

Karina Spechter *German Angst*

Seldom does one imagine, in an intensified manner, the process of creation while looking at an artwork: One may experience in Karina Spechter's objects, that they are wrenched from life itself. Birth and death, freedom and constraint, courage and angst lay close to one another.

The compiled, reduced forms bundle the experience of life towards a pictorial symbol, which, once seen, stays in the mind. The power of reduction enables for a strong presence of the form in space. It gets amplified through sculptural fracturing in a difficult, definable way; a present and nervous, yes with an even aggressive appearance created by a thousand pointed little forms defining the all-over-structure.

At first glance outline and volume describe a space-occupying, basic form/object-compound, which is not easy to grasp through the multiplicity of the whole surface. The eye, involuntarily attracted, is connecting with the small forms, is longing for somewhere to pause. Unable to find it, it retreats, in order to understand the object in its entirety, then gets lost once again in the detail. The focused view of the whole forms dissipates through the filigree, oscillating surface towards the outside and ultimately draws back towards oneself. As such it creates paradox interplays of perception and construction.

In the end, the colour of the object, which basically is to be understood as a symbolic colour, constitutes an additional irritation. By using a glowing bright bloody red the artist supports a puzzling tension, which is part of her work.

Karina Spechter introduces new works to this exhibition that circulate around universal themes like transience, fear and death. Her objects and installations are form-bound memories, which lead to pictorial signs that become universal through reduction to its essence. The forms are far from being dead signs for human life in its various states of experience. Moreover they are powerful, immediate and expressive image-works. The proposition of the artist remains timeless and perceptible.

H. N. Semjon, October 2012