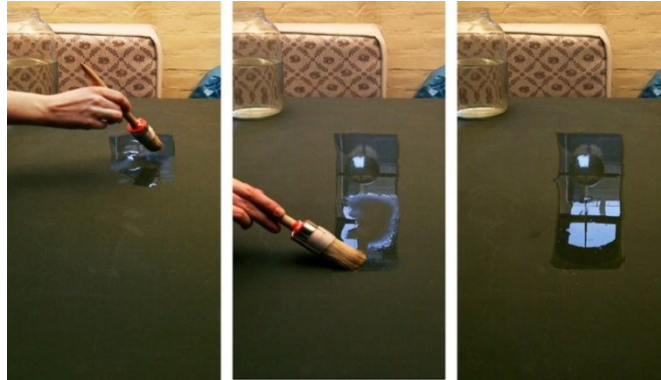


LOOP 2015

Still Water by Sophia Pompéry



Video HD for flatscreen, colour, mute, 12'48, 2010

Still Water shows a dark table top with various objects. A hand with a paintbrush coats the table surface with water. Through the foreshortening of the camera perspective, the water acts like a right angle in the middle of the likewise right-angled picture detail, like a framed second image. In the reflection on the water one can see a window. Later, as a heater is installed under the table, the evaporating water starts to mist the view outside.

“Associations with Dutch still life painters of the seventeenth-century are justified in the context of *Still Water* not only due to motifs of interiors reflected in glass vessels but also due to the evocation of fragility, which becomes one of the main issues in the work. A picture ‘painted’ with water, after achieving its optimal sharpness and completeness, slowly begins to dry, disappear, shrink, losing sharpness, and so on, until it completely disappears from the surface. The work makes a full circle then, returning to the view of the room with which it has begun. In the Dutch paintings, specific objects were saturated with symbols of transiency, while in Pompéry’s video those meanings are conveyed in progressiveness of a ‘maturing’ and disappearing picture, shown due to specificity and possibilities offered by film, but still with a tradition of painting in the background”.

Text by Marta Smoliska from Pompéry’s solo exhibition publication *Nothing but a Transient Light*

Sophia Pompéry produces video works and objects that derive from her interest in everyday objects and physical phenomena. Her works reveal a phenomenological perception of things. Minimalistic in the choice of material, Pompéry's conceptual works are motivated by a desire to slow down the sense of time. Their poetical ephemera leads the viewer into a state of contemplation. |

Born in 1984 in Berlin, Sophia Pompéry studied under artist Karin Sander at Kunsthochschule Berlin Weissensee. In 2009-2010, she participated in an educational research project led by Olafur Eliasson at the Institut für Raumexperimente, affiliated to the College of Fine Arts at the Berlin University of the Arts (UdK) and supported by the Einstein Foundation Berlin. Recently her works were on display at *The Silent Shape of Things*, ARTER Space for Arts, Istanbul (2012); *Atölye*, Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden (2013); *BYTS*, Stedelijk Museum s’-Hertogenbosch (2013); and *Festival of Future Nows*, Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin (2014). Her works have been included in collections such as: Vehbi Koç Foundation, Istanbul; Artothek of Neuer Berliner Kunstverein; Science Center Spectrum, Berlin; German Museum of Technology Foundation, Berlin; and Kunstmuseum Bonn. Sophia Pompéry lives and works in Berlin.

Contact : hlacharmoise@yahoo.fr – tel +33 (0)633 62 94 07 – www.galeriedix9.com