men.

Patrick Lichty (born 1962), based in Milwaukee, USA, is a conceptual artist, curator, and theorist exploring how media shapes our perception of reality as well as the borders between the digital and the material. He is best known for his work with the virtual reality performance art group Second Front, and the animator of the activist group, The Yes Men. Second Front has been featured in Flash Art, Eikon Milan and ArtNews. He is a CalArts/Herb Alpert Fellow and Whitney Biennial exhibitor as part of the collective RTMark. He has presented and exhibited internationally at numerous biennials and triennials (Yokohama, Venice, Performa, Maribor, Turin, Sundance). His recent book, "Variant Analyses: Interrogations of New Media Culture" was released by the Institute for Networked Culture, and is included in the Oxford Handbook of Virtuality. After being an Assistant Professor for Interactive Arts & Media from 2006 - 2013 at the Columbia College Chicago, he is now a Lecturer of Digital Studio Practice at the Peck School of the Arts in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Picture credit: Patrick Lichty, A Profound Lack of Comprehension, 2013, Tapestry, 152 x 203 cm

DAM GALLERY Neue Jakobstraße 6 10179 Berlin

Phone: +49 30 280 98 135 office@dam.org www.dam.org
Opening hours: Tue – Fri 12 – 6 pm · Sat 12 – 4 pm · and by appointment