

PERFORMING SURFACES



THE ARTISTS'
PERSPECTIVE

#02

INTRODUCTION

*Damien Roach, Magali Reus,
Marianne Spurr and Marie Lund.*

Performing Surfaces investigates conceptual and formalistic approaches towards the performative aspect of artistic production through a selection of sculptural paintings by four London-based artists and the format of the exhibition itself. Two events, to be held in the exhibition space, will act as an extension to the show, while a research desk located at the gallery will operate as a platform for the production of three publications in response to the artworks and the events, providing alternative readings on the exhibition.

Performing Surfaces brings together works that assume and embody the performative character of the artistic gesture, being the outcome of an

ongoing development of actions between the object and the subject. The exhibition extends the concept of performativity, a term much associated with performance art emerging in the 60s, in order to reflect on the bodily processes that shape the material, as well as the formal and conceptual nature of the artwork.

Following that, a certain notion of performativity can be used here as a key to unravel the common thread that runs from artistic conception to the viewer's interpretation: an understanding of the creation of meaning through the relations that emerge within the artwork itself and between the artwork and the viewer.

THE ARTISTS' PERSPECTIVE

The Artists' Perspective is the second publication in a series of three, produced as part of Performing Surfaces. On 26 April a talk led by Nico de Oliveira with Marianne Spurr and Marie Lund took place in the research space of the exhibition. The different approaches by Lund and Spurr to the creation of their artworks provided particular outcomes which can be found in this publication through a selection of quotes, proposing a reading of the exhibition.

“IN MANY SCULPTURES THAT I MAKE, I SPEND A LOT OF TIME THINKING ABOUT A SPECIFIC GESTURE THAT IS INCLUDED INTO THE MATERIAL WHICH KIND OF MARKS A BEFORE AND AN AFTER. I OFTEN WORK WITH EXISTING MATERIALS THAT I THEN PERFORM A CERTAIN GESTURE TOWARDS; THAT TRANSFORMS IT.” *MARIE LUND

“THIS PIECE (UNTITLED, 2011) HAS A LOT TO DO WITH MEMORY AND TRYING TO FIND A WAY TO PRESENT THE PROCESS OF THINKING. IT INVOLVES THESE TWO ELEMENTS, THE HOLES AND THE TRANSPARENT SHEETS, IT ALMOST BECOMES ABOUT THE STRATEGY OF HOW THEY INTERACT AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER. IT IS PART OF A PROCESS OF WORKING ALONE.” *MARIANNE SPURR

“IS IT THAT EACH TIME YOU INSTRUCT SOMEBODY TO ENACT THEIR WISHES IT IS PERFORMATIVE?” *NIGO DE OLIVIERA

“OFTEN WHEN I THINK OF THE IDEA OF THE GESTURE, IT BECOMES EASY TO DEFINE WHEN I INSTRUCT OTHER PEOPLE TO DO IT, IT DEFINES THE POINTS WHEN THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORK HAPPENS.” *MARIE LUND

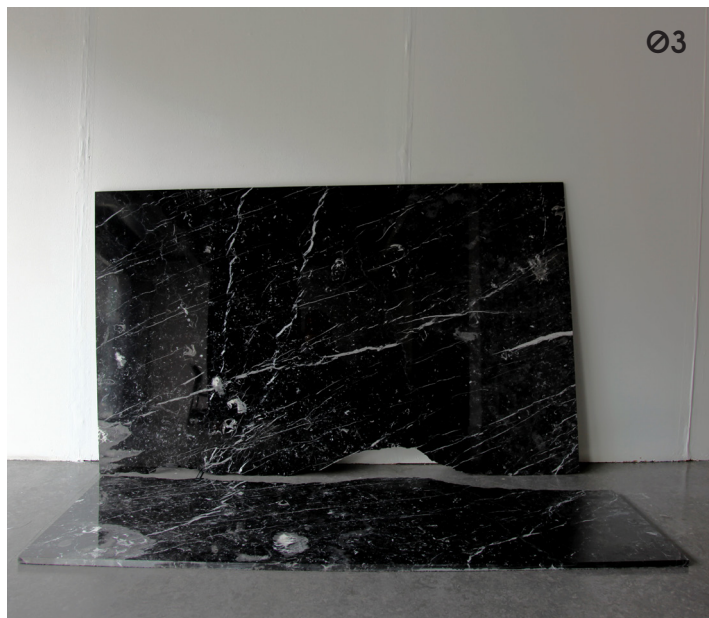
“I THINK FOR ME IT STILL COMES FROM THINKING ABOUT, MAYBE NOT PERFORMANCE, BUT THINKING ABOUT ACTION AND GESTURES, THIS GESTURE TOWARDS THE MATERIAL RATHER THAN IN THE SOCIAL FABRIC AND MAYBE IT DOES REFLECT THIS KIND OF COLLABORATIVE PROCESS AGAINST AN INDIVIDUAL PROCESS. I DON'T KNOW.” *MARIE LUND

