

## **Yarisal & Kublitz**

### ***Unheimlich in LA.***

Galerie Bertrand & Gruner is proud to present its second solo exhibition of new work by Yarisal & Kublitz.

The German word for uncanny is *unheimlich*, which literally means "unhomely". Germans recognize that nothing is eerie or more unsettling than feeling ill at ease in your own home; feeling that the architecture of everyday life has somehow turned exquisitely and unfathomably awry. With the numerous sculptures in this exhibition, Yarisal & Kublitz explore the domestic sphere and ego by raising questions about the psychology of self-expression through physical objects. What level of sentimentality must be associated with an object for it to become shelf-worthy? Why do we gather and surround ourselves with so many objects in our everyday lives? Which mechanisms of desire trigger our selection?

In the entrance, several small sculptures are placed on a shelf. The objects are familiar, yet foreign at the same time. Even though we recognize most of the elements, the way they are juxtaposed makes them mysterious and intriguing. The use of materials like feathers, fake nails and teeth creates voodoo-like associations.

In the main room, the first objects that catch your eyes, are two totem poles made of books and concrete. Totem poles were once symbolic marks of clan and family wealth and prestige, but in these towering book sculptures they have been reconfigured into tributes to man-made works of knowledge that are closed shut forever, becoming mysteriously compelling in their unfulfilled promise of spiritual cultivation. Another piece is a series of Navajo carpet wall hangings in the color palette of Los Angeles sun-drenched life, some of which have been cut out and are represented by three-dimensional, bruised ceramic shapes scattered on the floor.

With the combination of Native American and Los Angeles minimalist fifties aesthetics, the gallery most of all feels like an eccentric collector's home where past and present spirits meet.

Yarisal & Kublitz have recently participated in *Desire and Vice* at the Kunstmuseum Bern, the WUT Bern Biennale and *Try Again.Fail Again III* at the Kunstverein Hildesheim. They also showed a large installation work at The Kunsthalle Galapagos in New York. Recent shows have included *Just Like Starting Over* at Gerhardsen Gerner in Berlin, and will follow with a second solo show in their gallery in June 2012. Yarisal & Kublitz are included in a new book published by Lawrence King, *100 Emerging new artists*.