

## SOMETHING LEFT UNDONE

april 15 – june 5 : 2010

Francesco Barocco  
Steve Bishop  
Shannon Bool  
André Ethier  
Jonathan Hartshorn  
Jeff Ono  
Christodoulos Panayiotou

opening reception  
april 15 : thursday : 18.00 - 21.00

galerie bertrand & gruner is very pleased to announce the opening of its next exhibition, *something left undone* - a group show bringing together for the first time work from seven artists, some of whom have never been shown previously in Switzerland.

Encompassing a broad range of style and media, each of these artists weaves something of the obscured yet mysteriously recognizable into the artistic practice. The exhibition leads one to question the reservoir of symbolism that is inherent to mankind, that which inspired Carl Jung to describe as collective unconscious.

The key is to consider the role imagination has had on encouraging myth and legend. As shared fundamentals of these fictions translate time and culture, one is challenged by the magnitude and multifaceted configurations they represent of reality.

The complex subtleties linking imagery with symbol and understanding remains a work in progress – it is open-ended and incomplete. Layered associations and allusion, however, when combined with personal account evoke interpretation.

Shannon Bool's new work, *The Hanged Man*, can be seen as a reference to man's drive to account for uncertainty in the potentiality of the real. The painting is derived from the Visconti-Sforza decks of tarot, a divination tool of mysticism that has influenced and inspired the actions of many throughout generations. Bool's subject matter, however, emanates from beneath the work's surface and is propagated by symbolic force. In his sculpture, *Esagramma*, Francesco Barocco can also be read to question the arbitrary and its symbolic force. The work provides form to results from consulting the ancient Chinese oracular tool, the *I Ching* or *Book of Changes*. As with the tarot, the many potentials of the real, the everyday, and the moment are manifested - delineated for deciphering.

In a new work that juxtaposes misplaced items forgotten in public library books with drawings that call to mind stream-of-consciousness, Jonathan Hartshorn conjures the playfully random magic of spontaneity underlining Orphic intuition. It is as if magic is also at play in the paintings of André Ethier. His carnivalesque figures appear to populate an enchanted world one best recalls from childhood, filled with fanciful figures.

Steve Bishop's transmutations of everyday objects – also laden with the stigma of *the found object* – appear as spontaneous reassessments that provoke the viewer into considering the relay of information through imagery embedded with cultural significance. Jeff Ono's sculpture resonates a lyrical consideration of its materiality. The elements combine to give form to ethereal sentiments. It is in the viewer that this sentiment resonates. That very relationship of responsibility between artwork and its viewer as participants in the promotion of collective cultural understanding is what Christodoulos Panayiotou orchestrates in his work.

There is an emotional familiarity resounding from these artworks that one can relate to. While viewing them can be both difficult on the eye and the mind, they bring together manifestations of the *real* that have deep roots in mankind's unconscious. From such a position of universality we are able to recognize and decipher their collagings of symbolic association. They provide mass to that *something* which Longfellow objectively described in his poem from which the exhibition lends its title, and shed light on the nether regions of the mind's eye – its uncompromising imaginative source.

For further information, please contact the gallery.

**Francesco Barocco** (b. 1972 Susa, IT) lives and works in Torino, IT. He has been exhibited in several European institutions including most recently Museo d'Arte della città Ravenna, Museo Cantonale d'Arte Lugano, Galleria Civica d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea Torino, and Viafarini Docva Milano

**Steve Bishop** (b. 1983 Toronto, CA) finishing his studies at the Royal College of Art London in 2008, Bishop continues to live and work in London. He has already had a good deal of exposure in Europe, his works being found in collections such as Saatchi and the Franks-Suss Collection.

**Shannon Bool** (b. 1972 Vancouver Island, CA) finished her studies at the Städelschule in Frankfurt am Main. She lives and works in Berlin and may be remembered in Switzerland for her Art Statements project from Art Basel 2006. Bool has also exhibited widely at various institutions throughout Europe and abroad including upcoming solo projects at CRAC Alsace (Centre Rhénan d'Art Contemporain) in Altkirch, FR and GAK (Gesellschaft für Aktuelle Kunst) in Bremen, DE.

**André Ethier** (b. 1977 Toronto, CA) lives and works in Toronto. As well as painting, he is an accomplished musician. Ethier has been exhibited at numerous venues in North America and Europe.

**Jonathan Hartshorn** (b. 1976 Euclid, OH USA) lives and works between New York City and Albuquerque, New Mexico. He is represented by the gallery and has been exhibited at various venues in the USA and Europe including PS1 MoMA in New York.

**Jeff Ono** (b. 1973 Los Angeles, CA USA) finished his studies at Cooper Union School of Art in New York. He lives and works in Los Angeles and has exhibited extensively throughout Europe and the USA.

**Christodoulos Panayiotou** (b. 1978 Limassol, CY) originally trained in dance and performing arts in Lyon and London. He has been the recipient of numerous residencies and awards including the DESTE prize. Panayiotou's work can still be seen at the Kunsthalle Zürich through April 24<sup>th</sup>, and the Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art in Rotterdam through the end of July 2010.