

Heads! We need more Heads!!

OPENING EVENT: 18 OCTOBER @8PM
RUNS: 19OCT. - 18 NOV.

Phoenix Athens proudly presents the exhibition Heads! We need more Heads!! by Poul R. Weile.

The show presents a series of sculptures decontextualized from their original nature and re-formed as a final art piece carefully placed on the ground of the gallery. The exhibition refers to the problematic relationship between the art for the mass and the art for the elite. The nature of the workshop alongside the process of creating the installation suggests that the art for the mass could be turned into the art for the elite. The artist vigilantly touches upon the notion of kitsch in contemporary art and questions its borderline through the nature of the installation.

Weile's intention is to bridge the gap of this problematic relationship by using readymade sculptures, which were made during the series of workshops. Weile makes a reference to Dadaism and the theory of the Duchampian movement bringing forward a discussion regarding the concept of the 'readymades'.

The heads are placed carefully on the ground forming a strict grid shape referring to the concept of the army. The spectator is invited to reconsider the nature of the heads and question if they are the result of vandalism or the artist's original intention. Weile's symbolism of the heads is this of the obeying soldiers whose only scope is to assist the cause. The identity of each head is disappeared and the attention is shifted towards the united installation piece. Through this installation, Weile challenges the spectator to rethink the notion of the artist and the maker under the contemporary art context.

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About Poul R. Weile

Poul R. Weile is a Danish artist and a sculptor educated on the Academy of Arts in Odense, Denmark from 1979 - 1984. Throughout his career Weile has been working in a broad range of mediums including video art, performance art, sculpture, drawing. Over the last 35 years Weile's work has been featured in exhibitions, art festivals and collections worldwide. A few of them are: Galerie FLOX, Berlin ArtWeek, Berlin, Liste 2017, "Smiles of Osaka" Japan international arts Festival, Osaka, 2014, "The ART of Flying/Dying (Slowly)", Fyns Kunstmuseum. "ART", SIM-Gallery, Reykjavik, "Prospect ART goes Japan", Osaka, Japan, 2005. Weile's work is represented in collections such as: Museum of FotoArt, Odense, Artmuseum of Funen, Odense, the Photocollection of the Royal Library, Copenhagen Kalmar Konstmuseum, Sweden. Amongst his artistic qualities Weile was also included in educational activities such as being the Initiator and Professor of "Prospect ART" Art education for mentally dysfunctional students 1998 - 2009, Professor at Ryslinge Højskole 2003, Curator for "list&ast&list" Artfestival/conference of 25 artists in all fields, Nordic House - Reykjavik 2009.

About the Green Room

Phoenix Athens seeks to engage with the local community and international creatives in an effort to provide a resource center for creative education, outreach and cooperation between creatives and individual within and outside of Greece. In horticulture a greenhouse serves as a space for the germination and incubation of plants. In ceramics a green room serves as a transition space in which clay is given a time to dry in a sem-damp environment so as to keep it from cracking. In theatre, the green room functions as a waiting room and lounge for performers before and after a performance. The Green Room therefore serves as an environment where creative ideas and projects are incubated, nurtured and cultivated, a space where makers might also produce and exhibit their work. The Green Room is equipped with tools and facilities for production and serves primarily as a space for workshops provided both by local creatives and international artists in residence with Phoenix Athens.