

## PRESS RELEASE

### **BEAT ZODERER – ich sehe es schlingern 9 September – 12 November 2011**

After his exhibit *Flicker* that opened our new gallery space in Berlin in November 2009, Swiss based Beat Zoderer is now becoming the first artist to exhibit a second time at *ftc*.

In the gallery program Zoderer's work is classified as painting, a position that the artist occasionally likes to subvert. At *ftc* he will show an array of sculptures, paintings, assemblages, and installation pieces. More than anything, the number of different genres, and his use of everyday, ordinary materials characterize his inimitable visual vocabulary.

Zoderer's most succinct stylistic means is his use of geometrical shapes and multi-colored elements. These can be compared to the Op Art from the 1960s and '70s, as well as to the strict formality and minimalism of the De Stijl movement. At the same time they suggest the ironic view of art fostered by his immediate "forefathers," the Swiss Concrete artists.

Upon closer observation, though, the apparently simple, sometimes even provisory-looking, cobbled-together works prove that the artist does indeed pursue a certain kind of order, working according to a system of sorts. Although the works are not produced in series, they nonetheless feature repetitions; for instance, he builds a pillar in the space, featuring carvings of undulating, repetitive patterns; or he installs a row of colorfully painted aluminum strips, so that they form a kind of mobile; or else he hangs meticulously worked MDF panels next to each other, so that together they produce an image that is simultaneously opulent and minimal. Often the materials are assembled according to a logical, mathematically reckoned order: sometimes they are in rows, side-by-side; or else they intertwine; at other times they are glued together in piles. Delicately chased ostrich eggs create an obvious contrast to the watercolor blocks processed with an angle grinder.

All of the works have one motif in common: the "sinuous line," a line without beginning or ending, which winds and meanders through the planes, forming either larger or smaller arcs, and appearing in diverse colors on very different materials.

Zoderer's works have been seen in numerous solo shows at institutions such as the Kunsthalle Basel (1996), the Kunstmuseum Bonn (2003), the Wilhelm Hack Museum in Ludwigshafen (2004), and at the Haus Konstruktiv in Zurich (2008).

*Beat Zoderer born 1955 in Zurich, Switzerland.  
He lives and works in Wettingen, Switzerland and Genoa, Italy.*