



A show by **Mick Peter** from February 7th to March 14th 2009 at **Zoo galerie**

Zoo galerie presents

# Harmonielehre

A show by **Mick Peter**

from February 7 to March 14 2009

Opening on February 7th at 6.30 pm

For over a decade, Mick Peter has been intriguing the British art world with a body of work that is as comical as it is serious, staging surreal dialogues between emissaries from a world of elastic dimensions: teapots and isosceles triangles made out of cement, giant playing cards and leather belts. *Harmonielehre*, his second solo exhibition in France (following his celebrated appearance at Galerie de Multiples in Paris last summer), showcases an entirely new series of pieces, created for the first leg of the exhibition at Generator Projects (Dundee, Scotland) in November and December of 2008.

Derived from the notion of intertextuality, these sculptural collages play on their own handmade quality to speak to us about the novels that inspired them: *Bouvard & Pécuchet*, *Tristram Shandy*, etc. Through fusions of ostensibly incompatible techniques and references, Peter extends the sort of anti-logic incarnated by each of these masterworks to the visual field. Inside this universe of neo-geometric forms, of colors screaming and sober, it sometimes feels as though the final vestiges of classical thought had vanished forever. Which is perhaps why it would feel perfectly natural if we were to happen upon Tweedledee and Tweedledum at any moment in our itinerary, if only to remind us that knowledge is nothing next to the chance in a hand of cards (*Two Clerks*, 2006).

*Harmonielehre*, however, is first and foremost the title of Schoenberg's famous essay on harmonic principles, which, despite its obvious appeal to classicism, constitutes the cornerstone of musical modernity. In other words, Schoenberg insisted upon the value of always returning to the classics, of re-using or rejecting the old before creating something new. Mick Peter's work steps literature and sculpture in nonsense, and the emptiness that appears to guide his work upon first glance (styrofoam under concrete) is quickly superseded by an almost chilling precision. Meanwhile, at the heart of Peter's practice (*Untitled (Tables)*, 2008), the sculptor's battle against the draftsman grinds on.

Zoo galerie  
49 chaussée de la Madeleine  
F\_44000 Nantes

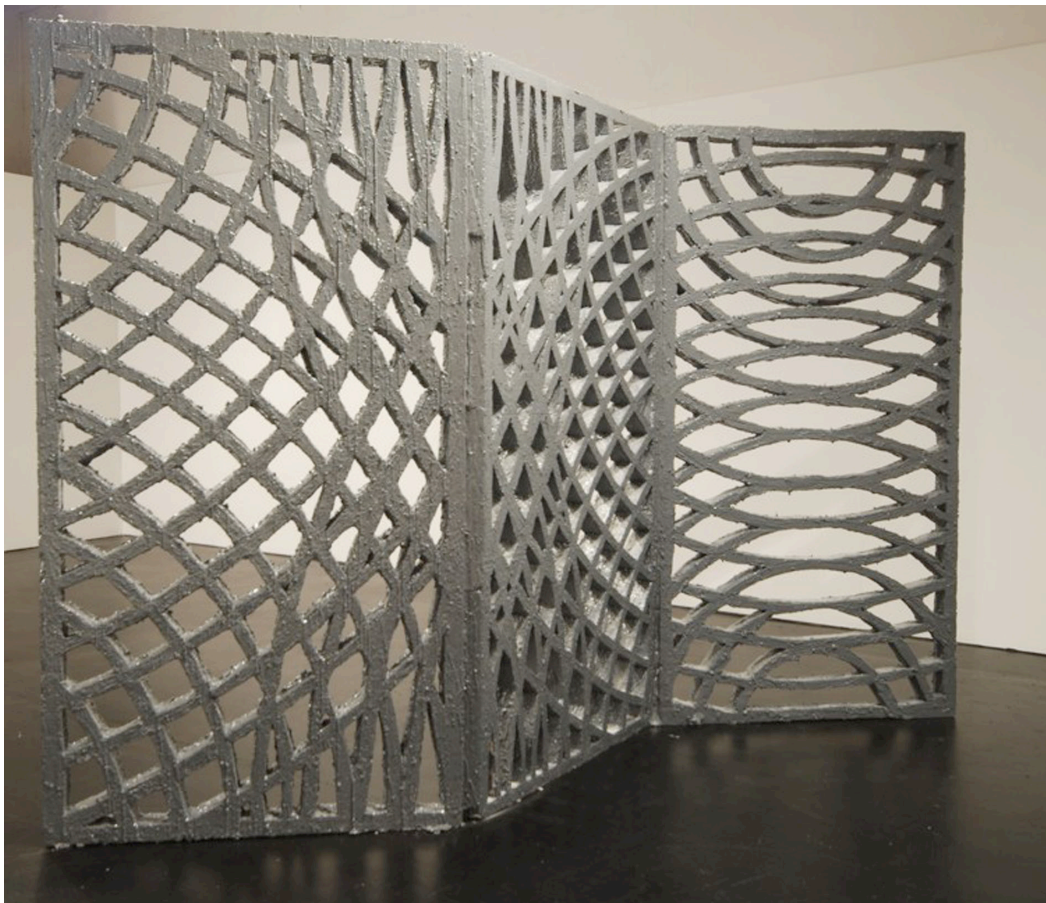
Tram ligne 2-stop Delrue  
From Wednesday to Saturday  
3pm to 7 pm

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Zoo galerie is supported by Mairie de Nantes, Région Pays de la Loire, Conseil Général de Loire Atlantique and Ministère de la Culture (Drac des Pays de la Loire).



Mick Peter, *Untitled (Tables)*, 2008.



Mick Peter, *Interference Pattern Screen*, 2008.

## Mick Peter

- was born in Berlin in 1974, lives and works in Glasgow.
- has degrees from Ruskin School of Fine Art of Oxford (1997), & Glasgow School of Art (2000).
- is a regular contributor to *Frieze* magazine.

### Selected shows (\* solo shows)

2008 - Generators Projects, Dundee\*.

- Galerie de Multiples, Paris\*.
- Glasgow Project Room, Glasgow\*.

2007 - MAC, Lyon, *Freak Show*.

- Fortescue Avenue/ Jonathan Viner, Londres\*.

2006 - Transmission Gallery, Glasgow\*.

- Cell Project Space, Londres.
- Liste, Bâle.

2005 - CCA, Glasgow.

- Fortescue Avenue/ Jonathan Viner, Londres\*.

2004 - Frieze Art Fair with Transmission Gallery.

- GSS Gallery, Glasgow\*.
- Kaiserpassage, Karlsruhe.

2003 - Transmission Gallery, Glasgow\*.

- Galerie Jennifer Flay, Paris.
- Musée Départemental de Rochechouart.

2002 - Collective Gallery, Edinburgh\*.

2001 - Tramway, Glasgow.

2000 - Collective Gallery, Edinburgh\*.

His works notably appear in:

the catalogue of the exhibition *Freak Show*, edited by the Museum of Contemporary Art of Lyon

*Frieze*, nov. 2006, Tom Morton: "Mick Peter, Phrygian Bonnets and Dunces Caps"

*Armpit of the mole*, compilation de dessins éditée par la Fundacion Trenta Quilometres per Segon



Mick Peter, *Messiaen's Ornithological Transcription*, 2008