

Martim Brion: Kontrapunkt

11 January until 6 February, 2018

Kunstraum Botschaft | Embassy of Portugal in Berlin

The Portuguese artist Martim Brion, born 1986 in Lisbon, preferentially works with sculpture and photography. A central theme of his work is the visualisation of philosophic thoughts. Rendering visible in abstract ways concepts and ideas by colour and form is fully coherent with the abstractive style of Portuguese art of the present day and late modernity. However, Martim Brion takes a contemporary stance in concept and medium that breaks open the established modes of expression without negating them. His work is strongly influenced by diverse intercultural contexts, and multifaceted fields of interest continuously grant new impulses to his unfolding visual language.

In the exhibition *Kontrapunkt* (2018) at Kunstraum Botschaft of the Embassy of Portugal in Berlin, Martim Brion shows sculptures and photographs that, in dialogues, work with antipodes: coincidence versus structure, thought versus manifestation, plane versus object. The confrontation of two-dimensional photography with three-dimensional sculpture overarches the gamut from ephemeral idea to tangible matter. As in dialogues of different positions, the elements are exchanging information reciprocally, though the constellations are not ultimately predefined and change according to viewpoint and perspective.

While the photographs are intuitive excerpts of the Here and Now, the sculptures stand for the matured thought process. The photographs, as spontaneous, abstract sketches of reality, allow for associative freedom – projection planes and substrates on which ideas are being developed before manifesting as sculptures in the space. Contrarily, the sculptures are closed systems, which is described by the sleek surfaces, the geometric shapes and the clear colours. Their solid presence in the space is the counterpoint [Kontrapunkt] to the playful flow of the photographs. Both poles, in their variegated forms of appearance, condition and sustain one another in an open dialogue of theses and antitheses.