



PRESS RELEASE – ART DUBAI 2010

SHORT HISTORY OF THE GALLERY & ARTISTS

The first gallery of Dorothea van der Koelen was founded in 1979 in Mainz under the name ›**Galerie Dorothea van der Koelen**‹.

1986 she opened a second exhibition space in the industrial area of the city of Mainz, called ›**Dammweg Art Hall**‹, followed by a third gallery in Venice, called ›**La Galleria**‹, opened parallel to the Venice Art Biennale in 2001.

Beside the 3 galleries Dr. Dorothea van der Koelen founded, together with her brother Martin, in 1995 a publishing house for art books called ›**Chorus-Verlag**‹ and set up in 2003 the ›**Van der Koelen Foundation for Art and Science (on art)**‹.

Dorothea van der Koelen is working with about 20 – 30 international artists from 15 different countries. Beside the exhibitions in her own galleries she curated world wide exhibitions for museums and institutions. During the past 30 years all in all she was involved in about 500 shows in 25 countries.

Beside publishing lectures and texts in more than 100 catalogues and books on contemporary art, the art historian Dr. Dorothea van der Koelen is specialized in art-in-architecture-projects and sculptures in public space.

Since 1981 she participated in more than 130 art fairs around the world (Basle, Bologna, Chicago, Cologne, Frankfurt, Karlsruhe, Madrid, Shanghai). This year the gallery participate for the first time in Dubai at the art fair.

The program is: concrete – conceptual – constructive.

Geometric forms, writings, numbers and architectonical elements. Metal and wood sculptures, paintings, paper objects, video works, drawings, light installations.

The main artists are: Lore Bert · Daniel Buren · Eduardo Chillida · Heinz Gappmayr · Raimund Girke · Joseph Kosuth · François Morellet · Jan van Munster · Fabrizio Plessi · Mario Reis · Vera Röhm · Rúrí · Lawrence Weiner · Martin Willing · Bernar Venet · Michel Verjux · Guang-Yao Wu

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LIST OF ARTISTS AND CONCEPT FOR THE PRESENTATION AT ART DUBAI 2010

As in the year 2009 the gallery became 30 years old, there is an exhibition in all the 3 galleries titled:

» *When Ideas become Form – 30 Years of Gallery* «

For the presentation in Dubai are mainly selected artists that have been already presented in the UAE before, at the exhibition titled *Water – Sand – Space*, that Dr. Dorothea van der Koelen curated in 35 rooms of the Sharjah Art Museum in 2002.

There are at first the international masters of minimal and conceptual art like:

- **Daniel Buren** (*1938 French),
with a pink glass-work of his minimalist stripe principal. There are always 8,7 cm large white stripes, which are vertical. The artist does not change the motive, but the matters, places and situations of presentation. He lives and works in situ.
- **Joseph Kosuth** (* 1945 American),
with the blue neon-work *Colours of Places*, he takes direct relation to the place, the water of the Gulf for example. As a pioneer of conceptual art his works are always dealing with ›Language‹ and with meaning.

Furthermore there are other artists from the mentioned show *Water – Sand – Space* 2002 in Sharjah:

- **Lore Bert** (* 1936 German),
the famous paper artist, who already had several shows in the UAE, beginning with the Cultural Foundation in Abu Dhabi in 1998, Honoured artist at the Sharjah Biennale in 1999, *Water – Sand – Space* in 2002 and a huge one man show in the Sharjah Art Museum in 2007 to name just some of them. Beside her paper objects and paintings she realizes huge environmental installation with papers and Arabic neon numbers (see fair catalogue). The artist will be present in Dubai during the fair.
- **Günther Uecker** (*1930 German),
is one of our best known artists with several works in public and private collections. His works with nails and structures on paper or canvas are very often related to unreadable ›Writings‹.
- **François Morellet** (* 1926 French),
master of concrete art presents a construction in stainless steel, based on the mathematical number pi, which has often a humorous aspect too.

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- **Heinz Gappmayr** (*1925 Austrian), master of the concrete poetry, who uses words and letters and numbers to describe well known, however invisible things like ›time‹ and ›space‹. He presents the triptych work *Arabian Desert*, with a photograph made in the UAE.
- **Fabrizio Plessi** (* 1940 Italian), in Venice living the artist is world wide known with his video sculptures, steel construction with monitors showing moving water or burning fire, the old principle of the Greek philosopher Heraklit about the movement in the life, presented in a very poetic way. Construction-drawings will be presented.
- **Raimund Girke** (*1930 - †2002 German), the abstract painter, who concentrates on white-blue paintings on canvas which gives a feeling of width, freedom and beauty.

Also from the show *Water – Sand – Space* 2002 in Sharjah I present works from:

- **Mario Reis** (* 1957 German), the authentically *Natural Water Colours*, which are canvases, that he puts in rivers and waters around the world and fix, what has been left by the waters.
- **Eduardo Chillida** (*1924 - †2002 Spain), etchings from the famous artist, which is mainly known as an abstract sculptor who works mainly with steel and clay, but has also a huge work of collages with handmade paper and felt.

New presented and for the first time in the UAE are the 2 German sculptors:

- **Martin Willing** (*1959 German), his geometric metal sculptures change the principle of gravitation and start to move by the circulation of air; they seem to get human qualities.
- **Vera Röhm** (*1943 German), her constructive sculptures connect natural (wood) with artistic material (plexiglas) to a perfect symbiosis and a beautiful appearance.

To all these artists the gallery has published several catalogues and books. Please ask for these as well as for photographic material.

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