

PRESS RELEASE  
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## **Delphine Courtilot: *Ohrwurm***

Annet Gelink Gallery proudly presents works of French artist Delphine Courtilot (1972) in her second solo exhibition in the gallery. She studied at *Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts* in Paris and has been living and working for a number of years in Amsterdam. After her first exhibition in the Bakery she acquired an international name with amongst others solo exhibitions in Los Angeles and Leipzig and currently at The Tilton Gallery in New York. Her work has been included in major international collections. At this exhibition we are presenting her new book *Delphine Courtilot*.

Courtilot makes gouaches based on photographs of situations staged by herself, and in which she performs herself. For this exhibition she traveled to Leipzig last summer, an industrial city in former East Germany. During an earlier visit Courtilot had in particular become captivated by an aura of deep melancholy caused by the abandoned and dilapidated houses in the emptied town. Courtilot herself calls these stagings "re-enactments", as if they are (re)constructions of possible mysteries that played around these houses.

The exhibition opens with a gouache in which a woman drinking from a bottle is depicted. Walking through the exhibition you will meet this figure constantly, though less centrally staged. Where earlier the human figure played a central role in her work, now the environment has become the subject. The space is literally breaking through the figure. Where earlier the centre of the image related to the figure, it is now often the emptiness, a worn piece of loose wallpaper, a moldy wall. This also switches the attention from the subject to the structure and the material of the drawings.

Courtilot's stagings have a strongly cinematic character. It is hard to interpret time by means of the interiors and the figure's clothing, it could be always and anywhere, adding a vague atmosphere penetrated with suspense. As a kind of Alice in Wonderland the depicted figure is moving through a gloomy setting, searching, wandering and exploring space. Courtilot had herself amongst others inspired by *Suspiria* (1977) -a classic by Italian film maker Dario Argento-, and the early silent films.

Courtilot has painted the walls of gallery in various colors, freely based on the color principle used by the Bauhaus group for designing exhibition rooms. The various colors are supposed to reflect a certain atmosphere and react to the paintings and influence the spectator's experience. Courtilot is using this theory to repair the distorted harmony of the broken-off spaces in her gouaches. The spaces of the portrayed dilapidated rooms don't seem to stop at the frames of the sheet of paper, but to continue into the exhibition room.

*Delphine Courtilot* (ISBN 978-90-810418-29), available at us, price: 25 Euros.

## **Bradley Pitts: *Ten-Pound Seed***

The Bakery is showing New York artist Bradley Pitts' (1978) 16mm film *One Roll of Weightlessness*. Pitts is currently participating in the residential program of *Rijksakademie* in Amsterdam. He graduated from MIT in Boston, where he studied simultaneously Aeronautics and Astronautics and visual arts, and where, he did projects with Joan Jonas (USA 1936). After having worked for NASA, Pitts decided to apply himself to the visual arts and went to Amsterdam.

*One Roll of Weightlessness* follows Pitts, seen from behind, walking through Amsterdam. During Pitts' walk through the city the shutter of the camera is steered by a sensor and responds to the moments of weightlessness at the highest point of his steps. That results in a unique registration of an undiscovered phenomenon. A film that makes visible the invisible in a fascinating way.

*Annet Gelink Gallery is open from Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. till 18:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 13:00 p.m. until 18:00 p.m.. Please contact for more information Floor Wullems, 020-3302066 or info@annetgelink.com*