“I THINK IMPLICIT IN THE NOTION OF PERFORMATIVITY IS A BRIDGING OF THE GAP BETWEEN DOING AND BEING. MEANING IS GENERATED THROUGH THE MATERIALISATION OF THE PROCESS OR PERFORMATIVE ACT.” *MARIANNE SPURR

“IT IS ABOUT A SHIFT IN THE TRANSACTION BETWEEN SUBJECT AND VIEWER - ESTABLISHING AN ACTIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO THAT IS CAPABLE OF EXCHANGE, AS OPPOSED TO SOMETHING MORE DIDACTIC (AS WAS PERHAPS MORE OFTEN THE CASE TRADITIONALLY).”

*MARIANNE SPURR





Exhibition: Performing Surfaces 2012

Artists: Damien Roach
Magali Reus
Marianne Spurr
Marie Lund

Curated by: Anne Baan Hofman
Katayoun Yousefi
Pagona Zali

Design: Manon Rugge
www.manonrugge.nl

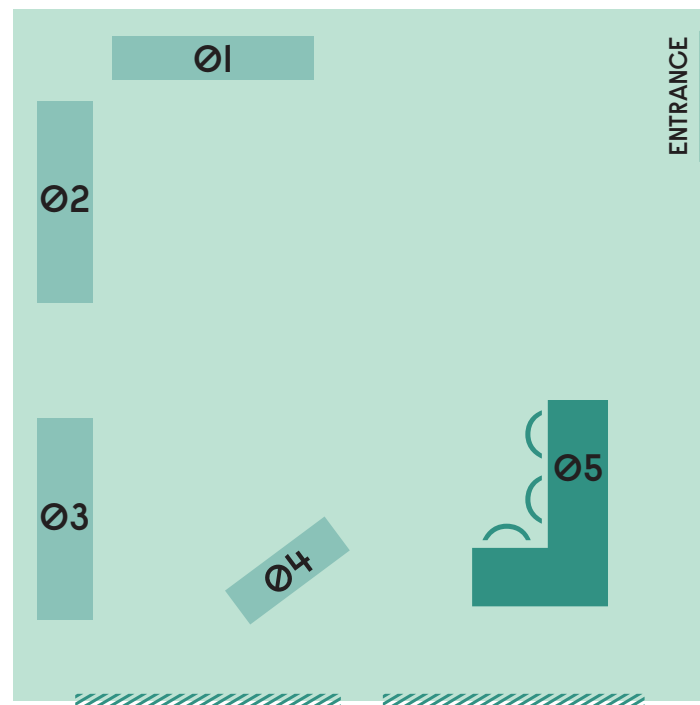
Website: www.performingsurfaces.tumblr.com

Open: Thu. 26 & Fri. 27 April
Thu. 3 & Fri. 4 & Thu. 10 May
11.00 am - 6.00 pm

Private view Fri. 20 April
6.00 pm - 8.00 pm



Supported
by LUX



- Ø1 Magali Reus, Sheet Selection (Countershading), 2009
- Ø2 Marianne Spurr, Untitled, 2011
- Ø3 Marie Lund, Marine Painting, 2011
- Ø4 Damien Roach, Moiré (Dark Version), 2010
- Ø5 Research desk