

22 WEEKS

14.3.2009 - 18.4.2009 janinebeangallery berlin

In his exhibition „22 Wochen“ („22 Weeks“) at the janinebeangallery, Erik Andersen presents various series that, at first sight, depict everyday themes and their repetition, but also to some extent evoke associations through their similar perspectives.

The title of this exhibition is referring to the time span between the creation of the works and the day of the opening. In the mentioned time frame, the series of beer case „portraits“ were developed. In regards to content, this row of works reflect on a more specific daily cycle, as the title „untitled (26.09.08)“ implies. Through the repetitious portrayal of the subject matter, the change in perspective and the resulting alienation in its depiction becomes visual. With this, the semi-representational character of the paintings steps into the background and the associative and respectively the abstract attributes, are accentuated.

It is similar with the „Pink Drink“ series, where the starting point is a mere bottle from the painter's perspective (or that of the observer's) while drinking. However, the bottle in the painting is so macroscopically depicted, that only a section of it fills the painting. The view of the bottle while drinking seems so banal that the observer has never granted it enough attention to recognize it here. The unsuspecting observer will see the composition of contours, forms and colours as such, the knowledgeable observer will also return to this view. Although the image has concrete potential, at the same time Erik Andersen opens up a broad field of possibilities for abstract perceptions.

The subject of resting feet represents the visual sense of one's own body. The viewer can't get around a contemplative viewpoint of something which is natural and obvious, the artist has illustrated the classic theme of self-reflection.

Matthias Bergemann