

Curators from East and Central Europe III**Mari Laanemets**

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Hier wäre das Leben leicht

Opening: Friday, 28 November 2008, 8pm

The exhibition runs: 29.11.2008-04.01.2009, Saturdays to Sundays 2-6pm

Closed: 27 and 28 December 2008

How would an environment appear where everything was in harmony, where all daily duties and problems found natural solutions? An environment "which freed life from the slavery of things" as Karl Kraus wrote about the work of the architect Alfred Loos in 1933?

This exhibition *Hier wäre das Leben leicht/ There, Life Would Be Easy** deals with questions of design, the arrangement of environments, the formal character of surfaces, things from which lifestyles are constructed: from textiles to texts, from facades to fonts, from interiors to streets and cities. The gaze is set upon composition, which structures reality and organizes life. The layout of a newspaper fabricates its sense of being up to date; TV series delineate behaviour patterns; apartment furnishings construct identity; fonts formulate content.



Sirje Runge, Proposal for the Design of Areas in Central Tallinn, 1975, detail

The artists in the exhibition react attentively and critically to questions of daily configurations. They analyse the practices of design and search for possibilities to intervene in these contexts. The examination of form, order, composition, display and the organization of space is also applied to the production of new ideas and concepts in the social context.

On view are works by Kadi Estland, Anton Koovit, Tere Recarens, Sirje Runge, Florian Wüst, Killu Sukmit und Mari Laanemets.

Mari Laanemets

*The title of the exhibition is a quote by Georges Perec's novel *Things* (orig. *Les Choses*, Paris 1965).

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Mari Laanemets (born 1975 in Tallinn) lives in Graz and works as an author and curator. Recent projects include the exhibition and publication *Environment, Projects, Concepts. Architects of the Tallinn School 1972-1985* at the Estonian Museum of Architecture (2008). She wrote her Ph.D. thesis at the Humboldt University Berlin and is the author of numerous essays on contemporary art, most recently on Mladen Stilinović in his book *On Money and Zeroes* (November 2008).